What is the Biological Sciences Honors Program?

Undergraduate Research Experience
Advanced Experience and Skills
Using Knowledge/Driving Innovation
Honors Designation on Your Transcript

Requirements To Apply

Application package is due July 22nd

1. Minimum GPA 3.2
2. Core Course Requirement
   - Biodiversity + Lab
   - Biological Principles + Lab
   - General Chem + Lab (I & II)
   - Organic Chem I (recommended)
   - Calculus (recommended)

3. At least 12 credit hours in 3000 or 4000 level courses
4. Minimum of one semester in the lab of the faculty sponsor
5. Statement of purpose and unofficial Transcript
6. Written Research Proposal
7. Sponsor Letter from potential mentor
8. 10 Minute Oral presentation on research (Proposed date and time - last week of July.)

* These positions are highly competitive and limited. Students will be notified by Mid August. Successful completion of Honors Research is required for admittance to Honors Thesis. Honors distinction will reflected on transcripts for students upon successful completion of both courses providing student obtains A in both courses.

http://www.science.fau.edu/biology/undergraduate/Honors.html

Submit Application to:
Florida Atlantic University
Department of Biological Sciences
Honors Program Committee
Attn. Dr. Frazier
777 Glades Road, SC 136
Boca Raton, Florida 33431

Honors Thesis Program
In The Biological Sciences
Honors Program in the Department of Biological Sciences

The Department of Biological Sciences prepares our undergraduate students for their careers as biologists. Choosing a career path is among the harder decisions in life. We have developed the Honors Thesis Program to help guide you in this process.

Whether you are pursuing a professional or academic career, the experience and skills gained while working in a faculty member’s research laboratory are invaluable. The program is designed to allow undergraduates to develop and work on their own research projects while being mentored by one of our faculty members. The classroom component associated with this program is designed to develop student skills in research design, oral and written presentation, and publication.

The Diversity of Our Department

In the Department of Biological Sciences, we have a diverse number of research programs covering all aspects of Biology. It is critical for students to plan early and join these laboratories as Directed Independent Studies (DIS) students to secure a placement for their Honors Program application (see Requirements to Apply).

Environmental Science

A defining feature of Environmental Science is the integration of disciplines to understand ecological systems and sustain their biodiversity. Faculty in the Environmental Science program are actively conducting research on a wide range of topics including population ecology, molecular ecology, predator-prey interactions, Everglades restoration, food web dynamics, behavioral ecology. Much of the research is done through partnerships with agencies and organizations in South Florida, with emphasis on Everglades and coastal marine research. These partnerships have allowed FAU’s faculty to play a strong role in the restoration of the Everglades ecosystem and have led to the study and conservation of ecosystems world-wide.

Marine Biology

Marine Biology is a dynamic and growing field at Florida Atlantic University. Students and scientists can easily access a great variety of marine habitats ranging from estuarine to coastal to blue water. Mangrove communities abound, as do coastal reefs and the nearby Gulf Stream Current. Tropical and subtropical fauna and flora characterize the region. The proximity to both natural and urbanized coastline provide intriguing opportunities for comparisons of pristine and degraded habitats. Florida Atlantic University and Harbor Branch Oceanographic Institution (HBOI) partnered to provide students and faculty with an extraordinary combination of facilities, opportunities, and locations for training and research in marine science. FAU’s marine biologists are locally and globally recognized for their research in marine conservation, physiology and behavior, sensory biology of marine vertebrates, (particularly sea turtles and fishes) and invertebrates, and for coastal ecology and nutrient cycling.

Molecular, Cellular, and Developmental Biology

Molecular, Cellular and Developmental faculty are engaged in research in aging, cancer, development and neuroscience. An excellent infrastructure in molecular biology, bioinformatics, and biotechnology serves to bind these areas together. One research sub-group is focused on the biology of development, cellular stress, and aging using functional genomic studies of animal models. Other sub-groups examine the biology of cancer, and our plant biology group uses plant genomics and transgenics to study current practical issues. These faculty are members of the Center for Molecular Biology and Biotechnology (CMBB) which is a well-equipped College-wide research center housed in the Department of Biological Sciences. Many faculty are also cross-appointed to several departments and colleges throughout FAU.

Affiliated Faculty

The Department of Biological Sciences has affiliated faculty from numerous departments such as Psychology, Complex Systems, Chemistry, Mathematics, and Biomedical Sciences, as well as neighboring world renowned institutions such as NOAA Fisheries, HBOI, Max Planck Florida Institute, Scripps Florida, and Torrey Pines. Honors Program students may pursue their training in one of our affiliated faculty member labs therefore opening opportunities for study at one of these prestigious institutions.