Biological Sciences

This major allows students the chance to study the natural world to better understand living systems—from the biochemical to genes and from cells to global biodiversity. The department has research faculty with specialties in four disciplines: marine environmental biology, molecular and computational biology, human and evolutionary biology, and neurobiology. A diversity of upper division undergraduate courses permit students to choose an emphasis in any of these four disciplines.

**BACHELOR OF ARTS (BA) AND BACHELORS OF SCIENCE (BS) REQUIREMENTS OVERVIEW**

**Major Course Requirements**
- General Biology — Organismal Biology and Evolution
- General Biology — Cell Biology and Physiology
- Molecular Biology
- Biochemistry
- Genetics
- General Chemistry I & II
- Organic Chemistry I & II
- Calculus I
- Physics for the Life Sciences I & II
- Two upper division biology courses

**Additional Bachelor of Science (BS) Requirements**
- Introduction to Statistics for Biologists or Elementary Probability and Statistics
- Three additional upper division biology courses, two of which must have a lab component

**EXPERIENTIAL OPPORTUNITIES**

- **Research:** There are numerous opportunities for students to engage in hands-on research in the labs of over 60 departmental faculty members as well as dozens of scientists on the health sciences campus.

- **Freshman Science Honors Program:** FSH allows exceptional freshmen to study in an enriched first year science sequence, featuring smaller classes and access to lectures, tours, and field trips.

- **Catalina Semester:** Spend a spring semester at USC’s Philip K. Wrigley Marine Science Center on Catalina Island.

- **Supplemental Instruction:** This academic support program provides regularly scheduled, peer-led study sessions for common Biology, Chemistry, Math, and Physics courses.

- **Study Abroad:** Spend the summer at Oxford University studying global health in developing nations, international health policy, tropical medicine, and vaccinology.

For additional information, including all major requirements, please consult the USC Catalogue or https://dornsife.usc.edu/bisc/undergraduate-programs-of-study/