BIOLOGY (BIO)

Master of Science, Doctor of Philosophy

Overview

The Department of Biology offers programs of study leading to the MS and PhD degrees. For admission to graduate work, the department requires an undergraduate major in the biological sciences or the equivalent, plus at least four semesters of courses in the physical sciences. Any deficiencies in these areas must be removed prior to admission to candidacy for a graduate degree.

Research opportunities include behavioral ecology, biochemistry and molecular biology, biological oceanography, biomechanics, cell biology, ecology, epigenetics, evolution, genomics, microbiology, neurobiology, physiology, population genetics, sensory biology, and systematics. For specific faculty interests and descriptions of field sites and research resources, please visit the departmental website http://biology.wfu.edu.

At the master's level, the department emphasizes broad training rather than narrow specialization, and combines coursework with thesis research. At the doctoral level, few specific requirements are prescribed. Individual programs are designed for each student at both levels under the guidance of the student's faculty adviser, advisory committee and departmental graduate committee. Enrollment in the graduate program is open only to students whose interests are reflected by the areas of expertise represented by the faculty. Prospective applicants are encouraged to correspond with faculty members whose areas of research interest are compatible with their own. Additional information is available from the Biology Program Director.

Study leading to the MS degree was inaugurated in 1961. The PhD degree program began in September 1970. A departmental graduate committee consisting of Biology department faculty and an appointed graduate student representative oversees all aspects of the graduate program from application review to acceptance to matriculation.

Programs

- Biology, MS (https://bulletin.wfu.edu/graduate/programs/degree-programs/biology/biology-ms/)
- Biology, PhD (https://bulletin.wfu.edu/graduate/programs/degree-programs/biology/biology-phd/)
- MD/PhD (https://bulletin.wfu.edu/graduate/programs/dual-degrees/md-phd/)
- PhD/MBA (https://bulletin.wfu.edu/graduate/programs/dual-degrees/phd-mba/)
- Structural and Computational Biophysics (SCB), Certificate (https://bulletin.wfu.edu/graduate/programs/certificates/structural-computational-biophysics-scb-certificate/)

Courses

BIO 601. Topics in Biology. (1-4 h)
Seminar and/or lecture courses in selected topics, some involving laboratory instruction. May be repeated for credit.

BIO 602. Topics in Biology. (1-4 h)
Seminar and/or lecture courses in selected topics, some involving laboratory instruction. May be repeated for credit.

BIO 603. Topics in Biology. (1-4 h)
Seminar and/or lecture courses in selected topics, some involving laboratory instruction. May be repeated for credit.

BIO 604. Topics in Biology. (1-4 h)
Seminar and/or lecture courses in selected topics, some involving laboratory instruction. May be repeated for credit.

BIO 605. Topics in Biology. (1-4 h)
Seminar and/or lecture courses in selected topics, some involving laboratory instruction. May be repeated for credit.

BIO 607. Biophysics. (3 h)
Introduction to the structure, dynamic behavior, and function of DNA and proteins, and survey of membrane biophysics. The physical principles of structure determination by X-ray, NMR, and optical methods are emphasized. Kim-Shapiro.

BIO 608. Biomechanics. (3 h)
Analyzes the relationship between organismal form and function using principles from physics and engineering. Solid and fluid mechanics are employed to study design in living systems.

BIO 608L. Biomechanics Lab. (1 h)
Laboratory study of biomechanics. P or C-BIO 608.

BIO 609. Comparative Anatomy. (4 h)
Study of the vertebrate body from an evolutionary, functional, and development perspective. Labs emphasize structure and function, primarily through the dissection of representative vertebrates.

BIO 610. Community Ecology and Global Change. (4 h)
An advanced ecology course covering mechanisms that determine the dynamics and distribution of plant and animal assemblages and their responses to and roles in global change. Lectures focus on ecological principles and theory. Lab includes local field trips and discussion of the primary literature. Weekend field trips to Outer Banks and mountains.

