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B.S. in Biology

www.sbu.edu/biology • Sean Ryan, Ph.D., Chair • sryan@sbu.edu • (716) 375-2335

Objectives

The biology major provides a solid foundation in the biological sciences from which students can pursue studies to match their interests. The curriculum is grounded in biology, chemistry, physics and math within the context of a liberal arts core. Opportunities exist for individualized instruction, mentoring and research in a broad range of biology sub-disciplines, and the faculty is committed to imparting an understanding of the most current thinking emerging from this dynamic field.

The biology program attracts highly motivated students from across the country. Many are part of combined-degree programs, guaranteeing them a seat in medical school, dental school, pharmacy school, or a physical therapy graduate program upon their graduation from St. Bonaventure. Pre-health advising is available for students interested in traditional paths toward medical school, veterinary school, physician assistant programs, and various health-related careers.

State-of-the-Art Facilities

The Department of Biology has ample teaching and research space in Walsh Science Center and De La Roche Hall. Our instructional laboratories are designed to ensure that faculty can give each student personal attention in laboratory sections of no more than 16 students. Our research facilities are equipped with more than \$2 million worth of up-to-date equipment that student researchers and faculty use for experimental work in a wide range of biological disciplines.

Student Research

Biology students have the opportunity to partner with faculty in independent research while earning up to six credit hours during the semester. In addition, through the Borer Fellowship, students are selected annually to participate in summer research activities, supported by a stipend, room and board.

Curriculum

- Students are exposed to current trends in biochemistry, genomics, immunology, molecular biology, microbiology, neurobiology, plant biotechnology and other fields to complement core studies in the foundations of biology.
- Students read and discuss cutting-edge biological research articles with professors and their peers.
- Classes (averaging approximately 20 students) and labs (≤ 16 students) are small in keeping with the university's commitment to personalized education.
- Faculty are available to students outside of class for direct questions and further review. Past students moderate study sessions for introductory courses as supplemental instructors.
- Each biology major has an academic adviser that is a member of the biology faculty. Students consult with faculty in selecting programs of study, and in pursuing admission to graduate school, professional programs or careers in biology.
- Students have a choice of biology electives, so they can tailor their curriculum depending on whether they are interested in health care, research, teaching, or other careers.
- Flexibility within the biology major often allows students to minor, and sometimes double major, in disciplines outside of the natural sciences like business, psychology, sociology, Spanish and philosophy — just to name a few.

Postgraduate Opportunities

Our graduates have entered careers in medicine, veterinary medicine, dentistry, optometry, physician assistant, physical therapy, occupational therapy, nursing, pharmacy, chiropractic medicine, podiatry, public health, research (Ph.D. and technician level), secondary school teaching, business, and law — just to name a few.