

# BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES - BOTANY - M.S.

College of Arts and Sciences  
Department of Biological Sciences  
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## Description

**Admission to the Master of Science degree in Biological Sciences–Botany has been temporarily suspended as of fall 2017.**

The Master of Science degree in Biological Sciences–Botany offers research in plant systematics, taxonomy, evolutionary studies, molecular biology, ecology and genetics. The program provides a broad background in botanical sciences and training in research. Graduate students in botany are encouraged to become familiar with cognate disciplines that will enhance their scholarship and research potential; these include biometry, biochemistry, geology, geography and relevant foreign languages.

## Admission Requirements

- Bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university for unconditional admission
- Undergraduate coursework roughly equivalent to a Biology minor
- Minimum 3.000 undergraduate GPA on a 4.000 point scale for unconditional admission
- Official transcript(s)
- GRE scores (general test)
- Goal statement
- Three letters of recommendation
- Acceptance of the student by a faculty advisor
- A list of up to five potential faculty advisors
- English language proficiency - all international students must provide proof of English language proficiency (unless they meet specific exceptions) by earning one of the following:
  - Minimum 587 TOEFL PBT score (paper-based version)
  - Minimum 94 TOEFL IBT score (Internet-based version)
  - Minimum 82 MELAB score
  - Minimum 7.0 IELTS score
  - Minimum 65 PTE score

For more information about graduate admissions, please visit the Graduate Studies admission website. For more information on international admission, visit the Office of Global Education's admission website.

## Program Learning Outcomes

Graduates of this program will be able to:

1. Understand advanced biological concepts beyond the scope of the typical undergraduate degree and increase the depth of their knowledge through coursework and hands-on experiences.

2. Apply scientific principles and appreciate work outside of their particular field.
3. Effectively communicate about science with colleagues as well as those outside of their area of expertise.
4. Develop the necessary laboratory skills that will allow testing of hypotheses.

## Program Requirements

### Major Requirements

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Code	Title	Credit Hours
<b>Major Requirements</b>		
BSCI 50370	ECOLOGICAL AND EVOLUTIONARY GENETICS	2
BSCI 50371	EVOLUTIONARY BIOLOGY	2
BSCI 50372	COMMUNITIES AND ECOSYSTEMS	2
BSCI 60184	RESPONSIBLE CONDUCT IN RESEARCH AND TEACHING-BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES <sup>1</sup>	0-2
BSCI 60199	THESIS I <sup>2</sup>	6
Additional Requirements		18-20
Minimum Total Credit Hours:		30

- <sup>1</sup> Students who will serve as teaching assistants are required to take BSCI 60184 their first semester (or the following fall semester for those starting their studies in spring semester). Students who are not teaching assistants do not have to take the course; however, they must complete an additional 2 credit hours of additional coursework to meet the minimum 32 credit hours to graduate.
- <sup>2</sup> A master's thesis is required for the degree. M.S. degree candidates begin research for the thesis by successfully preparing, presenting and defending a formal prospectus for their research project to their thesis committee. It is expected that the student will present the results of their study in a defense open to students and faculty. The thesis must be presented and defended before the Guidance Committee with not more than one negative vote in order to be recommended to the department and College of Arts and Sciences for degree conferral.