

Biology

No less than 18 units of the approved coursework must be in the biological sciences. Nine units must be completed prior to advancement to candidacy. The Biology Department also requires that at least 10 units of approved coursework be completed after advancement to candidacy.

Units completed during the semester that advancement is achieved will be considered to have been completed after advancement to candidacy. Students must also show competence in writing skills through an appropriate examination or course. Normal degree progress requires that advancement to candidacy be achieved in the semester following admission to classified standing. A student must be advanced to candidacy, possess a GPA of 3.0 or better, and file a Thesis Committee Assignment Form before enrolling in thesis (BIOL 299). A complete list of the steps required for advancement to candidacy is available from the departmental graduate coordinator.

Completion of a Thesis

The Master of Science in Biology requires completion of a research thesis (BIOL 299). The thesis must show originality, appropriate organization, clarity of purpose, critical analysis, and accuracy and completeness of documentation where needed. Critical and independent thinking are required. The finished thesis must meet standards appropriate for publication in the scholarly journals of the field. A colloquium is required of all students before graduation. Additional information on the completion of the thesis is available from the departmental graduate coordinator.

Completion of All Requirements for Award of Master of Science Degree in Biology

In addition to the aforementioned requirements, in order to receive the Master of Science in Biology the student must:

1. Maintain a GPA of 3.0 or better in all graduate coursework undertaken from the date of embarking on the first course of the approved program. Students wishing to explore other academic areas without jeopardizing this grade point average should attempt to use the *CR/NC* grade option for this purpose.
2. File an application for the granting of the Master of Science degree and pay the diploma fee. Applications should be

submitted during the first two weeks of the semester (or the first week of a summer session) in which the degree is to be completed and are available from the Division of Graduate Studies, Thomas Administration, Room 132.

Master of Science Degree Requirements

Marine Science Major

This degree program — to be offered as an interdepartmental degree in cooperation with Moss Landing Marine Laboratories (MLML) — provides the opportunity for students to acquire a practical and theoretical education in the marine sciences to prepare them for careers as marine specialists, scientists, and teachers. The program at Moss Landing provides extensive field and laboratory work for advanced study in the marine sciences, which is not duplicated on individual CSU campuses.

The Master of Science in Marine Science degree program is administered through MLML and a consortium campus with emphasis on biology, geology, or other department, depending on the choice of the student. The prospective student must meet the entrance requirements for the home campus department and will be accepted into classified or conditionally classified status by normal procedures at that campus (see previous information for biology procedures summary). Conditionally classified students must become classified by home campus procedures. MLML may impose additional requirements for classification.

The Thesis Committee will be composed of at least three members, including one faculty member from MLML (who is ordinarily the thesis adviser) and, at the discretion of the home campus, a representative of that campus. The other member or members of the Thesis Committee may be from MLML, the home campus, or elsewhere with the approval of the thesis adviser. The final colloquium must be given at the home campus.

Additional MLML Degree Requirements Including Coursework. A student becomes eligible for the master's degree in marine science after the following requirements have been satisfied:

	<i>Units</i>
Courses in 100-series (requires any three of the following five courses: M SCI 103, M SCI 141, M SCI 142, M SCI 143, M SCI 144)	12
Courses in 200-series (including 2 units of M SCI 285T, 286T or 287T, and 4 units of M SCI 299)	15
Electives (course[s] in the 100- and/or 200-series) approved by Thesis Committee	3
Total	30

Note: Quantitative Marine Science, M SCI 104, does not count toward the degree.

Biotechnology Certificate Program

California State University, Fresno offers a Certificate of Advanced Study Program in Biotechnology. This intensive one-year post-baccalaureate program emphasizes molecular biology and a wide range of laboratory skills at the forefront of modern biotechnology. The biotechnology field is growing rapidly and, as new products and applications are commercialized, there is increased need for highly skilled personnel capable of working in both research and production areas. Enrollment is limited to 12 to 15 students per year who work closely with faculty in a variety of lecture and laboratory courses. Among the techniques studied are purification of biological macromolecules, gene splicing, DNA sequencing, culturing of mammalian cells, hybridoma production, and plant cell culturing and cloning.

The certificate program can lead to potential careers in expanding fields, such as drug and hormone production in the pharmaceutical industry, monoclonal antibody production for medical diagnostics and therapeutics, crop improvement, industrial bioprocessing, forensic science, bioremediation, and medical research. The program also provides a background for further post-graduate studies in fields such as biochemistry, molecular biology, and agricultural biotechnology. Some of the courses may also be used at California State University, Fresno as components of master's degree programs in biology, chemistry, plant science, and related departments.

Program courses include: Molecular Biology (BIOL/CHEM 241A-B), Techniques in Protein Purification (BIOL/CHEM 242), Nucleic Acid Technology Lab (BIOL/