BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES

The graduate program in the department of biological sciences at Fordham offers courses and research opportunities leading to the Master of Science and Doctor of Philosophy degrees in biology. The goal of the program is to ensure a broad education in biology and specialized training for those pursuing careers in research or teaching. There are two areas of specialization: (1) cell and molecular biology and (2) ecology.

For more information about Graduate-level Biological Sciences, please visit our page on the Fordham website.

Admissions
Masters and Ph.D.
Applicants must:

- hold a bachelor’s degree in the biological sciences or related major
- have a minimum undergraduate GPA of 3.0 (out of 4.0)
- have an acceptable combined GRE score
- Include each of the following items

Resume
Up to two pages in length (submit via the online application).

Statement of Intent
The "Statement of Intent" requires students to answer the following questions and also imposes a 300 word maximum for each question

- Why do you want to join Fordham’s Graduate Biology Program?
- How will a Graduate degree in Biology help you in your career goals?
- Describe your research experiences to date.
- Describe your research interest.

Official Transcripts
Official degree transcripts confirming prior degree conferral should be ordered at least one month prior to the application deadline. Please ensure that they are sent directly to the Office of Admissions via secure electronic delivery. If electronic delivery is not available, please request that your transcripts be submitted directly via post, in a sealed envelope, to: Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, Office of Admissions, Fordham University, 441 E. Fordham Rd., Bronx, NY 10458.

Please note: you may upload unofficial copies of your transcripts to your application while the Office of Admissions awaits receipt of your official transcripts.

Official GRE Scores
These should be sent directly by the testing service to the Office of Graduate Admissions, Fordham University, Graduate School of Arts and Sciences – Code # 2259. GRE Subject score is recommended but not required.

Recommendations
Three letters of recommendation submitted directly by referees via the online application.

English Proficiency
International applicants whose native language is not English are required to complete and submit to GSAS prior to matriculation their official scores from the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL). GSAS will also consider a student's International English Language Testing System (IELTS)—Cambridge English Proficiency Level language testing results.

Official TOEFL or IELTS scores should be sent directly by the testing service to the Office of Graduate Admissions, Fordham University, Graduate School of Arts and Sciences – Code # 2259.

Certificates
Applicants should have completed a B.A./B.S. in biological science or other natural/environmental science, or equivalent coursework. An undergraduate GPA of 3.0 or higher is required. GRE scores are not required. Applicants without the required background will be advised to take necessary prerequisite courses. Applications are accepted on a rolling basis, and students may begin their studies in any term, including summer.

For more information about admissions to the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, please visit their page on the Fordham website.

Programs
- Biological Sciences (M.S.)
- Biological Sciences (Ph.D.)
- Conservation Biology (Adv Cert)

Courses
BISC 5510. Conservation Biology. (3 Credits)
Theory and practice of conservation biology. Topics will include maintenance of species diversity, design of reserves, captive management, genetic considerations, and factors affecting extinction rates.
Attributes: ABGS, CEED, CENS.

BISC 5511. Conservation Law and Policy. (3 Credits)
This course provides an introduction to the practice of both law and policy analysis, with a focus on issues associated with the conservation of biodiversity. Part I focuses on the law, and students will learn the basics of legal research, legal reasoning, and legal analysis. Part II focuses on policy analysis, and students will learn the basics of the policy process and basis policy analysis. This course will examine a wide range of laws, policies, regulations, treaties, and institutions designed to address local, national, and global conservation problems. Topics to be covered include protection of biodiversity, regulatory approaches to conservation, and international conservation law.
Attributes: CEED, CENS, HECS, URSG.

BISC 5512. Freshwater Algae Identification. (0 Credits)
This course will embark on a study of the largest, most diverse, and arguably the most important group of plants on earth: the algae. Algae form the base of aquatic food webs, and are both the cause of water quality issues and tool in ecological assessments used to protect inland waters.

Updated: 11-05-2019
BISC 6791. Biochemistry. (4 Credits)

Four-credit courses that meet for 150 minutes per week require three additional hours of class preparation per week on the part of the student in lieu of an additional hour of formal instruction. 

Prerequisite: BISC 6791.

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Prerequisite: BISC 6791.
BISC 9999. Dissertation Direction. (1 Credit)
Direction of PhD dissertation research after 30 credits of BISC 7999 have been completed.