



Biology, B.S.

Cal Poly Humboldt is an incredible place to study biology. Our faculty are dedicated to teaching excellence and hands-on learning, instructing courses that utilize specialized equipment, impressive natural collections, laboratory facilities, and the ecologically diverse field sites of our region. Extensive opportunities for research prepare our students for a wide range of careers in biology. Come be inspired!

Experience Your Learning

Cal Poly Humboldt's Biology program provides a rigorous curriculum, plus field experience in nearby natural habitats.

Biological Sciences is a thriving community at Humboldt, where you'll have the opportunity to meet people and apply your knowledge to real world issues.

Your education will be enhanced resources that include an herbarium, vertebrate museum, herpetology and entomology collections, two greenhouses, environmental growth chambers, and specialized advanced equipment like electron microscopes and a CT scanner.

The Biotechnology Laboratory supports state-of-the-art instruction in cell biology, genetics, immunology, and biotechnology. Major equipment and facilities include ultrafreezers, thermal cyclers, cell culture labs, a microplate reader, laminar flow hoods, inverted microscopes, and mammalian cell culture capabilities.



Did you know?

- The Coral Sea is Humboldt's 90-foot ocean going research and teaching vessel, students can collect and observe marine plants and animals.
- The Humboldt Vertebrate Museum houses a collection of more than 15,000 specimens.
- We hold a research seminar series with national and international participation.



Academics & Options

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Program Concentrations

General Biology

Designed to allow a wide range of flexibility in designing a program to meet an individual student's needs.

Cellular and Molecular Biology

Designed for biology majors interested in understanding the cellular and molecular processes that govern biological form and function.

Ecology

Designed for students who are interested in a hands-on approach to understanding how living organisms interact with one another and the environment, and the consequences of these interactions for biodiversity and ecosystem function.

Microbiology

A broad, laboratory-oriented background in the study of microorganisms of all kinds (bacteria, algae, fungi, protozoa, viruses, etc.).

Science Education

For students who want to teach biology at the secondary (high school) level. One additional year of courses (after the B.S.) can lead to a teaching credential.

Minor

- Biology Minor



Careers

Favorable opportunities can be expected for biological scientists with advanced degrees and for bachelor's candidates with outstanding educational and experiential backgrounds. Employment in the life sciences is expected to grow due to recent advances in genetic research, advances in biological technology, and efforts to conserve the environment.

- Field Biologists
- Ecologists
- Microbiologists
- Physiologists
- Marine Biologists
- Geneticists
- Cell Biologists
- Developmental Biologists
- Biotechnology Researchers
- Biochemists



This program helped me prepare for my current position as my first-hand experience in research made me an excellent candidate in job applications. I gained experience working with CRISPR in the Cell Biology course and I learned how to culture stem cells in the Stem Cell course, both skills that I continue to utilize daily."

Casiana Gonzalez ('18, Biology),
Graduate Student Researcher,
University of California, Davis