

CATALOG YEAR 2015-2016

COLLEGE/SCHOOL/SECTION: _____

Program: Delete: Add: Change: Attach new/changed Program of Study description and 4-year plan. If in current online catalog, provide change and attach text with changes in red.

BIOLOGY GRADUATE PROGRAM ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

To be admitted to MS in Biology:

1. A candidate must have a bachelor's degree in biology or related field (Related fields such as Botany, Environmental Sciences (with a biology emphasis), Marine Science (with a biology emphasis), Marine Biology, Microbiology, Neurobiology and Zoology).
2. An overall GPA of 2.5 or higher (on a 4 point scale) and a 3.0 GPA in biology (or related field). If the GPA in biology is between 2.75 and 3.0, the student will be admitted on probation and must earn a B or higher in ~~in~~ the first 12 hours of graduate courses in the program. If the overall GPA is below 2.5 or in biology is below 2.75 the student will not be admitted.
3. No GRE will be required for admission to the Master of Science in Biology.
4. Approval of the graduate committee of the Department of Biology and Chemistry. The decision by the committee will be based on the interests the candidate has in biology and if a graduate faculty member can and will work with the candidate. The candidate's interest will be determined by the personal statement the candidate writes for admission. The statement should describe what research the student is interested in doing in the program and how working with a faculty member(s) in the Department can achieve this. Students are strongly encouraged to contact potential mentors prior

to applying.

5. Admission to the thesis program will be determined by the acceptance of the student by an advisor. A student's admission for a thesis can be denied because the student's interest does not match any research program available. A student can be admitted to the non-thesis but the student will be required to take comprehensive exam to complete the degree.

A candidate applying for the MS in Biology without a degree in biology **or related field** can be admitted if the candidate takes the required stemwork. The following are **normally** the minimum requirements as preparation for graduate coursework: CHEM ~~1411~~ 1311/1111 CHEM 1412, CHEM 2423, BIOL ~~1406~~ 1306/1106, BIOL ~~1411~~ 1311/1111 BIOL 1413, BIOL 3406, BIOL 3410, BIOL 3412 and BIOL 3413. A candidate without a degree in biology must have an overall GPA of 2.5 in their bachelor's program and a GPA of 3.0 in stemwork for the Master in Biology, including chemistry, to be admitted to the program. **In addition, the student should give a justification that is accepted by the graduate committee of the Department of Biology and Chemistry why they are seeking a degree in biology.** The GPA includes stemwork taken before the application and all stemwork required by the graduate committee of the Department of Biology and Chemistry to fulfill the requirement.

~~Final admission to the MS in Biology program is by approval of the graduate committee of the Department of Biology and Chemistry. (This should be done before course work begins.) The decision by the committee will be based on the interests the candidate has in biology and if a graduate faculty member can and will work with the candidate.~~

Justification:

Changes in admissions to improve the number of students that will finish the MS in Biology.

Approvals:

Signature

Date

Chair
Department Curriculum Committee

Neal McReynolds

Digitally signed by Neal McReynolds
DN: cn=Neal McReynolds, o=Texas A-M Interantational
University, ou=Department of Biology and Chemistry,
email=nmcreynolds@tamuz.edu, c=US
Date: 2015.02.16 11:53:20 -0600

Chair
Department

Dan Mott

Digitally signed by Dan Mott
DN: cn=Dan Mott, o=TAMU, ou=Biology &
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N. Foran

Chair
College Curriculum Committee

Dean

Provost

06/2014

