

Contact

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Admission Requirements

(In years as established by the college)

A high school diploma with the following specific courses:

- 4 English
- 2 Algebra I & II
- 1 Geometry
- 1 Senior math (*recommended*)
- 2 Lab Science (*biology and chemistry or physics*)
- 2 History/Social Studies
- Academic electives (*to equal at least 17 total credits*)

To ensure current mathematical skills, students should take a mathematics course during their senior year of high school.

Major Requirements

Bachelor of Arts

- 32 credits Biological Sciences
- 19-30 credits Affiliated Science & Mathematics
- 27 credits Human Values & Social Context

Bachelor of Science

- 32 credits Biological Sciences
- 31-33 credits Affiliated Science & Mathematics
- 18 credits Human Values & Social Context

120 Minimum total credit hours required for graduation

College of Natural Sciences, Forestry & Agriculture

Program Description

The Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Science degrees in Biology provide students with a broad background in the biological sciences. Courses are selected from several departments within the college (School of Biology & Ecology, Department of Biochemistry, Microbiology and Molecular Biology, Department of Plant, Soils and Environmental Sciences, Department of Wildlife Ecology, School of Marine Sciences). In consultation with a faculty advisor, students can structure a program that provides them with concentrated study in a subdiscipline within the department.

UMaine offers students many opportunities to participate in research in faculty laboratories. These include student independent research for course credit, research for a capstone or an honors thesis, and paid work. In addition, students can hold a variety of internships off campus. The UMaine Career Center provides many resources to help students find such internships.

Career Opportunities

Many opportunities exist for the biologist at both state and national levels in the fields of education, ecology, agricultural science and the health professions. Career opportunities are available in the private sector (health care, biotechnology, consulting), federal and state government (research labs, environmental monitoring), and at the local level (education). Opportunities for research positions exist at the University of Maine and other research universities around the country, in private industry (chemical and pharmaceutical industries, the health professions), and in state and federal labs.

General Education Requirements*

- ENG 101 College Composition
- 18 credits Human Values & Social Context area (*a single course may satisfy more than 1 sub-category, but a total of 18 credits must be completed*)
 - Western Cultural Tradition
 - Social Context & Institutions
 - Cultural Diversity & International Perspectives
 - Population & the Environment
 - Artistic & Creative Expression
- 2 courses Designated Writing Intensive (*1 must be within the major*)
- 2 courses Biological or Physical Sciences (*must include at least 1 laboratory course*)
- 1 course Ethics (*emphasis on discussion of ethical issues in 1 course or series of courses*)
- 6 credits Mathematics (*including statistics & some computer science, only 3 credits in computer science can count toward this requirement*)
- 1 capstone An approved experience in which the student integrates the components of his or her undergraduate training to perform at a professional level. The capstone experience is usually completed during the senior year in consultation with the student's academic advisor.

**All UMaine students must complete these general education requirements, which are counted in the total credit hours required for graduation and may be contained in the Major Requirements previously listed.*

Specialized Information

The School of Biology & Ecology offers a minor in Biology. The minor is not open to students majoring in Botany or Zoology. The minor requires completion of 22 credit hours including the courses listed below. Students must obtain a minimum grade of C in BIO 100 and BIO 200 and a minimum GPA for the minor of 2.0.

BIO 100 Basic Biology
BIO 200 Biology of Organisms
BMB 280 Introduction to Molecular and Cellular Biology
BIO 319 General Ecology

OR

SMS 300 Marine Ecology

OR

WLE 200 Ecology

Any courses from Biological Sciences Areas I-V in Biology B.A. and B.S. programs (some restrictions apply to students in AVS, BMB, SMS, or WLE; see catalog).

Note: Students majoring in Botany, Biology or Zoology are not eligible for a second major in one of these fields because of extensive overlap in the requirements for these degrees.

Graduate Study

The University of Maine offers a choice of thesis or non-thesis Master of Science degree programs in Biochemistry, Botany, and Microbiology; a thesis Master of Science in Zoology; and Doctor of Philosophy programs in Biochemistry, Biological Sciences, Microbiology, Plant Science, and Zoology. Biology graduates enter competitive Masters and Doctoral programs, as well as various professional schools - medical, dental, etc. - nationwide.

Academic Programs 2008-2009

Please refer to the web site (<http://factsheets.umaine.edu/>) for the most updated version of the fact sheets.

This fact sheet is intended for informational purposes only and is subject to change.