BIO 611. Ecology & Conservation Biology of Coral Reefs. (4 h)
In-depth study of the various biotic and abiotic components that come together to structure ecosystem function and biodiversity at all spatial scales in one of Earth's most productive and diverse environments, yet one most threatened by human use and climate change. Lab component is a one-week field trip over Spring Break.

BIO 613. Herpetology. (4 h)
Lecture course on the biology of reptiles and amphibians, emphasizing the unique morphological, physiological, and behavorial adaptations of both groups, and their evolutionary histories and relationships. Two local field trips are planned.

BIO 615. Population Genetics. (3 h)
Study of the amount and distribution of genetic variation in populations of organisms, and of how processes such as mutation, recombination, and selection affect genetic variation. Lectures present both an introduction to theoretical studies and discussion of molecular and phenotypic variation in natural populations.

BIO 615L. Population Genetics Lab. (1 h)
Uses computer modeling and simulation, and experiments using populations of fruit flies and other model organisms as appropriate. P or C-BIO 615.

BIO 616. Biology of Birds. (4 h)
Lecture plus lab course emphasizing ecological and evolutionary influences on the physiology, behavior, diversity, and population biology of birds, and case studies in conservation biology.

BIO 617. Plant Physiology & Development. (3 h)
Examines the growth, development, and physiological processes of plants. The control of these processes is examined on genetic, biochemical, and whole plant levels.

BIO 617L. Plant Physiology and Development Lab. (1 h)
Consists of structured experiments and an independently designed research project. P or C-BIO 617.

BIO 623. Animal Behavior. (3 h)
Survey of laboratory and field research on animal behavior.

BIO 623L. Animal Behavior Lab. (1 h)
Laboratory study of animal behavior. P or C-BIO 623L.

BIO 624. Hormones and Behavior. (3 h)
Introduction to the hormonal regulation of behavior in a broad range of animals, including humans and invertebrates. Topcs include reproductive behavior, parental behavior, social behavior, sex differences, aggressive behavior, stress, mood, and the regulations of molting in insects. Fahrbach.

BIO 627. Mycology: Biology of Fungi. (4 h)
Introduces fungi, their evolution and natural taxonomy; cell and molecular biology; genetics, mating and development; primary and secondary biochemistry; and their interactions with other organisms and the environment. Lab introduces culturing, microscopic and molecular techniques.

BIO 628. Biology of Aging. (3 h)
Explores mechanisms of aging, and effects of aging on cellular and physiological processes in a range of organims.

BIO 629. Conservation Biology. (3 h)
Lectures, readings, and discussions examining biological resources, their limitations and methods for sustainability. Genetic, aquatic, terrestrial, and ecosystem resources will be examined.

BIO 630. Land and Natural-Resources Management. (3 h)
Provides a fundamental understanding of land and resource management. The major focus is on federal oversight and policies but state, local, non-profit, and international aspects are included.

BIO 632. Microbiology. (4 h)
Structure, function, and taxonomy of microorganisms with emphasis on bacteria. Topics include microbial ecology, industrial microbiology, and medical microbiology. Lab emphasizes microbial diversity through characterizations of isolates from nature.

BIO 633. Vertebrates. (4 h)
Systematic study of vertebrates, with emphasis on evolution, physiology, behavior, end ecology. Laboratory devoted to systematic, field, and experimental studies. Weigl.

BIO 634. Parasitology. (4 h)
Survey of protozoan, helminth, and arthropod parasites with a focus on cellular biology, life cycles, host-parasite relationships, and public health implications. Laboratory emphasizes microscropy-based techniques for examining parasite morphology and intracellular structures.

BIO 635. Insect Biology. (4 h)
Study of the diversity, structure, development, physiology, behavior, and ecology of insects. Conner.

BIO 635S. Insect Biology. (4 h)
A five-week course taught during the summer. A study of the diversity, structure, development, physiology, behavior, and ecology of one of the most diverse taxa on earth. Course location and field trip destinations to be announced each summer. P-POI. Conner.

BIO 636. Development. (3 h)
A study of the molecular, cellular, and anatomical aspects of embryonic development of invertebrate and vertebrate organisms.

