COLLEGE OF ARTS + SCIENCES

Biological Sciences

Life's funny, isn't it? That's one thing people say. Or *amazing*. Or *chaotic*, *beautiful*, *unfair*, and *too short*. But a biologist says that life is *discoverable*. Medicine, dentistry, pharmacy, environmental service, molecular genetics, virology, botany, ecology, marine biology, microbiology, physiology, zoology—our program is the first step toward all of these fields and more. Whether your interest is micro or macro, we'll turn you into an expert-level life scientist.

This is the place.

There's nowhere better to study biology than New Orleans. Home to diverse wildlife, Louisiana makes it especially easy for a biologist to appreciate the Sportsman's Paradise. At Loyno, you'll get hands-on training while living in one of the country's most distinctive ecosystems. If the wildlife on campus isn't enough for you, just walk across the street to Audubon Zoo—you'll not only learn from our students and professors, but also from our city.

We'll make sure you graduate with a relevant skill set by balancing classroom and real experience. You'll start by learning the core concepts of biology before moving on to specialized courses in your area of interest. And along the way, you'll be encouraged to conduct your own original research under the supervision of a faculty member for actual course credit. That way, when you graduate, you'll have some training to back up those broad concepts.

Courses

In your first two years, you'll take the six core biology courses. These classes include labs in addition to lectures so that as you learn the fundamental concepts of the biological sciences, you'll also get some hands-on field experiences. Here's a sample of what you can expect to learn and do:

Conservation Biology

The study of the conservation of biodiversity based in the principles of ecology, evolution, and genetics. The primary goal of this course is to understand natural ecological systems in the context of a human dominated world to learn to best maintain iological diversity in concert with an exploding human population. This is accomplished through lecture, Socratic discussion, and videos.

Global Ecology

This course examines the basic concepts of ecology, including the nature of ecosystems, energy flow, biogeochemical cycles, and characteristics of populations and communities of organisms. The role of humans in the ecosphere is emphasized, with particular attention to human population problems, food production, and pollution problems.

Marine Conservation Biology and Ecology

This course examines diversity, physiology, ecology, and conservation of microbes, plants, and animals that live in the marine environment. Emphasis is placed on how marine organisms have adapted to living in their environment and how humans depend upon and affect marine ecosystems.

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