

BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES

This major gives students the chance to study the natural world to better understand living systems—from the biochemical to genetic and from cells to global biodiversity. The department has research faculty with specialties in three disciplines: marine environmental biology, molecular biology, and human and evolutionary biology. A wide variety of upper-division undergraduate courses permits students to choose an emphasis in any of these three disciplines.

BACHELOR OF ARTS (BA) GENERAL OVERVIEW

Nine lower-division courses:

- General Biology: Organismal Biology and Evolution
- General Biology: Cell Biology and Physiology
- General Chemistry A and B
- Calculus I
- Physics for the Life Sciences A and B
- Statistics
- Introduction to Research

Seven upper-division courses:

- Molecular Biology
- Biochemistry
- Genetics
- Organic Chemistry A and B
- Two upper-division biology courses

Additional Bachelor of Science (BS) requirements:

- Three additional upper-division biology courses, two of which must have a lab component
- Choose from 4 emphases (optional): Biotechnology; Ecology, Evolution, and Environment; Marine Biology; Molecular, Cellular, and Developmental Biology

ACADEMIC 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. Students also have the opportunity to conduct research at USC's Philip K. Wrigley Marine Science Center on Catalina Island during the semester or summer.

Dornsife Pre-Med Academy: The Dornsife Pre-Med Academy is a four-year program bringing together a small cohort of Dornsife students interested in medicine. Students engage in specialized labs and seminar courses that provide mentorship and an expanded view of healthcare.

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. Or immerse yourself in a semester studying community health and social policy in Durban, South Africa.