BIO 636L. Development Lab. (1 h)
Laboratory study of the molecular, cellular, and anatomical aspects of embryonic development of invertebrate and vertebrate animals. P or C-BIO 636.

BIO 638. Plant Diversity. (3 h)
Explores the diversification of plants in the context of convergent evolution, functional processes and ecological importance.

BIO 638L. Plant Diversity Lab. (1 h)
Plant diversity lab. P or C-BIO 638.

BIO 639. Principles of Biosystematics. (4 h)
Exploration of the current theoretical and practical approaches to the study of macroevolution in plants and animals. Topics include theory and methods on constructing evolutionary trees, sources of data, and cladistic biogeography. Kron.

BIO 640. Ecology. (4 h)
Interrelationships among living systems and their environments, structure and dynamics of major ecosystem types, contemporary problems in ecology. Weigl.

BIO 641. Marine Biology. (3 h)
Introduction to the physical, chemical, and biological parameters affecting the distribution of marine organisms.

BIO 641L. Marine Biology Lab. (1 h)
Marine biology lab. P or C-BIO 641.

BIO 642. Oceanography. (4 h)
Introduces the geological, physical, chemical, and biological processes that govern the global oceans and their role in climate change. Lab focus is on tools and research questions pertinent to the field of biological oceanography.

BIO 646. Neurobiology. (3 h)
Introduces the structure and function of the nervous system including the neural basis of behavior.

BIO 646L. Neurobiology Lab. (1 h)
Laboratory emphasizing electrophysiological techniques with experiments from the cellular to the behavioral level. Students will design and complete their own projects. P or C-BIO 646.

BIO 648. Physiological Plant Ecology. (3 h)
Provides a fundamental understanding of how plants have adapted to the stresses of their habits, particularly in harsh or extreme environments such as deserts, the alpine, the arctic tundra, and tropical rain forests.

BIO 648L. Physiological Plant Ecology Lab. (1 h)
Physiological plant ecology lab. P or C-BIO 648.

BIO 649. Tropical Biodiversity of the Amazon and Andes. (4 h)
Intensive field course in tropical biodiversity focusing on ecosystems, natural resource management, and conversation. Students will travel to major tropical biomes in the vast tropical wildernesses of Andean and Amazonian Peru. Lectures emphasize the basic ecological principles important in each ecosystem. Field-based labs focus on student-designed projects. Offered in the summer only. POI required.

BIO 652. Developmental Neuroscience. (4 h)
Focuses on the development of neural structures and the plasticity of the mature nervous system. Special attention is given to experimental model systems, particularly Drosophila melanogaster. The labs feature molecular, immunocytochemical, and cell culture techniques for the study of neurons. Fahrbach.

BIO 653. Functional Neuroanatomy. (3 h)
An introduction to the gross and cellular anatomical organization of the vertebrate central nervous system. Attention is given to relating structure to function, the anatomical basis of neuropathologies, and modern approaches in neuroanatomy and imaging.

BIO 656. Ecology and Resource Management of Southeast Australia. (4 h)
Intensive field-oriented course focusing on ecosystems, natural resource management and enviromental conservation of southeastern Australia. Students travel to major biomes including sub-tropical rainforests, coral reefs, and the Australian urban environment. Labs are field-based with some consisting of study-designed field projects. Taught only in summers in Australia.

BIO 657. Bioinspiration and Biomimetics. (3 h)
Explores the way in which biological mechanisms can inspire new technologies, products, and businesses. The course combines basic biological and entrepreneurial principles. Also listed as ESE 657.

BIO 658. Biogeography. (3 h)
Study of geographic variation and distribution of organismal diversity using theoretical, historical and ecological information with specific applications to conservation and sustainability.

BIO 658L. Biogeography Lab. (1 h)
Introduces methods of analysis related to the study of biogeography. P or C-BIO 658.

BIO 660. Metabolic Diseases. (3 h)
Explores genetic and biochemical pathways in the context of inborn errors of metabolism.

BIO 662. Immunology. (3 h)
Study of the components and protective mechanisms of the immune system. Kuhn.

