UNIVERSITY of WEST FLORIDA

ACADEMIC LEARNING PLAN

Biology, M.S.

Thesis Track

Mission Statement

In keeping with the University mission, the Department of Biology is dedicated to creation, transmission, application and preservation of knowledge. Within this framework, the primary mission of the Department of Biology is to develop, support and conduct high quality educational and research programs in the life sciences.

The thesis program is designed for students seeking advanced studies in areas of modern biology and biotechnology with training in the fields of aquaculture, biochemistry, ecology, environmental studies, fisheries biology, genetics, immunology, marine biology, microbiology, molecular biology, plant science, and physiology.

Student Learning Outcomes

UWF Biology, M.S. graduates should be able to:

Content

- Identify and use advanced concepts, principles, and theories that form the foundation of research in the biological sciences.

Critical Thinking

- Employ and defend the scientific method in solving defined problems in the biological sciences.

Communication

- Communicate biological information in oral and written form development.

Integrity/Values

- Adhere to appropriate ethical practices in thesis research.

Assessment of Student Learning Outcomes

Students in the Biology Master of Science Program will be assessed for SLOs using data from courses that test Biological knowledge based on the curriculum map through exams, quizzes, or other assignments. Students in the thesis track of the Biology Master of Science Program will also be assessed using a rubric based on the thesis presentation and defense. Biology faculty will review the outcome of all assessment

procedures to evaluate the current status of the program and make suggestions for further improvement in programmatic effectiveness.

Job Prospects for Biology M.S. Graduates

One will have the opportunity to structure his or her coursework and thesis topic according to his or her other particular research interests in biology (to include Microbiology, Marine Biology, Biotechnology, or Molecular/Immunobiology). Whether one wants to go on to doctoral work, employment, or teaching in the field, a master's in this program is ideal. Some representative careers include: bioremediation, marine biology, medical research, microbiology, education, pharmaceutics, and public health.

Find out more about Biology, M.S. at UWF:

https://uwf.edu/programs/hmcse/biology-ms/