



Bachelor of Science Degree

University Profile

The University of Saint Francis was founded in 1890 and has a rich heritage of offering quality education. Rooted in the Catholic and Franciscan traditions of Faith and Reason, the University of Saint Francis engages a diverse community in learning, leadership and service.

The campus has 108 acres of rolling lawns and trees with 19 buildings and four residence halls that surround beautiful Mirror Lake.

Personal attention to students is what makes a USF education so meaningful and enriching to its approximately 2,000 students.

Biology Faculty

The biology faculty are dedicated to excellent teaching. Small class size optimizes interactions between professors and students, enabling professors to get to know each student personally. Teaching occurs not only in the classroom, but also in the laboratory and in the field. Many of our faculty are engaged in long-term scientific research programs and are experts in cellular, molecular, reproductive, marine, and evolutionary biology, ecology, botany, zoology, virology, and bacteriology. All classes are taught by faculty—not teaching assistants—giving students the added value of experienced instruction.

Biology Programs

A successful biology career begins with a broad introduction to the major biology disciplines. A core curriculum of biology classes in plant, animal and genetics is a requisite for all biology majors. At the University of Saint Francis, students typically concentrate their studies in one of three areas: cellular and molecular biology, ecology and evolutionary biology, and classical biology. These concentrations allow students to focus on the areas of biology that are essential for achieving their career goals.

Collaborative research with faculty offers exciting opportunities for learning and

engagement with the scientific community. Our undergraduate students are recognized for their contributions to research projects as co-authors on publications and presenters at regional and national conferences. Students participate in research projects in the fields of genetics, molecular biology, marine and freshwater biology, ecology, and animal reproduction.

Field studies in three geographic regions are available each year. Courses at the Grand Canyon, Smoky Mountains and Andros Island in the Bahamas and other field sites offer firsthand learning experiences in botany, ornithology, ecology, and aquatic biology.

Science Symposium

For over 30 years the university has offered a Science Symposium twice a year for qualified high school students to study cutting-edge topics in the fields of math and science. This opportunity has cumulative scholarship potential should the student choose to matriculate at USF and major in the sciences. Past topics have included CSI, Bird Flu, Genetics of Alcoholism, Paleontology, and others.

Science Seminars

All Biology, Pre-Professional, Clinical Laboratory Science (Medical Technology), Chemistry, Early Entry Physician Assistant, Environmental Science, and Secondary Education Biology/Chemistry/General Science majors attend Seminar once a week for every semester they are on campus. Seminars consist of outside speakers such as MDs, Veterinarians, Clinical Laboratory Scientists (Medical Technologists), Physician Assistants, Osteopathic Physicians, Pharmacists, Environmental Scientists, Research Biologists, Research Chemists, and others. Faculty members explain their research programs and offer students opportunities to participate directly in these projects or to propose their own research projects. Upper level students make presentations about research they have done or internships they

have completed. There is no tuition charge for Seminar except for the one semester students are required to make a presentation. Seminar provides an opportunity for all science majors to interact and get to know the faculty who also attend Seminar each week.

The USF Advantage

As a University of Saint Francis biology student, you will experience:

- a rigorous education guided by highly experienced biology faculty
- personal attention due to our low student-to-faculty ratio
- opportunities for internships and independent research

The quality of our biology program is most obvious in the success of our graduates.

Biology alumni:

- acquire jobs in their chosen fields
- pursue further studies in graduate school

During the past ten years, 100 percent of applicants have been accepted to graduate school.

Sample Curriculum

Freshman Year

Fall (17 hours)

Principles of Biology I	4
Principles of Chemistry I	4
Math (by placement)	3
iConnect	3
English Composition	3
Seminar	0

Spring (16-17 hours)

Principles of Biology II	4
Principles of Chemistry II	4
Math (by placement)	3
Fund. of Public Communication	3
Fine Arts Gen Ed Requirement	2-3
Seminar	0

Sophomore Year

Fall (16-17 hours)

Genetics	4
Physics I	4
Major-Directed Elective	3-4
Religion Gen Ed Requirement	3
Phys Ed Gen Ed Requirement	2
Seminar	0

Spring (16-18 hours)

Major Directed Elective	3-4
Major Directed Elective	3-4
Physics II	4
Social Science Gen Ed Requirement	3
Literature Gen Ed Requirement	3
Seminar	0

Junior Year

Fall (15-17 hours)

Major-Directed Elective	3-4
Major-Directed Elective	3-4
Society and Env Gen Ed Requirement	3
Theology Gen Ed Requirement	3
Elective	3
Seminar	0

Spring (15-17 hours)

Major Directed Elective	3-4
Major Directed Elective	3-4
Phil/Ethics Gen Ed Requirement	3
History Gen Ed Requirement	3
Elective	3
Seminar	0

Senior Year

Fall (15-17 hours)

Major Directed Elective	3-4
Major Directed Elective, if needed	3-4
Research (capstone course)	3
Social Responsibility Gen. Ed. Req.	3
Elective	3
Seminar	0

Spring (16-18 hours)

Major Directed Elective	3-4
Major Directed Elective	3-4
Elective	3
Elective	3
Elective, if needed	3
Seminar	1

Financial Aid

Financial aid is available in the form of scholarships, grants, loans, and work study. Over 95 percent of undergraduate students receive some form of financial assistance; most receive more than one type of aid. Early estimates packages are available online at www.sf.edu to any student who has been admitted to the university.

All students are encouraged to complete the Free Application for Federal Aid (FAFSA). Priority deadline is no later than March 10.

For More Information

Contact the Office of Admissions at 260-434-3279 or 1-800-729-4732 or visit our website at www.sf.edu/biology.