

COLLEGE OF NATURAL AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

BIOLOGY



The department of biology won the University-wide Departmental Teaching Award for 2014. Dedicated to challenging and motivating students, the teaching staff models what it means to be a life-long learner and inspires students to as well. Undergraduates are mentored by expertise instructors in their field.

BIOLOGY

Bachelor of Science

Are you curious how living organisms function, behave and interact? Or develop, reproduce and evolve? Then consider a biology major offered at the University of Nebraska at Kearney. Students will gain a solid foundation in biological and physical sciences and have opportunity to work one-on-one with professors who are specialized in various fields.

In this program students major in biology and choose either a second major or a minor. Often students pursuing this degree option select chemistry or physics as their second major or minor, but students may select any other major or minor offered at UNK.

Opportunities with this degree:

- Environmental scientist
- Government inspector
- Career in academia
- Healthcare fields
- Research scientist
- Pharmaceutical sales representative

ALUMNI PROFILE

When Dayana Rodriguez graduated in December 2013 with both a biology and geography major and minor in French, she knew the career she was interested in – environmental science.

“I’ve always been interested in the environment, and I knew I would study something in the science field due to my analytical mindset.”

As an undergraduate, Rodriguez interned with the Tri-Basin NRD (Natural Resource District). “It was that internship that attracted me to the ethanol industry – an industry heavily regulated for its potential to harm the environment.”

Rodriguez went to work for Green



Plains in Obion, Tenn. as an environmental health and safety manager.

“I serve as a resource in questions regarding the air, water and hazardous waste permits. My main role is to use analytical thinking to solve environmental issues at ethanol plants allowing them to remain in compliance with EPA regulations.”

After graduation when Rodriguez was looking for jobs, “professors were always willing to help with reference letters and give advice on career choices. It is nice to have people who legitimately

care about your success, not only in the classroom but outside as well.”

“At UNK, not only did I gain knowledge about topics surrounding my career, but I met great people who helped me immensely.”

Dayana Rodriguez

Reasons to choose biology at UNK

- Faculty in the UNK Biology department have a belief that biology is “doing,” not seeing.
- Hands-on learning is incorporated into the coursework.
- Students have options to conduct independent research projects with faculty guidance.
- Students have opportunity for admittance into the NE-INBRE Scholars Program.

BIOLOGY BACHELOR OF SCIENCE

FOUR YEAR CLASS SCHEDULE

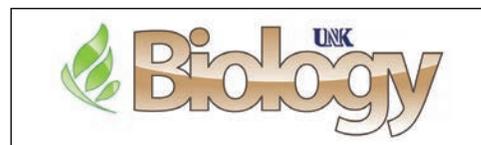
The schedule is a guideline for progress toward a degree. Consult with your academic advisor.

<p>Semester 1 (14 credits)</p> <p>BIOL 105 Biology I CHEM 160 General Chemistry I ENG 101 English Composition Portal 188 (your choice)</p>	<p>Semester 2 (14 credits)</p> <p>BIOL 106 Biology II CHEM 161 General Chemistry II ENG 102 Writing & Research MATH By placement</p>
<p>Semester 3 (16 credits)</p> <p>BIOL 201 Biology Tools BIOL 290 Evolution CHEM 360 Organic Chemistry I CHEM 360L Organic Chemistry I Lab SPCH Speech Class in minor</p>	<p>Semester 4 (14 credits)</p> <p>BIOL 305 Biological Statistics CHEM 361 Organic Chemistry II CHEM 361L Organic Chemistry II Lab Class in minor Democracy General Studies</p>
<p>Semester 5 (15-16 credits)</p> <p>BIOL 360 Genetics BIOL 375 Scientific Communications BIOL Field elective Minor elective Aesthetics General Studies</p>	<p>Semester 6 (15-16 credits)</p> <p>BIOL 307 Ecology BIOL Lab elective Minor elective Social Sciences General Studies Humanities General Studies</p>
<p>Semester 7 (16-18 credits)</p> <p>BIOL 420 Biology Research BIOL Lab elective Minor elective Minor elective Social Sciences General Studies Capstone 388 (your choice)</p>	<p>Semester 8 (16-18 credits)</p> <p>BIOL 420 Biology Research BIOL Lab elective Minor elective Minor elective Elective Elective</p>



“My goal is to someday become a dentist and ultimately own my own practice. Biology has been a great major to help me prepare for dental school and learn about cells, diseases, genetics and the human body. The faculty are willing to go above and beyond to help students achieve their goals.”

Eric Ahrens
Staplehurst, Neb.
Double major: biology and business administration
UNK graduation date: summer 2015



Did you know...?

Strong student-faculty relationships are a focal point of the UNK experience.

Faculty interact on a personalized basis with students as teachers, advisors, mentors and friends.

The biology department is located in Bruner Hall and occupies over 20,000 square feet on two floors.

Classroom laboratories, a 1,500-square-foot greenhouse, herbarium, mammal collection, and a Mobile Environmental Laboratory (MEL) are all maintained for teaching and research.

Biology organizations provide opportunities for educational experiences and social interaction.

Not only can students be a group member, but they can function in leadership positions too.

Biology organizations

- Biology Club
- Wildlife Society
- Sigma Xi

Scholarships available:

- Rex Carr Endowed Scholarship
- Laddie and Iris Bicak Family Scholarship
- Amanda Bosak Memorial Scholarship
- Harvey E. Cole Memorial Scholarship
- DeeAnna Delaet Endowed Scholarship
- Mildred Bensen Hansen Scholarship
- David J. Keen Jr. Memorial Scholarship
- John C. W. Bliese Biology Endowment

Personal traits for success:

- Enjoys experimenting or researching
- Observes well
- Pays attention to details
- Asks questions
- Curious how humans function
- Fascinated with the natural world
- Interested in animals or plants

For more information, contact:

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