BIO 663. Sensory Biology. (3 h)
Lecture course that examines a variety of sensory systems. Emphasis is on sensory physiology, although other aspects of sensory systems, e.g. molecular biology and anatomy, are also covered. Silver.

BIO 663L. Sensory Biology Lab. (1 h)
Laboratory emphasizing electrophysiological and behavioral techniques to examine sensory systems. Students will design and complete their own projects. P or C-BIO 663.

BIO 665. Biology of the Cell. (3 h)
Lecture and lab course on recent advances in cell biology. Lectures emphasize analysis and interpretation of experimental data in the primary literature, focusing on topics such as the large scale architecture of the cell, targeting of macromolecules, cell-cell communication, cell signaling, and the control of cell division. The labs introduce basic techniques in cell biology and leads to an independent project. Tague.

BIO 665L. Biology of the Cell Lab. (1 h)
Laboratory course introducing basic techniques in cell biology, leading to an independent project. P or C-BIO 665.

BIO 667. Virology. (3 h)
Designed to introduce students to viruses, viral/host interactions, pathogenicity, methods of control and their use in molecular biology, including gene therapy. Curran, Lord.

BIO 668. The Cell Biological Basis of Disease. (3 h)
Examines defects in basic cellular mechanisms that may lead to disease.

BIO 668L. The Cell Biological Basis of Disease Lab. (1 h)
Lab uses advanced microscopic and histological techniques to investigate basic properties of cells. P or C-BIO 668.

BIO 669. Cancer Biology. (3 h)
Analysis of molecular and cellular mechanisms that transform normal cells, trigger abnormal proliferation, and lead to tumor formation. Emphasis is on the biological basis of cancer, with some exploration of clinical and social consequences.

BIO 670. Biochemistry: Macromolecules and Metabolism. (3 h)
Lecture course introducing the principles of biochemistry, with an emphasis on the experimental approaches that elucidated these principles. Major topics include structure, function, and biosynthesis of biological molecules, analysis of enzyme function and activity, bioenergetics, and regulation of metabolic pathways. Muday.

BIO 670L. Biochemistry Lab. (1 h)
Overview of biochemical approaches to study structure and function of macromolecules. Cannot receive credit for both BiO 670L and 671L. P or C-BIO 670.

BIO 671L. Advanced Biochemistry Lab. (1 h)
Emphasizes approaches for insolation and analysis of enzymes. Cannot receive credit for both BIO 670L and 671L. P or C-BIO 671.

BIO 672. Advanced Molecular Biology. (3 h)
Presents molecular mechanisms by which stored genetic information is expressed including the mechanisms for and regulation of gene expression, protein synthesis, and genome editing. Emphasizes analysis and interpretation of experimental data from the primary literature.

BIO 672L. Advanced Molecular Biology Lab. (1 h)
Introduces modern methods of molecular biology to analyze and manipulate expression of genes and function of gene products. P or C-BIO 672.

BIO 674. Neuropharmacology. (3 h)
An introduction to how pharmacological agents affect cellular and molecular functions in the nervous system of normal and disease states. Lecture and case studies will be used to examine topics including drugs targeting mood and emotion, memory and dementia, and movement disorders. Drugs of abuse and the neurological basis of addiction will also be evaluated.

BIO 679. Introduction to Geographic Information Systems (GIS). (4 h)
Lecture and laboratory course that introduces the concepts and uses of GIS as a mapping and analytical tool. Lectures cover the history of GIS, GIS data structures and sources of data, map projections, GIS tools, applications, and resources. Exercises include example of GIS applications in environmental modeling, socio-demographic change and site suitability analyses.

BIO 680. Biostatistics. (3 h)
Introduction to statistical methods used by biologists, including descriptive statistics, hypothesis testing, analysis of variance, and regression and correlation. R. Browne.

BIO 681. Epigenetics. (3 h)
Studies the molecular mechanisms for inheritance of genome modifications. Uses primary literature to explore the environmental and developmental signals that influence epigenetic controls of gene expression and disease.

BIO 681L. Epigenetics Lab. (1 h)
Provides hands-on experiences with genome editing and molecular genetics to address the function and expression of genes. P or C-BIO 681.

