Requirements

The curriculum requires 64 credits for students who choose to concentrate in Ecology & Systematics and 65 credits for those who choose Cell & Molecular biology. Both concentrations include two core courses in ecology and two core courses in cell and molecular biology, usually taken in the first year, so students will get exposure to both subject areas.

Requirements include core courses, breadth (non-core) courses, concentration courses, and a language requirement, which can be fulfilled with a biostatistics course. Two comprehensive examinations (one of which is completed through the dissertation proposal defense) and a dissertation are also required.

Course Requirements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BISC 7501</td>
<td>Population &amp; Community Biology</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BISC 7502</td>
<td>Eukaryotic Molecular Biology</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BISC 7503</td>
<td>Community and Ecosystem Ecology</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BISC 6734</td>
<td>Cell Biology of Eukaryotes</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>BISC 6525</td>
<td>Biostatistics</td>
<td>2</td>
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<td>BISC 7801</td>
<td>Methods in Cell and Molecular Biology</td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>BISC 8999</td>
<td>Independent Study (graded on letter scale)</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BISC 8801</td>
<td>Biological Colloquium I (taken twice)</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Concentration-Specific Requirements:

- Cell & Molecular Biology Concentration
  - BISC 7804 Techniques in Molecular Biology
- Ecology & Systematics Concentration
  - BISC 6535 Ecological Methods
  - One Additional Elective Credit

Electives/Research Tutorials

- BISC 8999 Independent Study (graded on letter scale)
- Graduate-Level Biological Sciences Electives

Comprehensive Exam

- BISC 0936 Master's Comprehensive Examination-Biology
- BISC 0930 PhD Comprehensive Examination-Biology

Doctoral-Level Research

- BISC 7999 Research for Ph.D. in Biological Sciences

Degree Milestones

- BISC 0950 Proposal Development
- BISC 0960 Proposal Acceptance

Dissertation

- BISC 0970 Dissertation Mentoring- Biological Sciences

Degree Requirements

1. A minimum of 64 (Ecology & Systematics concentration) and 65 (Cell & Molecular concentration) course credits including at least 2 credits of research tutorial. All research tutorial credits earned during years 1 and 2 count as course credits.

2. Reading knowledge of a foreign language (a computer language or statistics may be substituted for a foreign language).

3. Acceptable performance on the M.S. comprehensive examination (BISC 0936), which is achieved by a score of 85% or higher (grade of High Pass).

4. Maintenance of a 3.5 GPA.

CIP Code

26.0101 - Biology/Biological Sciences, General.
You can use the CIP code to learn more about career paths associated with this field of study and, for international students, possible post-graduation visa extensions. Learn more about CIP codes and other information resources.