Biological Sciences, BS

Your involvement in innovative research with award-winning faculty enables you to gain critical thinking skills, develop key lab techniques and jump-start your career in science. Prepare for medical, professional or graduate school by earning your undergraduate degree in biological sciences.

Program Description

The life sciences involve the study of the basic organization and processes of life (microbes, plants and animals) at scales ranging from molecules to ecosystems and in time from picoseconds to millennia. This includes investigations into how hereditary information is transferred and organisms evolve, the interplay of organisms and their environments, and how these factors interact in health and disease.

Students interested in a degree in life sciences can opt for a BS in biological sciences or choose one of five concentrations:

  * biology and society
  * biomedical sciences
  * conservation biology and ecology
  * genetics, cell and developmental biology
  * neurobiology, physiology and behavior

This program is available as an accelerated degree program.  
https://sols.asu.edu/degree-programs/accelerated-bachelor-master-science

In addition to the guidelines in the Concurrent Program Options section below, students interested in pursuing concurrent or second baccalaureate degrees in The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences are advised to visit The College’s website for more information and requirements.  
https://thecollege.asu.edu/concurrent-and-second-baccalaureate-degrees
At a Glance

- **College/School:** The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences
- **Location:** Tempe or Online, ASU Local
- **Additional Program Fee:** Yes
- **Second Language Requirement:** No
- **First Required Math Course:** MAT 251 - Calculus for Life Sciences
- **Math Intensity:** Moderate

Required Courses (Major Map)

2022 - 2023 Major Map (On-campus)
2022 - 2023 Major Map (Online)
Major Map (Archives)

Concurrent Program Options

Students pursuing concurrent degrees (also known as a "double major") earn two distinct degrees and receive two diplomas. Working with their academic advisors, students can create their own concurrent degree combination. Some combinations are not possible due to high levels of overlap in curriculum.

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
- Global Management (Creative Industries and Design Thinking), MGM
- Global Management (Digital Audience Strategy), MGM
- Global Management (Global Affairs), MGM
- Global Management (Global Business), MGM
- Global Management (Global Development and Innovation), MGM
- Global Management (Global Digital Transformation), MGM
- Global Management (Global Entrepreneurship), MGM
- Global Management (Global Health Care Delivery), MGM
- Global Management (Global Legal Studies), MGM
Acceptance to the graduate program requires a separate application. During their junior year, eligible students are advised by their academic departments to apply.

**Admission Requirements**

**General University Admission Requirements:**
All students are required to meet general university admission requirements.  
[First-year](#) | [Transfer](#) | [International](#) | [Readmission](#)  

**Change of Major Requirements**

A current ASU student has no additional requirements for changing majors.

Students should refer to [https://changemajor.apps.asu.edu](https://changemajor.apps.asu.edu) for information about how to change a major to this program.

**Attend Online**

**ASU Online**

ASU offers this program in an online format with multiple enrollment sessions throughout the year. Applicants may view the program description and request more information [here](#).

**ASU Local**

It is now possible to earn an ASU degree with ASU Local, an integrated college experience in which students take advantage of in-person success coaching and programming experiences on site while completing one of 130+ undergraduate online degree programs, all of which come with online faculty interaction and tutoring support. Those interested may learn more about ASU Local [here](#).

**Transfer Options**
ASU is committed to helping students thrive by offering tools that allow personalization of the transfer path to ASU. Students may use MyPath2ASU™ 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 they 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/MyPath2ASU.

Global Opportunities

Global Experience
When studying abroad, students are able to engage in community service and outreach all around the world, which can help their graduate and professional program applications stand out. Students experience unique biological environments and gain an understanding of worldwide differences in the human condition. Study abroad programs exist across the globe, including a summer in Panama and a year in Ireland. https://goglobal.asu.edu/

The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences recommends the following study abroad programs for students majoring in biological sciences: https://goglobal.asu.edu/students/major/biological-sciences.

Career Opportunities

The biological sciences major with no concentration is designed for students who are committed to studying and training in multiple disciplines in biology and for students who want to get more exposure to the life sciences before deciding whether they want to declare a concentration as an undergraduate. Therefore, students in this major take core courses from several concentrations. Students in this major have more flexibility to customize their program of study so they can focus on their own area of interest that may not have a concentration, such as plant biology or genomics.

The biological science major provides an excellent foundation for graduate study as well as preparation for professional schooling in:

- dentistry
- medicine
- pharmacy
- veterinary medicine

Graduates may enter positions in:

- biotechnology
- education
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>Biological Sciences Professor</td>
<td>9.3%</td>
<td>$85,600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biological Scientist (General)</td>
<td>2.2%</td>
<td>$85,290</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clinical Trial Manager</td>
<td>4.8%</td>
<td>$137,940</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dentist</td>
<td>2.8%</td>
<td>$158,940</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Environmental Protection Specialist</td>
<td>7.8%</td>
<td>$73,230</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High School Teacher</td>
<td>3.8%</td>
<td>$62,870</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medical and Health Services Manager</td>
<td>31.5%</td>
<td>$104,280</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pharmacist</td>
<td></td>
<td>$128,710</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Veterinarian (Vet)</td>
<td>15.9%</td>
<td>$99,250</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**

School of Life Sciences | LSA 189  
sols.advising@asu.edu | 480-727-6277