BIOLOGY FOR HEALTH SCIENCES (HSBc)

Department of Biology

Biology for Health Sciences focuses on areas of biological science that relate to the health of humans and will provide a strong foundation for students interested in pursuing a career in the health sciences.

UTM Biology is a dynamic community. With nearly 40 active research scientists, more than one hundred graduate students and many post-doctoral fellows doing state-of-the-art research using the latest techniques, our students will have the opportunity to learn from the best. Our undergraduate research projects and summer student placements in research labs will give students valuable, first-hand experience working in a laboratory environment.

MAKE THE MOST OF YOUR TIME AT UTM!

We want to help you maximize your university experience, so we’ve pulled together information and interesting suggestions to get you started, although there are many more! As you review the chart on the inside pages, note that many of the suggestions need not be restricted to the year they are mentioned. In fact, activities such as joining an academic society, engaging with faculty and seeking opportunities to gain experience should occur in each year of your study at UTM. Read through the chart and create your own plan using My Program Plan found at www.utm.utoronto.ca/program-plans

Programs of Study (POSt)

- Major Program ERMAJ1149 Biology for Health Sciences (Science)

Check out...

Interested in examining cardiovascular, renal, respiratory and muscle systems’ response to challenges such as altitude and depth under water? BIO414H5 examines these responses and provides students with hands on laboratory activities measuring physiological variables in these systems. In BIO380H5 you’ll see how a human embryo becomes organized so that all of the tissues and organs of the adult body form in the right places at the proper times.

What can I do with my degree?

The career you choose will depend on your experience and interests. Visit the Career Centre to explore your career options.

Careers for Graduates: Biological technician; Health records professional; Veterinary technician; Paramedic; Chiropractor; Pharmacologist; Massage therapist; Clinical research coordinator assistant; Informationist; Community health worker; Doctor; Nurse; Physician’s assistant; Health policy analyst; Patient services coordinator; Dietitian; Occupational therapist.

Workplaces: Scientific R&D; Conservation authorities; Pharmaceutical; Consumer health libraries; Non-profit agencies; Hospitals and medical centres.
BIOLOGY FOR HEALTH SCIENCES MAJOR Program Plan

1ST YEAR
- Enrol in courses: BIO150H5, BIO153H5; CHM110H5, CHM120H5; MAT133H5 and MAT134H5.
- Choose a program of study (Subject POSH) once you complete 4.0 credits. Use the Degree Explorer and the Academic Calendar to plan your degree.
- Develop foundational academic skills and strategies by enrolling in an abtONE course. Build community and gain academic support through LAUNCH. Join a RAGSC Peer Facilitated Study Group.
- Use the Co-Curricular Record (CCR). Search for opportunities beyond the class room, and keep track of your accomplishments.
- Attend the Get Hired Fair through the Career Centre (CC) to learn about on- and off-campus opportunities.
- Attend the Experiential Education Fair.
- Networking simply means talking to people and developing relationships with them. Start by joining the Erindale Biology Society (EBS). Follow them @ utmEBS. Go to the EBS Meet the Prof Night, the biology department’s Walk with a Biologist or the Biology Seminar Series.
- Visit the UTM Library Reference Desk.
- Engage with the many programs offered by the International Education Centre (IEC), whether you are an international or domestic student. Consider joining the Canada Eh? day trips or English Language Conversation Circles to deepen your global mindset.
- First-year international students can also take advantage of THRIVE, a one-day conference dedicated to helping you start your UTM journey successfully.
- Learn about a future UTM Abroad Experience. Biology for Health Sciences students can enrol in BIO209H5 (in addition to fulfilling application requirements) and during reading week, travel with the class to Peru. Students will gain insight into the contrasts between Canadian and Peruvian healthcare systems.
- Learn about the International Education Week.
- Participate in International Education Week.
- Explore careers through the CC’s Job Shadow Program.
- Considering further education? Attend the CC’s Graduate & Professional Schools Fair. Talk to professors – they are potential mentors and references for further education...

2ND YEAR
- Enrol in courses: BIO202H5, BIO206H5, BIO207H5, BIO208H5, BIO209H5, and BIO259H5.
- Attend the RAGSC’s Program for Accessing Research Training (PART) to enhance your research skills.
- Use the Career & Co-Curricular Learning Network (CLN) to find postings for on- and off-campus work and volunteer opportunities as well as Work-Study.
- Ask your professor about volunteering in their lab.
- Networking simply means talking to people and developing relationships with them. Start by joining the Erindale Biology Society (EBS). Follow them @ utmEBS. Go to the EBS Meet the Prof Night, the biology department’s Walk with a Biologist or the Biology Seminar Series.
- Visit the UTM Library Reference Desk.
- Engage with the many programs offered by the International Education Centre (IEC), whether you are an international or domestic student. Consider joining the Canada Eh? day trips or English Language Conversation Circles to deepen your global mindset.
- First-year international students can also take advantage of THRIVE, a one-day conference dedicated to helping you start your UTM journey successfully.
- Learn about a future UTM Abroad Experience. Biology for Health Sciences students can enrol in BIO209H5 (in addition to fulfilling application requirements) and during reading week, travel with the class to Peru. Students will gain insight into the contrasts between Canadian and Peruvian healthcare systems.
- Learn about the International Education Week.
- Participate in International Education Week.
- Explore careers through the CC’s Job Shadow Program.
- Considering further education? Attend the CC’s Graduate & Professional Schools Fair. Talk to professors – they are potential mentors and references for further education...

3RD YEAR
- Enrol in: BIO304H5; BIO310H5 and BIO330H5. Attain 1.0 credit from any of the course options listed for this program in the Academic Calendar. They can be completed in 3rd and/or 4th year.
  - See the Office of the Registrar about degree requirements and the Biology Undergraduate Advisor about program requirements.
  - In the spring of your 3rd year, attend an information Session for BIO400Y5 Internship course and BIO481Y5 research thesis course.

