

WHAT CAN I DO WITH A BACHELOR OF SCIENCE DEGREE IN BIOLOGY?

A Guide Compiled by Concordia Career Services



General Skill Sets:

The Department of Biological and Environmental Sciences offers three and four-year Bachelor of Science degrees, giving students the option to either prepare for a professional career or move forward to professional programs or graduate school.

Graduates will have acquired knowledge and skills that will allow entry into laboratory, field jobs or further study in areas such as Education and Public Health. When employers are hiring, they are interested in the skills attained through university study.

Examples of skills:

- conduct field and laboratory tests
- operate, maintain and calibrate equipment for field tests and surveys
- isolate, identify and prepare specimens for study
- grow cultures under controlled conditions
- collect field data
- maintain quality control and assurance
- analyze data and report results
- manage approvals and permits related to research ethics and handling of hazardous materials
- conduct biological, microbiological, chemical and biochemical tests
- conduct plant and animal inventory surveys to gather information on plant and animal distribution and abundance
- prepare progress reports on surveys for research biologists
- set up and maintain specific or general laboratory areas
- prepare reagents, perform analyses and maintain equipment in laboratories
- collect information for industry (for example, regarding land use or reclamation)

Source : [<http://occinfo.alis.alberta.ca/occinfopreview/info/browse-occupations/occupation-profile.html?id=71001558>]

Statistics tell us that university graduates are more likely to be promoted or attain leadership positions than those who do not have a degree. Generally, they move into positions with increased responsibilities and increased pay, or they leave their current employer to take on a better-paying role elsewhere, as at this time the degree is combined with work experience

Skills Acquired from an Undergraduate Degree in Biology:

- Think analytically and critically
- Follow laboratory procedures and processes with proficiency
- Apply biological facts, concepts and principles
- Research Skills
- Apply computer skills and statistical techniques
- Write clear and accurate technical reports
- Observe health and safety practices
- Scientific theory and practical knowledge
- Assess and solve problems
- Ability to meet deadlines
- Collect and observe data with precision and accuracy
- Ability to work independently or in a team
- Demonstrate ethical conduct in all scientific and relate activities
- Show self-direction and motivation
- Operate scientific equipment

- Innovative talents

Careers for Graduates of an Undergraduate Degree in Biology:

There are many different career options for Biology graduates. Below is a sample of positions available to graduates:

- Analytical Laboratory Technologist
- Assistant Microbiologist
- Biological Technician or Research Assistant
- College Lab Assistant
- Environmental Technician
- Habitat Biologist
- Industrial Hygiene Technician
- Informatics Associate
- Lab Technician
- Laboratory Analyst
- Medical Laboratory Technologist
- Oil Sample Laboratory Technician
- Pharmaceutical Sales Representative
- Quality Control Technician
- Research Assistant
- Forensics Technical Expert

As learning is life-long, some careers which are related to Biology Degree require additional training. This may involve weekend, evening or part-time courses; further education (some employers provide support by allowing time or offering finances to assist you in your learning); distance studies; or full time college or university, including graduate studies. In any case, the Bachelor's degree is a starting point.

Other Careers Related to Biology:

Health

Audiologist
 Bacteriologist
 Chiropractor
 Clinical Research Coordinator Assistant
 Community Health Worker
 Cytotechnologist
 Diagnostic Medical Sonographer
 Doctor
 Dentist
 Nurse

Health Records Professional
 Massage Therapist
 Medical Geneticist
 Ophthalmic Medical Technologist
 Optometrist
 Paramedic
 Pharmacologist
 Pathology Assistant
 Veterinarian

Education

Teacher/Professor
 Environmental Educator
 Recreation Director

Conservation Biologist
 Conservation Officer
 Environmental Health Officer
 Restoration Biologist

All sectors:

Ecology:

Agronomist

Biomedical Engineer
 Curator
 Entrepreneur
 Horticulturalist
 Marine Biologist
 Pollution Control Technologist

Research associate
Science Magazine
Science Magazine Editor/writer
Technical Sales Representative
Wildlife Biology

Zoologist

References

www.alis.gov.ab.ca/occinfo

www.jobsfuture.ca

www.unce.edu/stuaff/career/Major/index.htm

For more information or assistance with career and educational planning, please contact Concordia Career Services at + (780) 378 - 8461 or our website is careerservices.concordia.ab.ca