BIO 682. Molecular Signaling. (3 h)
Examines the molecular and biochemical mechanisms by which hormones, neurotransmitters, and other signaling molecules act to change growth, development, and physiological and behavioral responses of organisms with a focus on discussion of primary literature.

BIO 683. Genomics. (3 h)
Examines the architecture, expression, and evolution of genomes. Uses current primary literature to examine the functional and evolutionary dynamics of genomes and the modern analytic techniques used to investigate genome-wide phenomena.

BIO 683L. Genomics Lab. (1 h)
Introduces analytic methods and interpretation of genome wide data through practical tutorials. P or C-BIO 683.

BIO 684. Molecular Evolution. (3 h)
Study of the evolutionary analysis of biological sequences in population genetic and phylogenetic contexts. Explores statistical and bioinformatic techniques for investigating population evolution, molecular adaptations, and reconstruction of evolutionary history through primary literature.

BIO 684L. Molecular Evolution Lab. (1 h)
Introduces evolutionary analytic methods and interpretation of molecular data through practical tutorials. P or C-BIO 684.

BIO 685. Bioinformatics. (3 h)
Introduction to computational approaches essential to modern biological inquiry. Approaches may include large biological dataset analyses, sequence similarity and motif searches, and analysis of high-throughput genomic technologies. Emphasizes interdisciplinary interaction and communication. Also listed as CSC 685 and PHY 685.

BIO 687. Computational Systems Biology. (3 h)
Introduction of concepts and development of skills for comprehension of systems biology problems, including both biological and computational aspects. Topics may include genome-wide transcriptomic analysis, protein interaction networks, large-scale proteomics experiments, and computational approaches for modeling, storing, and analyzing the resulting data sets. Emphasizes interdisciplinary interaction and communication.

BIO 688. Methods in Molecular Genetics. (4 h)
Hybrid lecture/laboratory course gives students a hands-on introduction to a diverse array of techniques commonly used in molecular genetics laboratories.

BIO 701. Topics in Biology. (1-4 h)
Seminar courses in selected topics, some involving laboratory intstruction. At least one offered each semester. Staff.

BIO 702. Topics in Biology. (1-4 h)
Seminar courses in selected topics, some involving laboratory intstruction. At least one offered each semester. Staff.

BIO 703. Topics in Biology. (1-4 h)
Seminar courses in selected topics, some involving laboratory intstruction. At least one offered each semester. Staff.

BIO 704. Topics in Biology. (1-4 h)
Seminar courses in selected topics, some involving laboratory intstruction. At least one offered each semester. Staff.

BIO 705. Topics in Biology. (1-4 h)
Seminar courses in selected topics, some involving laboratory intstruction. At least one offered each semester. Staff.

BIO 706. Topics in Biology. (1-4 h)
Seminar courses in selected topics, some involving laboratory intstruction. At least one offered each semester. Staff.

BIO 707. Topics in Biology. (1-4 h)
Seminar courses in selected topics, some involving laboratory intstruction. At least one offered each semester. Staff.

BIO 708. Topics in Biology. (1-4 h)
Seminar courses in selected topics, some involving laboratory intstruction. At least one offered each semester. Staff.

BIO 711. Directed Study in Biology. (1 h)
Reading and/or laboratory problems carried out under and by permission of a faculty member. Staff.

BIO 712. Directed Study in Biology. (1 h)
Reading and/or laboratory problems carried out under and by permission of a faculty member. Staff.

BIO 715. Foundations of Physiology. (1-4 h)
Covers classical and current topics and techniques in comparative physiology. Format varies from seminar to a full laboratory course. Staff.

BIO 716. Signal Transduction. (2 h)
Focuses on the mechanisms of inter- and intra-cellular communications. Topics range from receptors to signaling molecules to physiological responses. Largely based on the primary literature and requires student presentation of primary research articles. C. Browne, Muday, Tague.

BIO 717. Developmental Mechanism. (2 h)
Seminar course examining the molecular, biochemical, and cellular mechanisms of animal and/or plant development. Relevant topics selected from the current literature are discussed in lecture and presentation formats. C. Browne, Tague, Muday.

