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 (M.S.) in Biological Sciences - Botany has been temporarily suspended as of fall 2017.

The Master of Science 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
Admission to the Master of Science (M.S.) in Biological Sciences - Botany has been temporarily suspended as of fall 2017.

- Official transcript(s)
- 3.0 GPA
- GRE (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
- Undergraduate coursework roughly equivalent to a Biology minor

English Language Proficiency Requirements for International Students: All international students must provide proof of English language proficiency (unless they meet specific exceptions) by earning a minimum 587 TOEFL score (94 on the Internet-based version), minimum 82 MELAB score, minimum 7.0 IELTS score or minimum 65 PTE Academic score. For more information on international admission, visit the Office of Global Education’s admission website. Effective spring 2018.

For more information about graduate admissions, please visit the Graduate Studies 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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BSCI 50370</td>
<td>ECOLOGICAL AND EVOLUTIONARY GENETICS</td>
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<tr>
<td>BSCI 50371</td>
<td>EVOLUTIONARY BIOLOGY</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>BSCI 50372</td>
<td>COMMUNITIES AND ECOSYSTEMS</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>BSCI 60184</td>
<td>RESPONSIBLE CONDUCT IN RESEARCH AND TEACHING-BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>BSCI 60199</td>
<td>THESIS I</td>
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Minimum Total Credit Hours: 32

Additional Requirements 1

1 Course is required for teaching assistants. 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.

- Prospectus: M.S. degree candidates begin research by successfully preparing, presenting and defending a formal prospectus for their research project to their committee.
- Thesis and Final Defense: The student must complete a master’s thesis. 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.