

COLLEGE OF NATURAL AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

BIOLOGY



BIOLOGY COMPREHENSIVE

Emphasis: General

Are you curious how living organisms function, behave and interact? Or develop, reproduce and evolve? Then consider a biology comprehensive major offered at the University of Nebraska at Kearney. Students will gain a solid foundation in biological and physical sciences and have opportunity to work one-on-one with professors who are specialized in various fields.

Undergraduates take a wide variety of biology classes, including both laboratory and field electives. Because of this broader study in biology, no minor is required to graduate.

After graduating, you will be qualified for positions like:

- Field biologist
- Research scientist
- Genetic engineer
- Environmental scientist

Personal traits for biology success:

- Enjoys life sciences
- Pays attention to detail
- Persists diligently
- Thinks critically
- Concentrates well
- Solves problems
- Shows ambition
- Observes carefully

How high school students can prepare for this major:

Students who are thinking about studying biology in college should take courses in all science disciplines, like chemistry, physics and earth science, as well as in math. This will provide a foundation for college coursework.

Alumni profile

“It’s the opportunities and experiences, more than coursework, that help shape a scientist,” said Christine Cutucache, a 2008 UNK biology graduate.

Before entering college, Cutucache searched Midwest schools based on her interests – gene therapy and/or human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) – and identified with Dr. Kim Carlson, professor of biology.

“Dr. Carlson has expertise in both areas and told me of many opportunities available to students including the BRIN/INBRE program and the Summer Undergraduate Research Program.

Research opportunities were Cutucache’s first steps in training to be an independent scientist.

“The experiences taught me how to apply my knowledge and hone skills that I wasn’t able to sufficiently in the classroom. These skills included the ability to speak in front of crowds of scientists at national meetings and to compile data into reports that were published for international audiences to read.”

As the Haddix Community Chair of Science and assistant professor of biology at the University of Nebraska at Omaha, Cutucache teaches undergraduate and graduate levels and conducts research. “I want undergraduates in my lab to have the same types of opportunities that I had.”



CHRISTINE CUTUCACHE

Reasons to choose biology at UNK

- Faculty in the UNK Biology department have a belief that biology is “doing,” not seeing.
- Hands-on learning is incorporated into the coursework.
- Students have options to conduct independent research projects with faculty guidance.
- Students have the opportunity for admittance into the NE-INBRE Scholars Program.

Biology Comprehensive Bachelor of Science
Emphasis: General

FOUR YEAR CLASS SCHEDULE

The schedule is a guideline for progress toward a degree. Consult with your academic advisor.

<p>Semester 1 (14 credits)</p> <p>BIOL 105 Biology I CHEM 160 General Chemistry I ENG 101 English Composition Portal 188 (your choice)</p>	<p>Semester 2 (14 credits)</p> <p>BIOL 106 Biology II CHEM 161 General Chemistry II ENG 102 Writing & Research MATH By placement</p>
<p>Semester 3 (15 credits)</p> <p>BIOL 201 Biology Tools BIOL 375 Scientific Communications CHEM 360 Organic Chemistry I CHEM 360L Organic Chemistry I Lab SPCH Speech</p>	<p>Semester 4 (14 credits)</p> <p>BIOL 290 Evolution BIOL 305 Biological Statistics CHEM 361 Organic Chemistry II CHEM 361L Organic Chemistry II Lab Democracy General Studies</p>
<p>Semester 5 (15-16 credits)</p> <p>BIOL 360 Genetics BIOL 375 Scientific Communications BIOL Field elective Humanities General Studies Aesthetics General Studies</p>	<p>Semester 6 (16-17 credits)</p> <p>BIOL 307 Ecology BIOL Lab elective CHEM 351/301 Biochem./Analytical Chem. Social Sciences General Studies Humanities General Studies</p>
<p>Semester 7 (16-18 credits)</p> <p>BIOL 420 Biology Research BIOL Field elective BIOL Lab elective Social Sciences General Studies Capstone 388 (your choice) Elective</p>	<p>Semester 8 (16-18 credits)</p> <p>BIOL 420 Biology Research BIOL Field elective BIOL Lab elective Elective Elective Elective</p>



Biology organizations

- Biology Club
- Wildlife Society
- Sigma Xi

Did you know...?

Strong student-faculty relationships are a focal point of the UNK experience.

Faculty interact on a personalized basis with students as teachers, advisors, mentors and friends.

The biology department is located in Bruner Hall and occupies over 20,000 square feet on two floors.

Classroom laboratories, a 1,500-square-foot greenhouse, herbarium, mammal collection, and a Mobile Environmental Laboratory (MEL) are all maintained for teaching and research.

UNK Biology recently received the university-wide departmental teaching award.

This award recognizes excellence in teaching among all NU campuses. Dedicated to challenging and motivating students, the teaching staff models what it means to be a life-long learner and inspires students to as well.

Scholarships available:

- Rex Carr Endowed Scholarship
- Laddie and Iris Bicak Family Scholarship
- Amanda Bosak Memorial Scholarship
- Harvey E. Cole Memorial Scholarship
- DeeAnna Delaet Endowed Scholarship
- Mildred Bensen Hansen Scholarship
- David J. Keen Jr. Memorial Scholarship
- John C. W. Bliese Biology Endowment

STUDENT PROFILE STUDENT PROFILE STUDENT PROFILE



Ashley Leitner

"What I enjoy most about the biology department is the student-to-teacher ratio. In the upper level courses the classes are very personable, and there is always opportunity for one-on-one office visits."



For more information, contact:

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