

# BIOLOGY

## MS IN BIOLOGY

The Department of Biology at Loyola University Chicago offers a broad-based research intensive program that allows students to explore and develop skills in any of the major areas of contemporary life sciences. Courses and research provide excellent training for a wide variety of jobs or for further graduate education.

### MS IN BIOLOGY

The MS degree program is research/thesis-based and focuses on the development of experimental and intellectual skills required for vigorous research.

Students pursue study in any of the following special fields of study:

- |                      |               |                        |                         |
|----------------------|---------------|------------------------|-------------------------|
| • Aquatic<br>Biology | • Development | • Immunology           | • Neurobiology          |
| • Biochemistry       | • Ecology     | • Microbiology         | • Physiology            |
| • Cell Biology       | • Evolution   | • Molecular<br>Biology | • Population<br>Biology |
|                      | • Genetics    |                        |                         |

Students are assigned an advisor to help them develop an individualized curriculum. Once a curriculum is selected, students join the labs of their thesis directors and begin their research.

Research is the focus of the program. Faculty work directly with students during all phases of their research, from developing a research project to writing manuscripts.

#### PROGRAM STRUCTURE

The degree offers part- and full-time enrollment  
*Average time to completion: 2–3 years (full time), 3–5 years (part time)*

#### ACADEMIC & STUDENT LIFE

Student organizations as well as service-learning opportunities are offered through the program. *Graduate students participate in BGSA (Biological Graduate Students Association), which sponsors seminar speakers and other academic activities.*

#### EXPECTATIONS AFTER GRADUATION

While many students pursue additional graduate training in prestigious doctoral programs (e.g., Northwestern University, University of Chicago, University of Illinois, City University of New York), other students have found employment as teachers, as researchers for governmental agencies, and as researchers in industry. Graduates work as part of organizations such as Army Corps of Engineers, EPA, Abbott Laboratories, and Northeastern Illinois University.

## PROGRAM DISTINCTIONS

Major research instrumentation in the Department of Biology includes a complete microscopy facility with transmission and scanning electron microscopes and a histology laboratory, micro CT-scanner. The department maintains environmental rooms, a digital imaging facility, digital molecular analysis equipment, greenhouses, an insectary, a herbarium, a fish collection, and an artificial steam system.

The program focuses on training future scientists. Our students actively participate in all aspects of the research process while developing critical thinking skills, scientific writing skills, and research presentation skills.

## FACULTY

Graduate faculty members have been awarded more than \$3 million in research grants from the National Institutes of Health, the National Science Foundation, the World Health Organization, and other public and private foundations. While deeply engaged in research and the pursuit of knowledge, Loyola faculty members are dedicated teachers who regard their work in classrooms, laboratories, and field sites as essential to connecting with their students.

Faculty research interests are broad, but fall into the following categories: Aquatic Biology, Ecology, Evolutionary Biology, Developmental Biology, Neurobiology, Cell and Molecular Biology, Immunology, and Microbiology.

## PREREQUISITES

An undergraduate degree in Biology or equivalent, including one year of organic chemistry, one year of calculus, genetics, cell biology, and upper-level biology major electives.

## FINANCIAL AID

Begin the financial aid process by completing your Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) at [fafsa.ed.gov](http://fafsa.ed.gov).

The Graduate School has limited funds available for financial assistance. Financial aid from Loyola's Financial Aid Office will not impact your ability to apply for financial aid through the Graduate School. To learn more about these financial aid opportunities, visit [LUC.edu/finaid/graduateschool](http://LUC.edu/finaid/graduateschool).

## LEARN MORE

APPLY

[gpem.LUC.edu/apply](http://gpem.LUC.edu/apply)

*For all application requirements and deadlines, please visit [LUC.edu/gpem/info](http://LUC.edu/gpem/info).*

CONTACT INFORMATION

*For further information about the academic program or to arrange a visit, please contact:*

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*For questions regarding your application or the application process, please contact:*

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