

BIOLOGY

Master of Science (MS)

Delivery Face to Face

This is a guide based on the 2026-2027 Graduate Catalog and is subject to change. The time it takes to earn a degree will vary based on factors such as dual enrollment, remediation, and summer enrollment. Students meet with an academic advisor each semester and use Degree Works to monitor their progress.

CURRICULUM CHECKLIST

30 Hours Required

Required Courses:

- ___ BY666 Experimental Design in Biology (3)
- ___ Biology electives – choose 18 hours from BY515-600 level courses
- ___ Electives – choose 6 hours of graduate level courses (500-600 level)

Choose One of the Following Areas

THESIS AREA:

- ___ BY699 Thesis (3)
- ___ GR699 Master's Oral Examination (0)

NON-THESIS AREA:

- ___ GR699 Master's Oral Examination (0)

Choose 3 hours:

- ___ BY583 Internship (1-3)
- ___ BY591 Research in Biology (1-3)
- ___ BY695 Literature Review in Biology (3)

Degree Requirements

* The curriculum of every graduate student in biology varies with their interests in biology, i.e., graduate students in biology often pinpoint a specific area of biological investigation and focus the majority of their attention toward developing their skills in that area of emphasis. Thus, no two curricula of graduate students will be the same. A graduate student in biology creates their degree plan (including course curriculum) with their advisor during their first semester in graduate school. This includes at least 30 total credit hours that are partially accomplished through credit hours of biology courses (BI, BO, BT, and/or ZO) However, there are courses that every graduate student in biology will have to complete for graduation.

Admission Requirements

In addition to the criteria established for general admission to graduate studies, applicants must have the following:

1. An undergraduate GPA of 2.75 or higher on a 4.0 scale
2. Minimum 2.75 GPA on a 4.0 scale for the last 30 semester hours of undergraduate science and math courses
3. Faculty Sponsor Agreement
4. Two letters of recommendation addressing the applicant's potential for academic success. Letters should be addressed to the Director of Admissions. Letters are waived for SEMO biology graduates (BS degree) and students applying for the thesis track (curriculum A).

For graduate studies admissions deadlines, visit <https://semo.edu/admissions/requirements/graduate.html>.

Revised 7/31/2026

DEGREE MAP

2026-2027



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