Molecular Biology is an interdisciplinary science that draws its major themes from biochemistry, cell biology, and genetics. Its emphasis is on the structure, chemistry, and functions of nucleic acids and focuses on the biochemical basis of cellular genetics. As the cornerstone of contemporary biotechnology, molecular biology provides some of the most successful experimental tools in medicine and agriculture. Applications for molecular biology can also be seen in the fields of genetics and microbiology.

Molecular Biology at UTM provides in-depth training in critical analyses of scientific concepts and literature as well as advanced laboratory skills. Subject areas include virology, immunology, cancer biology, plant and animal developmental biology, and biotechnology.

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)

- Specialist Program ERSPE1237 Molecular Biology (Science)
- Minor Program ERMIN2364 Biology (Science)

Check out...

What is the molecular and genetic basis of cancer building? Examine the role of oncogenes, tumor suppressor genes and cell cycle regulating proteins in the developing of this disease through BIO477HS.

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: Cytotechnologist; Bacteriologist; Microbiologist; Medical geneticist; Biological technician; Toxicologist; Veterinary technician; Zoologist; Informationist; Community health worker; Radiation therapist; Doctor; Dietician; Aquaculture technician.

Workplaces: Manufacturing and processing; Government; Scientific R&D; Conservation authorities; Hospitals and medical centres; Pharmaceutical; Academic medical centres/laboratories; Consulting firms.
**MOLECULAR BIOLOGY SPECIALIST Program Plan**

**1ST YEAR**

- Enrol in courses BIO150H5, 153H5; CHM110H5, 120H5; and MAT132H5, 134H5. Attain 1.0 credit from the second list of required first year courses in the Academic Calendar.
- Choose a program of study (Subject P.O.S.T) once you complete 4.0 credits. Use the Degree Explorer Planner and the Academic Calendar to plan your degree.
- Start strong and get informed with utmONE and LAUNCH through the Centre for Student Engagement (CSE). Join a RGASC Peer Facilitated Study Group.

**2ND YEAR**

- Enrol in courses BIO206H5, 207H5; CHM242H5, 243H5; STA215H5; plus 1.0 credit from BIO202H5, 203H5 and 205H5.
- Throughout your undergraduate degree:
  - use the Degree Explorer to ensure you complete your degree and program requirements.
  - use the Office of the Registrar about degree requirements and the Biology Undergraduate Advisor about program requirements.

**BUILD A NETWORK**

- 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, or the Biology department’s Walk with your Professor.
- Visit the UTM Library Reference Desk.
- Attend events held by the International Education Centre (IEC), whether you are an international or domestic student. Explore different cultures through food, music, and sport or through sight-seeing around the GTA.
- 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 from Ontario, across Canada, as well as International. Topics cover every aspect of biology. All Biology students are welcome to attend. Feel free to bring your lunch!

**BUILD A GLOBAL MINDSET**

- Attend the Program Selection & Career Options workshop offered by the Office of the Registrar and the CC.
- Check out Careers by Major at the CC to see potential career options.
- Explore careers through the CC’s Extern Job Shadowing Program. Ask the Biology Undergraduate Assistant about the BioPath Professional Development Program.
- Considering further education? Attend the CC’s Graduate and Professional Schools Fair. Talk to professors — they are potential mentors and references for further education.

**PLAN YOUR ACADEMICS**

- Do you have a professor you really like or connect with? Book a CC appointment.
- Learn about your degree requirements and the Biology Undergraduate Advisor about program requirements.
- Attend the RGASC’s Program for Accessing Research Training (P.A.R.T.) to enhance your research skills.
- Experiential Education Unit (EEU).
- Attend the Get Experience Fair through the Career Centre to see potential career options.
- Talk to professors — they are potential mentors and references for further education.
- How many courses do you need to take? You are eligible for...

**BUILD SKILLS**

- Use the Co-Curricular Record (CCR). Search for opportunities beyond the classroom, and keep track of your accomplishments.
- Use the Career Learning Network (CLIN) 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.
- Do you have a professor you really like or connect with? Book a CC appointment.
- Get Experience Fair through the Career Centre to see potential career options.
- Attend the RGASC’s Program for Accessing Research Training (P.A.R.T.) to enhance your research skills.
- Experiential Education Unit (EEU).
- Attend the Get Experience Fair through the Career Centre to see potential career options.
- Talk to professors — they are potential mentors and references for further education.
- How many courses do you need to take? You are eligible for...

**3RD YEAR**

- Enrol in courses BIO314H5, 315H5; CHM361H5, 362H5, 372H5, 373H5; plus 0.5 of BIO304H5, 310H5, 341H5, 362H5, 368H5, 374H5, 375H5, 380H5; CHM347H5; PHY330H5, 333H5; BCN435H1, 340H1.
- Attend the RGASC’s Program for Accessing Research Training (P.A.R.T.) to enhance your research skills.
- Experiential Education Unit (EEU).
- Attend the Get Experience Fair through the Career Centre to see potential career options.
- Talk to professors — they are potential mentors and references for further education.
- How many courses do you need to take? You are eligible for...

**4TH OR FINAL YEAR**

- Enrol in courses BIO314H5, 315H5; CHM361H5, 362H5, 372H5, 373H5; plus 0.5 of BIO304H5, 310H5, 341H5, 362H5, 368H5, 374H5, 375H5, 380H5; CHM347H5; PHY330H5, 333H5; BCN435H1, 340H1.
- Attend the RGASC’s Program for Accessing Research Training (P.A.R.T.) to enhance your research skills.
- Experiential Education Unit (EEU).
- Attend the Get Experience Fair through the Career Centre to see potential career options.
- Talk to professors — they are potential mentors and references for further education.
- How many courses do you need to take? You are eligible for...

**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](http://www.utm.utoronto.ca/program-plans) to create your own plan using My Program Plan. Update your plan yearly.

**What’s your next step after undergrad?**

- What is your next step after undergrad? What do you want to do next? Consider your future plans and explore options through My Program Plan.
- Consider further education? Research application requirements, prepare for admission tests (LSAT, MCAT), and research funding options (OGS, NSERC, CIHR).
- Attend the Career Centre to see potential career options.
- Talk to professors — they are potential mentors and references for further education.
- How many courses do you need to take? You are eligible for...

**NOW THAT I’M GRADUATING WHAT’S NEXT?**

- Why not work abroad? Read up on worldwide employment trends and industry outlooks through GoinGlobal. Attend the Go Global Expo.
- Why not work abroad? Read up on worldwide employment trends and industry outlooks through GoinGlobal. Attend the Go Global Expo.
- Why not work abroad? Read up on worldwide employment trends and industry outlooks through GoinGlobal. Attend the Go Global Expo.
- Why not work abroad? Read up on worldwide employment trends and industry outlooks through GoinGlobal. Attend the Go Global Expo.

**Visit [www.utm.utoronto.ca/program-plans](http://www.utm.utoronto.ca/program-plans) for the online version and links.**

Revised on: 5/16/2019
Molecular Biology

Skills developed in Molecular 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: conduct journal research and utilize logical reasoning to interpret results/data derived from scientific experimentation.

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.

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 www.utm.utoronto.ca/clubs.

Services that support you

- Accessibility Services (AS)
- Career Centre (CC)
- Centre for Student Engagement (CSE)
- 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)

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

What’s in your genes? Take BIO207H5 to find out about the principles of Mendelian inheritance and modern genetics. Curious about animal physiology? Discover the diversity of structure and function in animals in BIO202H5.

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