



BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES (MS)

The School of Biological Sciences provides interdisciplinary training and professional development opportunities for students interested in a career in the life sciences.

Description

Research interests of our faculty range from analyzing molecular and cellular processes to studying the ecological & evolutionary determinants of biological form and function. Faculty conduct research on a diversity of biological systems, including viruses, bacteria, fungi, plants, and animals, representing all major groups of living organisms.

The program is highly flexible allowing you to tailor your curriculum to meet your individual interests and goals. Following receipt of their degrees, students are competitive for a wide range of positions. Former students now hold positions at academic institutions, in government, and in private industry.

The University of Nebraska-Lincoln is a member of the Big Ten Conference, and our students benefit from research collaborations and exchange agreements among member institutions as well as on-campus research collaborations with Cedar Point Biological Station, Center for Biotechnology, Center for Plant Science Innovation, Ecosystem Analysis Laboratory, Manter Laboratory of Parasitology, Nebraska State Museum, Nebraska Center for Virology and Nebraska Innovation Campus.

Specializations

- Ecology, Evolution and Behavior
- Genetics, Cell and Molecular Biology
- Plant Pathology

Program-Related Information

Graduate Chair

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Support Staff

Joel Stranberg
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Program Website

<https://biosci.unl.edu/>

Applying for Admission

Standard requirements for all graduate programs

- Application for Admission with \$50 non-refundable application fee (<https://graduate.unl.edu/admissions/requirements/#appfee>).
- Transcripts (<https://graduate.unl.edu/admissions/requirements/#transcripts>) (unofficial): Uploaded as part of application form.

If International: Uploads must include all college- or university-level transcripts or mark sheets (records of courses and marks earned), with certificates, diplomas, and degrees plus certified English translations.

After admission: Official documents are required from all students who are admitted and enroll. Photocopies of certified records are not acceptable. International students

enrolled in other U.S. institutions may have certified copies of all foreign records sent directly to the Office of Graduate Studies by their current school's registrar office.

- If applicant's native language is not English, verification of English proficiency (<https://graduate.unl.edu/admissions/english-proficiency/>) is required.

When sending TOEFL scores, our institution code is 6877 and a department code is not needed.

- If applicant is not a US citizen and expects an F or J visa: financial information (<https://graduate.unl.edu/prospective/international/financial/>).
- Applicants must also fulfill any additional requirements the department specifies at the time of application.

Additional requirements specific to this program

- Minimum English proficiency: Paper TOEFL (<http://www.toefl.org/>) 565, Internet TOEFL (<http://www.toefl.org/>) 85, IELTS (<https://www.ielts.org/>) 6.5
- Three recommendation letters
- Curriculum Vitae or Resume
- Personal Statement: Your statement of purpose should be no longer than 2 pages. It should include a description of your previous research experiences (if any), how those experiences have shaped your current interests, and the types of research you would like to conduct during graduate school.
- Faculty: Identify up to four faculty who share your research interests and with whom you would like to work.
- More Biological Sciences Graduate Program Requirements (<https://biosci.unl.edu/>)

Admission Application Deadlines

December 1 for Fall. This is for an August start; program accepts new students once a year.

Requirements

Hours required: 30-36

Options for the Master's Degree (<https://catalog.unl.edu/graduate-professional/policies/academic-program-requirements/#masters>)

Accelerated Master

Accelerated Master's Programs allow University of Nebraska-Lincoln undergraduate students to pursue this degree in an abbreviated timeline.

See Accelerated Master's Programs (<https://graduate.unl.edu/academics/programs/accelerated-masters/>) for instructions, and in the application form be sure to select only from the "UNL Undergraduates: Accelerated Master's Programs" section.