

Statement of the Departmental Philosophy

The Department of Biological Sciences emphasizes cellular and molecular biology as well as biotechnology and medical technology. Our primary goal is to enable our students, both majors and non-majors, to become literate about life processes. Secondly, our students should be competent in data analysis and current laboratory techniques. The success of our department must be measured primarily by the success of our students. The faculty's collective efforts of quality instruction, mentoring and scholarship are committed primarily to maximize student success

Departmental Mission Statement:

The mission of the Department of Biological Sciences is to provide quality educational experiences for our students that are integrated with and appropriate to a comprehensive College of Arts and Sciences. Our academic activities are designed to provide the skills necessary for employment and post-graduate studies, an awareness of the impact and relevance of biologically related topics in society, and to provide theoretical and practical knowledge of biological phenomena.

The most important aspect of Departmental academic activity is to prepare biologists and medical technologists for professional employment and/or postgraduate studies in medical and biotechnology fields. Departmental courses offer a solid theoretical base as well as practical skills, which provide students with opportunities to apply their knowledge to the solution of biological problems. The broad expertise of the Biological Sciences Faculty emphasizes cellular and molecular biology as well as medical technology and biotechnology. Students receive broad exposure to the biological sciences in the first two years and may select in-depth study in more specialized areas during their junior and senior years.

The Department of Biological Sciences is strongly committed to faculty and student research at both the undergraduate and M.S. levels. The graduate program provides advanced education and skill development and also strengthens our undergraduate academic environment.

The Department has a strong commitment to the liberal arts curriculum by providing support to the general education component of the college by offering courses which provide non-majors with an enhanced appreciation and understanding of the biological sciences and the role of biologically related phenomena in our society. The Department is committed to providing curricular support for students enrolled in the areas of nursing, health science, physical education, social work and other disciplines requiring knowledge and training in Biology.

The faculty's collective efforts of quality instruction, mentoring and scholarship are committed primarily to maximize student success.