

# COTTEY

## What Can I Do With A Major In . . . ?

# Biology

Biology is the study of living organisms and vital processes. Biologists investigate the structure, function, hereditary, and evolution of all living things - microorganisms, fungi, plants, and animals. These life forms are studied at the levels of molecule, cell, organism, and population. Through lab work and fieldwork, biology majors acquire a basic understanding of organisms, their habitats, and the processes that govern their life activities. Traditionally Biology was divided into botany, microbiology, and zoology. But greatly expanded biological knowledge has demanded focus on smaller areas. For example, zoologists specialize by concentrating their studies on closely related groups such as insects (entomology), amphibians and reptiles (herpetology), mammals (mammalogy), or on aspects common to many groups such as behavior, anatomy, physiology (internal functions). Likewise botanists study hereditary relationships among plants (taxonomy), plant physiology or structure (morphology). On a smaller scale microbiologists specialize in bacteria, viruses, or fungi (mycology). Other biologists delve into processes that involve organisms (cell biology, genetics evolution and ecology) or particular environments such as lakes and streams, wetlands, estuaries, oceans, forests or grasslands.

### IS THIS MAJOR FOR YOU?

*You might like this major if you also like:* science; wildlife; plants; environmental issues; outdoor activities; zoos; insects; pets

*Consider this major if you are good at:* attention to detail; creativity; critical reading/thinking; memorizing; organizing; quantitative analysis; research; teamwork; critical observation

### EMPLOYMENT SETTINGS

- Colleges and universities
- Forensic labs and hospitals
- Government and non-profit agencies
- Libraries and historical societies
- Corporations or consulting firms
- Public and private research groups

### SAMPLE OCCUPATIONS

- Agriculture Scientist
- Microbiologist
- Ecologist
- Science Writer
- Educator
- Forester
- Biochemist
- Botanist
- Biological Researcher

### ACADEMIC ASSISTANCE CENTER RESOURCES

*Great Jobs for Biology Majors*

*Opportunities in Biological Science Careers*

*Career Opportunities in Science*

### Science Careers

*Careers for Scientific Types & Others with Inquiring Minds*

### TYPICAL COURSES IN THIS MAJOR

- Biology
- Chemistry
- Zoology
- Genetics
- Botany

### OTHER MAJORS YOU MIGHT LIKE

- Chemistry
- Zoology
- Horticulture
- Marine Biology
- Geology
- Ecology

### WEBSITES TO VISIT

Bio.com Career Center:  
[www.career.bio.com/careercenter/index.jhtml](http://www.career.bio.com/careercenter/index.jhtml)

Bioview.com  
[www.bioview.com](http://www.bioview.com)

Careers in Marine Science  
[www.oceanlink.island.net/career/career2.html](http://www.oceanlink.island.net/career/career2.html)

Science Careers  
[www.recruit.sciencemag.org](http://www.recruit.sciencemag.org)

*For more information on this and other majors, visit the Transfer and Career Planning Office located in the Academic Assistance Center, RBAC 164, ext. 2132.*