M.S. in Biology

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The biology M.S. degree provides a strong background for future study in a doctoral program. It also provides graduate training as preparation for professional studies in medicine, dentistry or other health science fields. Students with a master's degree in biology are also prepared for a career in teaching and/or research.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Requirements for admission as a classified graduate student are a bachelor's degree in biology or a related field with a minimum grade point average of 2.75 in the last 60 semester (90 quarter) units of upper division coursework, completion of the Graduation Writing Assessment Requirement (GWAR) at the graduate level and completion of courses equivalent to the CSU Dominguez Hills' degree in biology. Specifically, a student must have completed an upper division course in each of the subject areas listed below with a grade of "B" or better.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject Area</th>
<th>CSUDH Course Equivalent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cell Biology</td>
<td>BIO 320</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Genetics</td>
<td>BIO 340</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Experimental Laboratory</td>
<td>BIO 342</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Animal/Human Physiology</td>
<td>BIO 312 or BIO 483</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Evolution or Ecology</td>
<td>BIO 124/125 or BIO 332</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Statistics</td>
<td>MAT 131 or equivalent</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Students who do not satisfy all these requirements may be admitted as a second baccalaureate student while they complete the requirements. Students who meet all but one requirement may be admitted as a conditionally classified graduate student at the discretion of the Biology Graduate Committee. They must meet any conditions by the end of the first semester in that status. Final decision on admission to the graduate program is made by the Biology Graduate Committee.

DEGREE REQUIREMENTS

The Master’s Program in Biology is a two-year program in which a student must complete 30 units of required core of courses and additional elective courses. The academic program is expected to culminate in a thesis based on original
research. During the first semester of the program, the student chooses a major advisor who will assist him/her in the choice of elective courses. The major advisor will chair the student's advisory committee for the thesis. Two additional members of the student's graduate advisory committee will need to be selected. In addition, the student will meet all other University requirements for the master's degree.

**CAREER POSSIBILITIES**

The Master of Science program in Biology provides students with an in-depth background suitable for pursuing a career in teaching and/or research or working in an industrial field such as biotechnology. The graduate program also can establish a strong foundation for professional training in medicine, dentistry, paramedical areas and Ph.D. programs. Students may develop a program of courses and research that is tailor-made to their individual needs within the areas of expertise of their advising faculty.

**FACULTY**

Katherine Bates, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Biology, University of Utah
John Carvalho, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Biology, Washington University
Hee Kwang Choi, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Biology, Boston University
Helen Chun, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Biology, University of California, Los Angeles
Robert Giacosie, Ph.D., Professor Emeritus of Biology, University of California, Los Angeles
Carol Guze, Ph.D., Professor Emeritus of Biology, University of California, Berkeley
Getachew Kidane, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Biology, University of California, Los Angeles
Thomas Landefeld, Ph.D., Professor of Biology, University of Wisconsin, Madison
Gus McCarthy, Ph.D., Professor of Biology, Texas A&M University
Terrence McGlynn, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Biology, University of Colorado, Boulder
Laura Phillips, Ph.D., Professor of Biology, University of California, Los Angeles
John Roberts, Ph.D., Professor of Biology, University of California, Santa Barbara
Laura Robles, Ph.D., Professor of Biology, University of California, Santa Barbara
Davood Soleymani, Ph.D., Professor of Biology, Iowa State University
John Thomlinson, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Biology, University of North Texas

**CONTACT INFORMATION**

Katherine Bates, Graduate Coordinator, Department of Biology, NSM A-143, (310) 243-3381, www.nbs.csudh.edu/biology