

Mission Statement

The Master of Arts in Biology degree is designed to advance the knowledge of students in a variety of biological disciplines. The purpose of this degree is to offer certified secondary school teachers, business people, and other professionals the opportunity to advance their knowledge in the rapidly expanding discipline of biology. For teachers, the degree enhances their ability to teach a variety of courses within the discipline. For other professionals, the program allows individuals to construct a program for professional advancement in their field.

Why Biology?

Biology is an exciting area of science that offers a broad and advancing frontier between the known and the unknown. Many of the problems we face as a society, from the destruction of the rain forests to human cloning, will require biological solutions.

About the Program

Students enrolled in the Master of Arts in Biology program can expect to gain real-world knowledge and skills that can be applied to a wealth of post-graduate or professional positions. The knowledge gained through the program allows students to stay current with ever changing content while the small class sizes allows for an intimate learning environment not available in larger programs.

Although no thesis is required, students are encouraged to participate in faculty research programs as well as summer field experiences which span topics such as The Birds of Trinidad and Tobago to Tropical Rainforest and Reef Ecology of Belize. The program also engages students in research topics such as the molecular biology of retinal pigments, microbial physiology, aquatic toxicology, plant and animal physiology, invertebrate molecular systematic, and landscape level plant community structure.

Program Requirements

The Master of Arts in Biology program requires a minimum of eight graduate level courses totaling at least 32 credit hours. At least 20 credit hours must be in biology courses offered by the department.

With the approval of the graduate advisor, students may apply up to 12 credit hours in allied areas toward their graduation requirements. These allied areas may include, but are not limited to, education, chemistry, geology, psychology, and physics.

Students admitted to the program are not required to have an undergraduate major in biology, however it is assumed that students have had at least eight hours in college level biology courses. Prospective students who do not have the recommended eight hours in undergraduate biology must confer with the department head or graduate advisor prior to beginning the program.

“The Biology professors at The Citadel are exceptional teachers and scientists. They are challenging academically and inspired me to put forth my best efforts”

Nancy Bright, Class of 2005

Director of Telecommunications, The Citadel