BIO 718. Gene Expression. (2 h)
Seminar covers gene expression in eukaryotic and prokaryotic eystems. Topics range from transcription to translation to other aspects of gene regulation. Emphasis is on the experimental basis of understanding the mechanisms of gene expression. Students present, in seminar format, appropriate papers from literature. All students participate in discussion and evaluation of presentations. Tague, C. Browne, Curran, Muday.

BIO 725. Plant Genetics. (1, 2 h)
Covers various aspects of plant genetics in a seminar format. Topics range from classical Mendelian genetics to genomics and bioinformatics, depending on the interests of the students. Students present the results, conclusions, and significance of appropriate papers from the literature. All students participate in discussion and evaluation of presentation. Muday, Tague.

BIO 726. Plant Physiology. (1, 2 h)
Covers various aspects of plant physiology and hormones in a seminar format. Topics range from auxin transport to properties of light within the leaf. Students present the results, conclusions, and sgnificance of appropriate papers from the literature. All students participate in discussion and evaluation of presentations. Muday, Smith.

BIO 727. Plant Evolution. (1, 2 h)
Covers various aspects of plant evolution in a seminar format. Topics range from problems in phylogeny reconstruction and patterns of diversity to major evolutionary innovations in various plant groups. Students present the results, conclusions, and significance of appropriate papers from the literature. All students participate in discussion and evaluation of presentations. Kron, Silman.

BIO 728. Plant Ecology. (1, 2 h)
Covers various aspects of plant ecology in a seminar format. Topics vary depending on graduate student interest. Students present the results, conclusions, and significance of appropriate papers from the literature. All students participate in discussion and evaluation of presentations. Silman, Smith.

BIO 735. Foundations of Evolutionary Genetics. (2 h)
Inquiry into the fundamental concepts in genetic evolution through discussion of foundational primary literature. Topics explored include population genetic processes, speciation and extinction.

BIO 740. Physiological Ecolgy. (4 h)
Introduction to evolutionary/ecological physiology, with emphasis on the interactions between organisms and major abiotic factors of the environment including water balance-hydration, gaseous exchange-respiration, temperature tolerance-thermal physiology. Dimock.

BIO 757. Techniques in Mathematical Biology. (3 h)
Offers students a framework for understanding the use of mathematics in both biological theory and empirical research. Emphasis is on practical applications of mathematical techniques, and learning by doing. A central goal is to give students tools to use in their own research. Topics covered include continuous and discrete population models, matrix models, stochastic models, life-history theory, and fitting models for data. Mathematical skills are taught and refreshed, but knowledge of basic calculus is required. Silman, Anderson, Baxley.

BIO 762. Immunology. (4 h)
Humoral and cellular immune responses are examined to understand the basic immunobiology of vertebrates with special emphasis on cell-cell interactions and immunoregulation. Labs introduce students to basic methods in immunological research. Kuhn.

BIO 763. Cellular and Molecular Interactions Between Hosts and Parasites. (3 h)
Examines the responses of animal hosts in attempting to immunologically and non-immunologically reject/control both endo- and ecto-parasites and responses of these parasites to the host environment. Consists of lectures and student presentations and requires a comprehensive review article by students. Kuhn.

BIO 767. Foundations of Ecology. (3 h)
A graduate seminar focusing on understanding the seminal developments in the field of ecology and then tracing their intellectual impacts on the modern literature.

BIO 775. Microscopy for the Biological Sciences. (4 h)
An introduction to the various types of light, confocal, and electron microscopy. Students will learn technical and theoretical aspects of microscopy, methods of sample preparation, digital image acquisition and analysis and the preparation of publicaion quality images. The course will emphasize practical applications of microscopy, microscopy experimental design, and hands-on use of microscopes and digital imaging systems. Students will be expected to design and conduct a microscopy project and present their results to the class. Additionally, students will be expected to participate in class discussions regarding newly emerging microscopy techniques in various biological disciplines.

