How does science shape the ways we live in and understand our world? How does society shape the way we do science? Gain unique perspectives and become a more effective teacher, writer, policymaker, clinician or researcher while you develop the critical-thinking skills needed to navigate ethical complexities surrounding scientific discovery.

Program Description

The BS program in biological sciences with a concentration in biology and society focuses on training biology students to understand the social context of their science, to ask how and why a biological problem has been and should be studied. Students explore the ways in which policy decisions shape and are shaped by biological research and they investigate the meaning and significance of the life sciences in understanding our complex world.

The biology and society curriculum is highly individualized. This unique degree is home to world-class researchers and teachers in diverse fields, including bioscience ethics, history and philosophy of science, science communication, science education and science policy, all brought together under one program. Students have the opportunity to work with many renowned scholars in independent study and research projects.

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

• **Additional Program Fee:** Yes
• **Second Language Requirement:** No
• **First Required Math Course:** MAT 251 - Calculus for Life Sciences or MAT 270 Calculus with Analytic Geometry I
• **Math Intensity:** Moderate

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**Required Courses (Major Map)**

[2020 - 2021 Major Map](#)

[Major Map (Archives)](#)

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**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.

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**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 for information about how to change a major to this program.

**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 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.

**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/

**Career Opportunities**

Biology and society students gain the historical, philosophical, political and ethical perspectives needed to explore interactions between the life sciences and related, complex human issues. As a result, the program contributes to better informed and more effective teachers, writers, policymakers, clinicians and researchers in areas related to biology, medicine and society.

As a result of the individualized, skill-based curriculum, biology and society majors are eligible for a broad range of career options. Most graduates have chosen to pursue professional degrees in medicine, law, public health or public policy, or graduate study in biology, ethics, education or history and philosophy of science. Graduates enter the workforce, whether in academia, industry, government or clinical practice, with a deep sensitivity to the complexity of biology in society and the skill to navigate that complexity throughout their careers.
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>Bioinformatics Scientist</td>
<td>8.0%</td>
<td>$76,690</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biological Sciences Professor</td>
<td>15.2%</td>
<td>$78,240</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community Health Worker</td>
<td>18.1%</td>
<td>$38,370</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>
<tr>
<td>Lawyer</td>
<td>8.2%</td>
<td>$119,250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Life Scientist</td>
<td>9.2%</td>
<td>$74,540</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medical Scientist</td>
<td>13.4%</td>
<td>$82,090</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medical and Health Services Manager</td>
<td>20.5%</td>
<td>$98,350</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Surgeon (General)</td>
<td>11.4%</td>
<td>#</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* 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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