

Biological Sciences - Master of Science (MS)

Introduction

Delaware State's Master of Science (MS) program in Biological Sciences stands out for its emphasis on independent research and the flexibility offered the student to develop knowledge in specialized areas they select. All master's candidates write a thesis based on self-directed laboratory and/or field studies in biology. They also have the opportunity to play significant roles on research teams led by full faculty and postdoctoral scientists.

Although the program is designed for students who intend to enter doctoral programs upon completion of the MS, some graduates may choose to directly enter the workforce and become professional scientists working in government, private industry, or the nonprofit sector. Delaware State's research programs cover a broad range of biology-related fields, including cancer research, biotechnology, genetic engineering, biomedical research, and natural resource management. In addition, Delaware State has a grant-funded relationship with the graduate program at Drexel University (in Philadelphia), and students can explore options of doing their MS research, or taking some courses towards their DSU degree, there.

For those not desiring a research thesis, see the Master of Arts (MA) degree in Biological Sciences.

Professional Preparation

Graduate students in biology at Delaware State develop superior research skills. They have the opportunity to work with experienced investigators in state-of-the-art facilities, with access to specialized equipment. They learn to design experiments, analyze results, present their findings to peers, and write for scientific publications.

Faculty

Master's candidates in Biology work closely with faculty members, and are partnered with faculty through a lab rotation course during the first semester in the program. The program's small scope and size ensure a degree of direct interaction between professors and graduate students. Delaware State's biology faculty includes highly accomplished researchers and educators. Graduate students benefit from professors' experience as well as their professional and academic networks.

Research and Experience

Delaware State's biology department offers outstanding research opportunities with flexibility to select research mentors from across campus to fit the student's career objectives. There are active, well-funded inquiries on campus in such fields as neuroscience, biofuels, cancer, DNA analysis, microbiology, plant biotechnology, biophysics, and gene manipulation. Students have the opportunity to work with high-profile investigators, utilize state-of-the-art technology, attend academic conferences, and collaborate on scientific papers.

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