Molecular and Cellular Biology, MS

This program focuses on the fundamental molecular events at the core of all life. Choose from a diverse range of research and training opportunities that extend beyond the traditional boundaries of biological research. Gain skills in contemporary approaches used in molecular and cellular biology and tailor the program around your interests.

Program Description

Degree Awarded: MS Molecular and Cellular Biology

The transdisciplinary molecular and cellular biology program is led by an interactive community of scientists dedicated to promoting a collaborative environment that encourages transdisciplinary, innovative, world-class research. The MS program in molecular and cellular biology is designed to provide diverse training opportunities for graduate students to prepare for successful careers in the biological sciences.

At a Glance

- **College/School:** College of Liberal Arts and Sciences
- **Location:** Tempe campus

Accelerated Degrees

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:

- Biological Sciences, BS
- Biological Sciences (Biology and Society), BS
- Biological Sciences (Biomedical Sciences), BS
- Biological Sciences (Conservation Biology and Ecology), BS
- Biological Sciences (Genetics, Cell and Developmental Biology), BS
Biological Sciences (Neurobiology, Physiology and Behavior), BS
Microbiology, BS
Molecular Biosciences and Biotechnology, BS

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

Degree Requirements

30 credit hours and a thesis

**Required Core (9 credit hours)**

- MCB 555 Advanced Molecular and Cellular Sciences (6)
- MCB 556 Advanced Molecular and Cellular Biology II (3)

**Electives or Research (11 credit hours)**

**Other Requirements (4 credit hours)**

- MCB 501 Seminar: Molecular and Cellular Biology Colloquium (4)

**Culminating Experience (6 credit hours)**

- MCB 599 Thesis (6)

**Additional Curriculum Information**

Students are required to take MCB 501 each semester they are registered. If a student is registered for more or fewer than four semesters, the research hours and MCB 501 hours may be adjusted accordingly to reach 30 credit hours.

Students should see the academic unit for a complete list of approved electives.

Admission Requirements

Applicants must fulfill the requirements of both the Graduate College and the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences.

Applicants are eligible to apply to the program if they have earned a bachelor's or master's degree in the biological sciences, biochemistry or a closely related field from a regionally accredited institution.
Applicants must have a minimum of a 3.00 cumulative GPA (scale is 4.00 = "A") in the last 60 hours of a student's first bachelor's degree program, or applicants must have a minimum of a 3.00 cumulative GPA (scale is 4.00 = "A") in an applicable master's degree program.

Applicants must submit the following:

1. graduate admission application and application fee
2. official transcripts
3. academic record form
4. personal statement
5. curriculum vitae or resume
6. GRE scores
7. three letters of recommendation
8. proof of English proficiency

**Additional Application Information**

An applicant whose native language is not English (regardless of current residency) must provide proof of English proficiency.

**Desired Qualifications:**

1. GRE scores: 50 percent verbal and 70 percent quantitative
2. research experience

**Contact Information**

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