Biological Sciences, BS

Your involvement in innovative research with award-winning faculty will enable you to gain critical-thinking skills, develop key lab techniques and jump-start your career in science. Prepare for medical, professional and graduate schools by earning your undergraduate degree in biological sciences.

Program Description

The life sciences delve into the study of the basic organization and processes of life (microbes, plants and animals) at scales ranging from molecules to ecosystems and in time from picoseconds to millennia. This includes investigations into how hereditary information is transferred and organisms evolve, the interplay of organisms and their environments, and how these factors interact in health and disease.

Students interested in a degree in life sciences can opt for a BS in biological sciences or choose one of five concentrations:

- biology and society
- biomedical sciences
- conservation biology and ecology
- genetics, cell and developmental biology
- neurobiology, physiology and behavior

This program is available as an accelerated degree program: https://sols.asu.edu/degree-programs/accelerated-bachelor-master-science.

Due to the high volume of overlap in curriculum, students enrolled in a Bachelor of Science degree in the School of Life Sciences may be restricted from declaring a concurrent degree within the school. Students should speak with their academic advisor for any further questions.
At a Glance

- **College/School:** The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences
- **Location:** Tempe campus or online
- **Additional Program Fee:** Yes
- **Second Language Requirement:** No
- **First Required Math Course:** MAT 251 - Calculus for Life Sciences
- **Math Intensity:** Moderate

Required Courses (Major Map)

2020 - 2021 Major Map (On-campus)
2020 - 2021 Major Map (Online)
Concurrent Option
Major Map (Archives)

Concurrent Program Options

This degree is also offered as concurrent degree program with:

Secondary Education, BAE

Compare Programs | Major Maps

Accelerated Program Options

This program allows students to obtain both a bachelor's and master's degree in as little as five years. It is offered as an accelerated bachelor's and master's degree with:

Biology (Biology and Society), MS
Biology, MS
Microbiology, MS
Molecular and Cellular Biology, MS

Acceptance to the graduate program requires a separate application. During their junior year, eligible students will be advised by their academic departments to apply.

Admission Requirements

General University Admission Requirements:
All students are required to meet general university admission requirements.

Freshman | Transfer | International | Readmission

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**Change of Major Requirements**

A current ASU student has no additional requirements for changing majors.

Students should refer to [https://changingmajors.asu.edu/request](https://changingmajors.asu.edu/request) for information about how to change a major to this program.

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**Attend Online**

ASU offers this program in an online format with multiple enrollment sessions throughout the year. Applicants may view the program description and request more information [here](https://changingmajors.asu.edu/request).

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**Transfer Options**

ASU is committed to helping students thrive by offering tools that allow personalization of the transfer path to ASU. Students may use the [Transfer Map search](https://changingmajors.asu.edu/request) to outline a list of recommended courses to take prior to transfer.

ASU has transfer partnerships in Arizona and across the country to create a simplified transfer experience for students. These pathway programs include exclusive benefits, tools and resources, and help students save time and money in their college journey. Students may learn more about these programs by visiting the admission site: [https://admission.asu.edu/transfer/pathway-programs](https://admission.asu.edu/transfer/pathway-programs).

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**Global Opportunities**

**Global Experience**

With over 250 programs in more than 65 countries (ranging from one week to one year), study abroad is possible for all ASU students wishing to gain global skills and knowledge in preparation for a 21st-century career. Students earn ASU credit for completed courses, while staying on track for graduation, and may apply financial aid and scholarships toward program costs. [https://mystudyabroad.asu.edu/](https://mystudyabroad.asu.edu/)

The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences recommends the following study abroad programs for students majoring in biological sciences: [http://links.asu.edu/SAO.biological-sciences](http://links.asu.edu/SAO.biological-sciences).
Career Opportunities

The biological sciences major with no concentration is designed for students who are committed to studying and training in multiple disciplines in biology and for students who want to get more exposure to the life sciences before deciding whether they want to declare a concentration as an undergraduate. Therefore, students in this major take core courses from several concentrations. Students in this major have more flexibility to customize their program of study so they can focus on their own area of interest that may not have a concentration, such as plant biology or genomics.

The biological science major provides an excellent foundation for graduate study as well as preparation for professional schooling in:

- dentistry
- medicine
- pharmacy
- veterinary medicine

Graduates may enter positions in:

- biotechnology
- education
- government
- industry

Career examples include but are not limited to those shown in the following list. Advanced degrees or certifications may be required for academic or clinical positions.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Career</th>
<th>*Growth</th>
<th>*Median Salary</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Biological Sciences Professor</td>
<td>15.2%</td>
<td>$78,240</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biological Scientist (General)</td>
<td>8.0%</td>
<td>$76,690</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clinical Trial Manager</td>
<td>9.9%</td>
<td>$118,970</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dentist</td>
<td>19.4%</td>
<td>$151,440</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Environmental Protection Specialist</td>
<td>11.1%</td>
<td>$69,400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High School Teacher</td>
<td>7.5%</td>
<td>$59,170</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Medical and Health Services Manager  20.5%  $98,350
Pharmacist  5.6%  $124,170
Surgeon (General)  11.4%  
Veterinarian (Vet)  18.8%  $90,420

* Data obtained from the Occupational Information Network (O*NET) under sponsorship of the U.S. Department of Labor/Employment and Training Administration (USDOL/ETA).

☀ Bright Outlook  🌿 Green Occupation

Contact Information

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