4TH OR FINAL YEAR
- Ensure you have 8.5 BIO credits and at least 2.0 credits at the 300/400 level. Speak to the Biology Undergraduate Advisor for advice and details.
- Apply to the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources Internship Program as a recent graduate. Look at the MNRF website for eligibility and application details.
- Consider applying for a Summer Undergraduate Research Project in the summer following the completion of your degree. Speak to the Biology Undergraduate Advisor.
- Get a global experience through our Biology Seminar Series. Every Friday during the academic year, the Department of Biology hosts an exciting seminar given by a guest speaker. Guest speakers are Curious about grad school? Connect with a grad student through the OGS’s Grad Connect program to get the inside scoop.
- Participate in the Community Leadership Development Program as a community leader and gain skills on various competencies while giving back to the community.
- Establish a professional presence on social media (e.g. LinkedIn).
- Explore your interests. Why not pass on your passion for science? Be a UTM Let’s Talk Science Outreach volunteer.
- Explore your interest. Apply to become a Wellness Ambassador at the Health & Counselling Centre.
- Join a professional association. Check out Life Sciences Ontario, the Canadian Health Libraries Association or the University of Toronto International Health Program.
- Go to the Canadian Undergraduate Conference on Health or Ontario Biology Day.
- Get a global experience through our Biology Seminar Series. Every Friday during the academic year, the Department of Biology hosts an exciting seminar given by a guest speaker. Guest speakers are Curious about grad school? Connect with a grad student through the OGS’s Grad Connect program to get the inside scoop.
- Participate in the Community Leadership Development Program as a community leader and gain skills on various competencies while giving back to the community.
- Establish a professional presence on social media (e.g. LinkedIn).
- Explore your interests. Why not pass on your passion for science? Be a UTM Let’s Talk Science Outreach volunteer.
- Explore your interest. Apply to become a Wellness Ambassador at the Health & Counselling Centre.
- Join a professional association. Check out Life Sciences Ontario, the Canadian Health Libraries Association or the University of Toronto International Health Program.
- Go to the Canadian Undergraduate Conference on Health or Ontario Biology Day.

HOW TO USE THIS PROGRAM PLAN
Read through each year. Investigate what appeals to you here and in any other Program Plans that apply to you.
Visit www.utm.utoronto.ca/program-plans to create your own plan using My Program Plan.
Update your plan yearly.

*Consult the Academic Calendar for greater detail on course requirements, program notes and degree requirements.

Visit www.utm.utoronto.ca/program-plans for the online version and links.
Skills developed in Biology

To be competitive in the job market, it is essential that you can explain your skills to an employer. Visit the Career Centre to learn how to articulate and market the following skills:

Communication & interpersonal: write scientific reports; present research findings; interact professionally with a multidisciplinary team of researchers, technicians, students and professors; and literacy writing.

Research: collect and preserve field organisms; dissect preserved or euthanized specimen; inspect specimens; and analyze and evaluate information.

Technical: use specialized computer programs; perform laboratory procedures; maintain laboratory equipment and instrumentation; and comply with quality control procedures.

Quantitative: analyze data for trends and apply statistical tests to data.

Critical thinking & problem-solving: logically interpret trends and results.

Services that support you

- Accessibility Services (AS)
- Career Centre (CC)
- Centre for Student Engagement (CSE)
- Equity, Diversity & Inclusion Office (EDIO)
- Experiential Education Unit (EEU)
- Health & Counselling Centre (HCC)
- Indigenous Centre (IC)
- International Education Centre (IEC)
- Office of the Registrar (OR)
- Recreation, Athletics and Wellness Centre (RAWC)
- Robert Gillespie Academic Skills Centre (RGASC)
- UTM Library, Hazel McCallion Academic Learning Centre (HMALC)

Get involved

Check out the 100+ student organizations on campus. Here are a few:

- Erindale Biology Society (EBS)
- UTM Student Union (UTMSU)
- UTM Athletics Council (UTMAC)

For a listing of clubs on campus visit the Student Group and Societies Directory

Department of Biology

William G. Davis Building, Rm 3056
University of Toronto Mississauga
3359 Mississauga Rd
Mississauga ON Canada L5L 1C6

Undergraduate Advisor: 905-828-3999
d.matias@utoronto.ca
www.utm.utoronto.ca/biology

FUTURE STUDENTS

Admission to UTM

All program areas require an Ontario Secondary School Diploma, or equivalent, with six Grade 12 U/M courses, or equivalent, including English. The admission average is calculated with English plus the next best five courses. The Grade 12 prerequisites for this program are Advanced Functions, Biology and Chemistry. The approximate average required for admission is low- to mid-80s. More information is available at utm.utoronto.ca/viewbook.

NOTE: During the application process, applicants will select the Life Sciences admissions category, but will not officially be admitted to a formal program of study (Specialist, Major, and/or Minor) until after first year.

Sneak Peek

Interested in the design of the human body? Learn the fundamentals of human anatomy and physiology in BIO208H5 and BIO209H5.

Effective biological training involves careful study of real organisms, both living and dead. Consequently, almost all Biology courses with laboratories involve students in one or more of the following activities with animals, plants, and/or microorganisms: collecting and preserving organisms from the field; dissecting or handling preserved or euthanized specimens (or properly anaesthetized living specimens); observing and making measurements on organisms maintained under laboratory conditions approved by the Canadian Council of Animal Care.

Student Recruitment & Admissions

Innovation Complex, Room 1270
University of Toronto Mississauga
3359 Mississauga Rd
Mississauga ON Canada L5L 1C6

905-828-5400
www.utm.utoronto.ca/future-students