

# BIOLOGY, MS

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## Admission Requirements

- Baccalaureate degree in Biology or have equivalent training.
- A minimum cumulative grade point average of 3.00 (4.00=A) and 3.00 average in Biology (minimum 32 semester hours or equivalent).
- Competence in Chemistry and Mathematics is expected.
- Full admission is required for a teaching assistantship or tuition waiver.
- A letter of interest indicating proposed area of specialization and intended adviser in the Department of Biology.
- A separate letter of support from the applicant's intended adviser in the Department of Biology.
- International students - In addition to the above requirements must have a minimum score of 79 on the internet-based TOEFL and one of the following:
  - minimum score of 23 on the speaking portion of the TOEFL, or
  - a passing score on the U-Adept test.

Applications are accepted on a rolling basis. Review begins in January/February for fall enrollment.

## Thesis Option

The program is primarily for the student who will pursue a research career, including the student who intends to enter a doctoral program in the biological sciences.

Course work in addition to the master's research and seminars (must be approved by the student's advisory committee) – 24 credits.

Research and thesis – minimum of 12 credits.

Participation in seminars – minimum of four credits.

Summer study at a biological station is available.

## Nonthesis Option

This program is designed for secondary school teachers for whom the M.S. probably will be a terminal degree and who do not need research experience. The program is open to applicants possessing a teaching certificate or those coregistering with the College of Education and showing normal progress towards qualifying for a certificate.

The requirements are the same as the research option except that no thesis and research is undertaken, but a total of 40 credits of approved coursework (including a maximum of four credits for seminar participation) is required.

For additional details concerning admission standards, degree requirements and selection of options, refer to the Department of Biology Graduate Student Guide.