BIO 777. Biophysical Ecology. (4 h)
Designed to introduce students to the interactions of the organism with the physical environment. Sunlight, temperature, water availability and humidity, wind and longwave radiation (greenhouse effect) strongly influence an organism's growth and reproductive potential. Differences in heat and mass transfer to and from the organism, plus corresponding organism responses in structure, physiology, and behavior to changes in the local environment, are addressed. These same principles are also important to the design of energy-efficient homes (passive solar), clothing design (Gortex), outdoor survival and gardening, to name only a few of humankind's everyday activities. Smith.

BIO 778. Advanced Ecology. (4 h)
Covers current research in the field of ecology with a focus at the community level. Experimental deisgn, data analysis, and interpretation are emphasized. Silman.

BIO 779. Molecular Techniques in Evolution and Systematics. (4 h)
Lecture and lab course that explores molecular methods that are basic to many disciplines within biology, especially ecology, evolution, and systematics. Labs focus on the acquisition of molecular techniques, including allozyme electrophoresis, mitochondiral plastid, and nuclear DNA restriction fragment length polymorphism analysis, gene amplification, PCR (polymerase chain reaction), direct and/or cycle sequencing, and RAPDS (randomly amplified polymorphic DNAs). Kron.

BIO 780. Advanced Systematics. (3 h)
A primary literature-based course that covers various subdisciplines within systematics including cladistic biogeography, history and theory of systematics, analytical techniques and database management of systematic data.

BIO 781. Statistical Models and Data in R. (4 h)
Provides an introduction to statistical modeling and data management in the R computer language. The course objectives are to introduce student to: (i) methodologies for the design and analysis of ecological and organismal experiments, (ii) programming with an emphasis on good coding and data management habits, and (iii) producing figures and reproducible workflows for publication.

BIO 783. Teaching Skills & Instructional Development. (3 h)
Introduction to teaching college-level science courses. Emphasis is on: defining and achieving realistic course goals; mechanics of selecting, developing and refining topics for lecture or laboratory; effective presentation strategies; and creating an active learning environment. Students develop a teaching portfolio containing course syllabi, lecture outlines, and student-ready laboratory materials. Format combines didactic lectures, individual projects, and group discussions and critiques. Course meets for two, 2-hour periods each week. D. Johnson.

BIO 785. Teacher-Scholar Professional Development I. (1 h)
Training in professional skills for early-career biological scientists through interactive discussion and exercises. Topics include scientific ethics and professional practices, scientific publishing, and scientific communication.

BIO 786. Teacher-Scholar Professional Development II. (1 h)
Training in professional skills for early-career biological scientists through interactive discussion and exercises. Topics include grant preparation and submission, professional bias and discrimination in the sciences, career paths, and job interviewing.

BIO 789. Research Seminar. (1 h)
Introduction to scientific presentation skills through active participation in scientific seminars and symposiums, discussion, and exercises. May be repeated for credit.

BIO 791. Thesis Research I. (1-9 h)
Staff.

BIO 792. Thesis Research II. (1-9 h)
Staff.

BIO 891. Dissertation Research I. (1-9 h)
Staff.

BIO 892. Dissertation Research II. (1-9 h)
Staff.

Faculty

Program Director Sarah Esstman
Chair Susan E. Fahrbach
Reynolds Professor Susan E. Fahrbach
Andrew Sabin Family Foundation Presidential Chair in Conservation Biology Miles R. Silman
Charles H. Babcock Chair of Botany William K. Smith
Charles M. Allen Professor of Biology Gloria K. Muday
Professors David J. Anderson, Miriam A. Ashley-Ross, William E. Conner, James F. Curran, Carole L. Gibson, Eric C. Johnson, Kathleen A. Kron, Wayne L. Silver, Clifford W. Zeyl
Associate Professors T. Michael Anderson, Sarah M. McDonald, Brian W. Tague, Ke Zhang
Assistant Professors Regina J. Cordy, Josh Currie, Sheri A. Floge, James B. Peases
Teaching Professors A. Daniel Johnson, Pat C.W. Lord
Associate Teaching Professors Diana R. Arnett, Anna Kate Lack