Mission Statement

The UNC Greensboro Department of Biology endeavors towards excellence in conducting research and teaching biological concepts and skills to biology majors and graduate students, to prepare them for professional careers and more advanced study. We introduce non-biology majors to the foundations and applications of biology. By involving undergraduate and graduate students in research, we contribute to and increase society’s knowledge across the broad spectrum of biology. We train doctoral students in Environmental Health Science, a complex and rapidly changing discipline. Through laboratory training and directed research experiences, we enhance our students’ technical and analytical skills so that they can contribute meaningfully to an increasingly technological world. Our leadership in scientific innovation and discovery serves our students, profession, and our local and global communities.

Undergraduate

The Department of Biology has a strong commitment to teaching at both the undergraduate and graduate levels. Recipients of undergraduate biology degrees find employment in a wide range of fields and are well-prepared for further study in graduate school and in health-related professions such as medicine, dentistry, and veterinary medicine. Writing- and speaking-intensive courses and laboratory classes help develop communication and research skills.

The department’s tradition of excellence in education is complemented by a faculty actively engaged in research in areas ranging from molecular biology and biochemistry to ecology and evolution. Students are encouraged to gain research experience through independent study with a faculty mentor.

Transfer Credit

Credit for courses above the 100 level is transferred as Biology elective credit only. To establish transfer credit for specific Biology courses above the 100 level, students should contact the Director of Undergraduate Studies or Associate Head. Transfer students are reminded that at least 12 semester hours in the major must be completed at UNC Greensboro.

Biology as a Second Major

Students who wish to declare a second major in Biology must complete all requirements listed above under the degree selected.

Biology Standard Professional I License Only

Students who have already completed an undergraduate degree and who are now seeking the Standard Professional I License in Biology must complete the requirements for a B.A. or B.S. in Biology at UNC Greensboro with a biology grade point average of 2.50 or better. Course selection must be completed in consultation with the Head of the Department of Biology.

Students who have already taken biology courses as part of their undergraduate program should contact the Head of the Department of Biology to determine if any of those courses can be accepted as meeting some of the requirements for the Standard Professional I License in Biology at UNC Greensboro.

Direct questions about these requirements to the Head of the Department of Biology.

Graduate

Paul Steimle, Director of Graduate Study

About

Graduate students enrolled in either program have the opportunity to work with a research advisor from among 23 full-time faculty. Research areas range from the ecological to the cellular level, and include aquatic ecology, trophic interactions in lakes and streams, plant-microbe-herbivore interactions, microbial food chains, infectious disease ecology, plant evolution and population ecology, animal behavior, aging, cell motility, developmental, chromosome, cell cycle and viral genetics, neuroendocrine control of metamorphosis and glucose homeostasis. (Go to http://biology.uncg.edu/faculty/research_fac.html for a detailed description of faculty research). The broad range of training and research expertise among faculty members allows for an integrative approach to research studies in Biology for the MS degree and in Environmental Health Science for the PhD degree. Faculty in the department are funded from the National Institutes of Health, the National Science Foundation, and a variety of private funding agencies.

Professor

Amy L Adamson, Stanley H Faeth, Anne E Hershey, Julia Morton Professor, Matina Kalcounis-Rüppeg, Bruce K Kirchoff, John Z Kiss, John J Lepni, Yashomati M Patel, Olav Rueppell, Robert H Stavn, Paul A Steimle

Associate Professor

Mark D Hens, Zhenquan Jia, Karen S Katula, David L Remington, Malcolm D Schug, John E. Tomkiel Dean, Gideon Wasserberg

Assistant Professor

Ramji K Bhandari, Louis-Marie Jean Fabrice Bobay, Sally E Koerner, Ayalew Ligaba Osena, Kasie Tyler Raymann, Martin Tsz-Ki Tsui

Senior Lecturer

Margaret K Hood, Meg L. Horton, Robin (Roberta) Maxwell, Ann B Somers
Graduate-level faculty.

- Biology, B.A. (https://catalog.uncc.edu/arts-sciences/biology/biology-ba)
- Biology, B.S. (https://catalog.uncc.edu/arts-sciences/biology/biology-bs)
- Biology Undergraduate Minor (https://catalog.uncc.edu/arts-sciences/biology/biology-minor)
- Biology, M.S. (https://catalog.uncc.edu/arts-sciences/biology/biology-ms)
- Environmental Health Science, Ph.D. (https://catalog.uncc.edu/arts-sciences/biology/environmental-health-science-phd)

Biology Disciplinary Honors

Requirements

18 credit hours to consist of the courses listed below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credit Hours</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HSS 490</td>
<td>Senior Honors Project</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BIO 493</td>
<td>Honors Work</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td>Any of the Department's journal clubs</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Select two 500-level Biology courses</td>
<td>6-8</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Select a third 500-level course in Biology or a Contract course in Biology at the 300 or 400 level</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oral presentation of Honors Thesis to a committee of three Biology Faculty or public presentation of research at a local, regional, or national meeting is required.</td>
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* Only 6 credits may be counted toward the 30 credit minimum in the Biology major

Qualifications

- At least a 3.30 overall GPA at graduation
- A grade of B or higher in all course work used to satisfy the Honors requirements in Biology
- A declared Biology Major

Recognition

The designation “Completed Disciplinary Honors in Biology” and the title of the Senior Honors Project will be printed on the student’s official transcript.

Honors Advisor

See Dr. John Lepri, Honors Liaison, for further information and guidance about Honors in Biology.