What Can I Do With A Major In: Biology

Western Carolina University Center for Career and Professional Development
828.227.7133, careers.wcu.edu

DESCRIPTION
Biology is the science of life. Under the biology umbrella are life-related topics such as zoology, botany, genetics, biotechnology, evolution, structures of organisms, processes that organisms undergo to sustain life, reproduction, classification of organisms, and more. Biologists make observations about life, evaluate these observations, and solve problems. Through their studies, biologists use discoveries to aid in awareness of life, and find new ways to protect life against dangers. Graduates with bachelor's degrees in biology often start out as technicians in the field. With further education, it is possible to teach, become a doctor, or advance in an area of specialty.

WHAT JOBS ARE AVAILABLE?

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<th>Agricultural Technician</th>
<th>Dentist</th>
<th>Lab Technician</th>
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<tr>
<td>Atmospheric Scientist</td>
<td>Doctor</td>
<td>Meteorologist</td>
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<td>Avian Biologist</td>
<td>Ecologist</td>
<td>Molecular Cell Biologist</td>
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<td>Biology Technician</td>
<td>Forensic Scientist</td>
<td>Professor</td>
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<td>Bioengineer</td>
<td>Food Scientist</td>
<td>Teacher</td>
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<td>Analysis and Testing</td>
<td>Technical Sales</td>
<td>Technical Writer</td>
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<td>Product Development</td>
<td>Wildlife Biologist</td>
<td>Industrial Quality Control</td>
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<td>Analysis and Testing</td>
<td>Consulting</td>
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<td>Environmental Protection</td>
<td>Research</td>
<td>Medical and Science Research</td>
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WHO EMPLOYS STUDENTS WITH THIS MAJOR?
Healthcare | Non-profit conservation organizations | Primary & secondary schools | Colleges & universities | Science museums, zoos, & aquariums | Business and industries | Politicians

INTERNSHIP INFORMATION
At Western Carolina University there are numerous internship opportunities for students. In some cases internships are established through a faculty member in the student's major. Oftentimes students find part-time jobs in an area related to their field of study. When this happens, students should discuss with their academic advisor the possibility of receiving college credit. Generally, three hours of general elective credit can be earned for a minimum of 200 hours of experience.

A link that might be of interest to students interested in interning is:
WHAT SKILLS ARE LEARNED IN THE CLASSROOM?
Independent Worker | Critical Thinking | Curiosity and Creativity | Statistical Awareness | Oral & Written Communication | Research Skills | Analytical & Quantitative Abilities | Problem Solving | Technical Skills | Teamwork

KNOWLEDGE
- An understanding of the basic principles of biology and how they are connected by evolutionary processes
- Able to perform basic biological investigations, apply biological principles across the disciplines of biology, mathematical, chemical and the ability to apply physical concepts/applications to biological problems.
- Development of quantitative skills, communication skills, and technical skills for successful contributions to the sciences and to society

Interested in the classes you’ll be taking? Check your eight semester program here: http://www.wcu.edu/WebFiles/PDFs/biology_8semesterplan_PHP.pdf

PROFESSIONAL RESOURCES
- American Institute of Biological Sciences: http://www.aibs.org/home/index.html
- Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology: http://www.faseb.org
- Professional forum for Cell Biology: http://www.ascb.org
- Tip: Join LinkedIn groups that are related to your career interest. Need help finding groups? Check out the “Groups You May Like” link under the Interests/Groups tab. Review the groups that professionals in your field of interest have joined and consider joining them as well.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION SOURCES
- See the American Institute of Biological Sciences for career information at: http://www.aibs.org/careers/
- Science Jobs: www.sciencejobs.com
- Biology Jobs: www.biologyjobs.com

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION
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