

BIOLOGY, MASTER OF SCIENCE (MS)

Teaching: All Master's of Science students in biology are required to either teach at least one quarter as a paid teaching assignment or arrange a teaching experience in consultation with their graduate committee. Students who do not have a paid teaching assignment may arrange to receive BIOL 595 credit for the development and execution of this teaching experience.

Final Comprehensive Examination: The final comprehensive examination for the Master's of Science in biology consists of a research seminar and an oral defense of the master's thesis presented to the department. Immediately following the student's seminar, an oral examination is administered by the student's committee, which is composed of two or three departmental faculty members and a faculty member appointed by the Graduate Programs office. The focus of the examination is the student's thesis and general biology knowledge.

Graduate Core

BIOL 500	RESEARCH SEMINAR (must be repeated)	2
BIOL 510	BIOLOGICAL RESEARCH METHODS I	4
BIOL 511	BIOLOGICAL RESEARCH METHODS II	4

Plus any three of the following (6 credits, though additional current topics may be taken for elective credits) 6

BIOL 512	CURRENT TOPICS IN PHYSIOLOGY	
BIOL 513	CURRENT TOPICS IN CELL AND MOLECULAR BIOLOGY	
BIOL 514	CURRENT TOPICS IN ECOLOGY AND EVOLUTION	
BIOL 515	GROWTH OF BIOLOGICAL THOUGHT	

Electives 16

To be determined in consultation with student's graduate committee. All 400 and 500 level courses may be used as electives; if a course is stacked as a 400- or 500-level course, students must enroll at the 500-level.

Thesis

To be determined in consultation with student's graduate committee. All Master's of Science in Biology students are required to conduct original research toward their Master's thesis.

BIOL 600	THESIS RESEARCH (must be repeated)	14
Total Credits		46

Student Learning Outcomes—students will

- write a research proposal that demonstrates the ability to determine the veracity and value of published information;
- conduct research project, analyze data, and write thesis;
- present completed research in an open forum seminar with question/answer session.