

Master of Sciences (MSc) **Biochemistry/Biotechnology Option**

The Department of Biology offers a program leading to the degree of Master of Sciences (MSc) with a Biochemistry/Biotechnology option. Graduate students pursue coursework in biology and one other science discipline (e.g., physics, chemistry, mathematics), providing students with a diverse curriculum and an understanding of how various science disciplines relate to each other.

This interdisciplinary program offers students a broad science education with few restrictive requirements compared to traditional graduate science programs. It allows for development of a plan based on individual needs.

Admission

Regular admission

Regular admission to the MSc program requires that the student meet the following requirements:

- Must hold a Bachelor's degree from an accredited College or University.
- Must have completed 40 credit hours in natural and physical science and mathematics courses.
- Must have completed 2 semesters of Calculus or one semester of Calculus and one semester of statistics.
- Cumulative undergraduate GPA of 3.0 or higher.
- GRE score of 1040 or higher for verbal and quantitative and a 4.0 or higher for writing.
- Applicants must also submit a cover letter, part I and II of the graduate application form, resume, letter from sponsor, 3

letters of recommendation, selective service form, 2 copies of transcripts and \$60 application fee.

Fast track admission

Students that have graduated from UCCS within the previous four years may apply through the Fast Track program. Students complete the Fast Track Admission application form. Two letters of recommendation are required. All other requirements are identical to the Regular admission requirements.

Provisional admission

Under certain circumstances, applicants not meeting the criteria for admission as a regular degree student may be recommended by the faculty for admission as a 'provisional admissions' student. The department may assign course work and/or examinations that must be taken to make up deficiencies. When the conditions for regular status are met, the program advisor will reclassify the student to regular status.

Transfer credits

- Up to 9 credit hours of coursework with a grade of B or better and earned at UCCS may be requested for transfer into the MSc program. These credit hours are computed into the students' graduate GPA.
- Up to 9 credit hours of coursework with a grade of B or better and completed at an institution other than UCCS may

be requested for transfer into the MSc program. These credit hours are not computed into the students' graduate GPA.

Degree Requirements

Students must complete 30 credit hours of coursework:

- 6 hours of thesis
- 24 hours of coursework
- At least 15 must be taken at the 500-level
- Courses must be selected from at least 2 departments participating in the MSc program.
- Courses must be taught by a member of the Graduate Faculty.

Thesis Requirements

- Students must complete research leading to a thesis.
- The student must enroll in Biol 501, Graduate Seminar, their first fall semester.
- The student must choose an academic advisor, an advisory committee and complete an Admission to Candidacy form by the end of his/her first semester of residence.
- The advisory committee shall consist of at least 3 members of the UCCS graduate faculty. One faculty member may come from outside the Department of Biology.
- The advisory committee will guide the student in formulating his/her course of study and will advise the student with his/her research.
- The student will present his/her research to the academic community in an oral seminar open to the public.

- The student will defend his/her thesis research before his/her advisory committee.
- Publication of the research is encouraged.

Duration of Program

Completion of the MSc degree is normally accomplished in 2-3 years and must be completed within 6 years.

Biochemistry/ Biochemistry Advisors:

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