Interpretive Biology and Natural History

Major

See related programs:
• BIOLOGY
  - PRE-HEALTH OPTION
  - MOLECULAR BIOLOGY
  - ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE
• ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS & PLANNING
• ETHNOBOTANY
• FORESTRY
• WILDLIFE & FISHERIES

Contact:
Sunshine Brosi, Associate Professor, Department of Biology

Professors:
Ammer, Fritz, Raesly, Seddon, Serfass (Chair)

Associate Professors:
Brosi, Keller, Li, Pegg, Puthoff

Assistant Professors:
Lambert, Studinski, Taylor, Vrentas

Students majoring in Interpretive Biology and Natural History will learn the skills to teach the general public about the great outdoors. A variety of biological disciplines will be explored including zoology and botany.

Students are required to participate in a capstone internship working with a federal, state or private agency or industry related to individual interest.

Students interested in professional and graduate degrees may need to take additional courses.

Minors are available in biology, forestry, ethnobotany, geography, and sustainability studies.

Summary of Requirements for Major in Interpretive Biology and Natural History

Major

1. Introductory Level Courses: (29 hours)
   BIOL 149 General Biology I (GEP Group C)
   BIOL 160 General Zoology
   BIOL 161 General Botany
   CHEM 201 General Chemistry (GEP Group C)
   CMST 102/112 Introduction to Communication
   GEOG 103/113 Physical Geography
   MATH 119 College Algebra
   or MATH 120 Pre-Calculus Mathematics (Core Skill 3)
   or any math course above 219
   MATH 109/110 Elements of Applied Probability and Statistics (Core Skill 3)

2. Advanced Level Courses (17 hours)
   ENGL 339 Scientific Writing
   or ENGL 338 Technical Writing (Core Skill 2)
   BIOL 334 General Animal Behavior
   BIOL 340 General Ecology
   BIOL 426 Vertebrate Zoology
   BIOL 494 Field Experiences in the Biological Sciences (Capstone, minimum 3 credits)

3. Electives: (22 hours)
   Take one of the following:
   BIOL 406 Ornithology
   BIOL 417 Ichthyology
   BIOL 422 Herpetology
   BIOL 423 Mammalogy
   Take one of the following:
   BIOL 309 General Entomology
   BIOL 411 Invertebrate Zoology
   Take one of the following:
   BIOL 305 Dendrology
   BIOL 314 Plant Taxonomy
   Take one additional course from above electives or one of the following:
   BIOL 200 Scientific Investigation and Communication
   BIOL 230 Wildlife Techniques
   BIOL 313 Plant Evolution and Diversity
   BIOL 402 Evolution
   BIOL 420 Fish Management and Culture
   BIOL 425 Forest Ecology and Conservation
   BIOL 450 Ecology and Management of Wildlife Populations
   Take two of the following:
   GEOG 275 Fundamentals of Geographic Data Handling (Tech. Fluency)
   GEOG 317 Principles of Geographic Information Science
   GEOG 340 Soil: Genesis, Nature, and Characterization
   GEOG 406 Management and Conservation of Natural Resources
   GEOG 430 Surface Water Hydrology
   GEOG 433 Surveying and Field Techniques
   GEOG 441 Soil Analysis
   GEOG 445 Biogeography
   GEOG 472 Environmental Planning
   GEOG 473 Environmental Law
   RECR 342 Park and Facility Design
   RECR 380 Recreation Leadership
   ART 235 Photography
   CMST 322 Presentational Communication

Hours Required in Biology: 39-41
Hours Required in Other Departments: 27
Total Hours 65-68