Biological Sciences (Conservation Biology and Ecology), **BS**

LABSCCBS

Are you concerned about environmental challenges such as climate change and habitat destruction? You can combine a biological approach to ecology with a human perspective rooted in the social sciences, to develop an understanding of the complex problems threatening our world. You'll also acquire the strong background necessary for advanced study.

**Program Description**

Ecology is the study of the distribution and abundance of organisms, the interactions among organisms, and the interactions between organisms and the physical environment. Conservation biology is an applied science based on ecological principles that focuses on conserving biological diversity and on restoring degraded ecosystems.

Arizona State University is committed to a more sustainable world and sharing knowledge of conservation biology and ecology. The BS program in biological sciences with a concentration in conservation biology and ecology is one critical component to help meet this global challenge.

Conservation biologists at ASU investigate the impact of humans on Earth's biodiversity and develop practical approaches to prevent the extinction of species and promote the sustainable use of biological resources. Some investigate the causes of ecosystem degradation and use ecological principles to reestablish desired conditions in a variety of ecosystems, including rivers, wetlands, grasslands, urban landscapes and forests.

This program is available as an [accelerated degree program](#).

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.
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)

2023 - 2024 Major Map (On-campus)
2023 - 2024 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 plus master's degree** with:

- Biology (Biology and Society), MS
- Biology, MS
- Global Management, MGM
- Microbiology, MS
- Molecular and Cellular Biology, MS

Acceptance to the graduate program requires a separate application. Students typically receive approval to pursue the accelerated masterâs during the junior year of their bachelor's degree program. Interested students can learn about eligibility requirements and how to apply.

Admission Requirements
General University Admission Requirements:
All students are required to meet general university admission requirements.
First-year | Transfer | International | Readmission

Tuition Information
When it comes to paying for higher education, everyone’s situation is different. Students can learn about ASU tuition and financial aid options to find out which will work best for them.

Change of Major Requirements
A current ASU student has no additional requirements for changing majors.

Students should visit the Change of Major form 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’s ASU Online page for program descriptions and to request more information.

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.

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.

Global Opportunities
Global Experience
Through study abroad, students studying biological sciences are able to experience unique biological environments and gain an understanding of conservation biology practices worldwide. They are able to be exposed to a variety of laws, policies and practices in biology-centric environments and expand their knowledge of how science impacts society. Students also are able to engage in community service and outreach, which can help them stand out in graduate study or a professional career.

With more than 300 programs available, Global Education programs allow students to tailor their experience to their unique interests and skill sets. The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences recommends these programs for students majoring in biological sciences with a concentration in conservation biology and ecology.

**Career Opportunities**

The curriculum prepares students with skills and concepts for employment and provides a solid platform for those who wish to attend graduate school. Graduates are prepared for careers with:

- governmental agencies such as the Environmental Protection Agency and state game and fish departments
- K-12 education, colleges and universities
- nongovernmental organizations such as The Nature Conservancy and Conservation International
- private companies focused on environmental resources, environmental law or environmental economics

The concentration can provide training in specific skills that might be needed in these areas:

- animal and plant physiology, identification and ecology
- behavioral ecology and population biology
- community, ecosystem and landscape ecology
- conservation of endangered species
- ecology of different habitats, including cities, lakes, rivers and grasslands
- restoration of degraded ecosystems

Career example titles and salaries listed below are not necessarily entry level, and students should take into consideration how years of experience, geographical location, and required advanced degrees or certifications may affect pay scales.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Career</th>
<th>*Growth</th>
<th>*Median Salary</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Biological Sciences Professor ☠️</td>
<td>8.6%</td>
<td>$81,650</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Climate Change Analyst ☠️</td>
<td>6.1%</td>
<td>$76,480</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Environmental Analyst</td>
<td>4.1%</td>
<td>$64,460</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Environmental Protection Specialist ☠️</td>
<td>6.1%</td>
<td>$76,480</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Occupation</td>
<td>Salary Growth</td>
<td>Salary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>--------------</td>
<td>-------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fish and Game Warden</td>
<td></td>
<td>$59,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fish and Wildlife Biologist</td>
<td>3.0%</td>
<td>$67,430</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Geographic Information Systems Technician (GIS Technician)</td>
<td>9.7%</td>
<td>$98,740</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High School Teacher</td>
<td>1.0%</td>
<td>$62,360</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hydrogeologist</td>
<td>4.8%</td>
<td>$144,440</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Park Ranger</td>
<td>4.1%</td>
<td>$64,460</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

Contact Information

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