BIOLOGY

100%
of our students complete an internship or undergraduate research.

Biology major with ecology and conservation, biomedical science, or standard biology tracks · Biology minor · Biochemistry minor · Environmental science minor · Neuroscience minor

Take your curiosity further. Work on real scientific problems, communicate what you find, and grow as a leader in a state-of-the-art facility where exploration is part of everyday learning.

SCAN
to learn more

THE CLASSROOM EXPERIENCE

State-of-the-art equipment and immersive instruction

The Franklin College biology program is built on a single core concept: Students best learn science by doing science. That belief manifests in the program's rigorous curriculum, mentored undergraduate research opportunities and modern science center. Students use the center's comfortable study lounges and ample lab space to come alongside professors and be active participants in the scientific process. This collaboration breaks down barriers and fosters an engaging, collaborative culture that allows students to thrive.

OUTSIDE THE CLASSROOM

Integrated undergraduate research and internships

The biology department empowers every student to create competitive advantage with rich experiences like undergraduate research, internships, study away and off-campus learning – opportunities that students continually cite as the most important and transformative in their college careers.

The biology department empowers every student to create competitive advantage with rich experiences like undergraduate research, internships, study away and off-campus learning.

Recent graduates have leveraged the department's professional network to research:

- Effects of diet and sex on lifespan and disease risk
- Genetic sequencing of the gut microbiota of wildlife
- The ecology of rare plants in local nature preserves
- The physiology of sheep in rotational grazing systems
- Satellite tracking of Great Lakes mallards
- Environmental microbiology of local rivers
- Management of urban geese
- Parasite diversity in mammals

Those experiences are amplified by department-specific professional development courses and workshops, which include career coaching, mock interviews and portfolio development.

POST-GRADUATION

Abundant post-graduation options

Franklin College biology majors have a wealth of post-graduate options. Many graduates choose to pursue advanced degrees in health professions, veterinary medicine, public health, biomedical science, molecular biology or conservation biology. The department's alumni currently in the field have applied their degrees in countless ways, working for:

- Eli Lilly and Company
- IU Health
- Riley Children's Hospital
- Franklin Animal Clinic
- Labcorp
- Cook Medical
- Corteva Agriscience
- B2S Life Sciences
- Indianapolis Zoo
- Gordon Ag Group
- Indiana Department of Environmental Management
- Indiana Department of Natural Resources
- Environmental consulting firms
- Medical forensics and biotherapeutic laboratories
- Conservation law enforcement agencies

DEPARTMENT OVERVIEW

- **Major and minor options:** Biology majors have a breadth of specializations to choose from, including ecology & conservation, biomedical science, and standard biology. Students can also pursue a major in neuroscience with a specialization in biology.
- **Outstanding placement rates:** In recent years, Franklin College has seen acceptance rates of more than 80 percent of our biology majors applying to medical school and 90 percent of our biology majors applying to veterinary school and physician assistant school.
- **Nursing:** Students can complete a 3+1 program to earn a B.A. in biology from Franklin College and a B.S.N from the University of Indianapolis.
- **3+1 medical lab science program:** Students who complete three years of instruction at Franklin College and one year of professional coursework in medical laboratory science at IU Health receive a bachelor's degree from Franklin College and a certificate of completion from IU Health. This unique program guarantees a 100 percent career placement rate.
- **Automatic physician assistant program interview:** Every biology major who graduates with a 3.4 GPA or higher is automatically advanced to the interview stage of the Franklin College Master of Science in Physician Assistant Studies program – an opportunity less than 20 percent of applicants receive.
- **Department contact information:** Read more about the program at **FranklinCollege.edu/biology** or contact Professor of Biology Ben O'Neal, Ph.D., directly at 317.494.1729 or **boneal@FranklinCollege.edu.**

Revised 4-13-26