



Foundation: Life Sciences

The life sciences are the study of the structure and function of living things. Such study ranges from the level of molecules within cells to ecosystems of organisms interacting with each other and their environment. Study of the concepts, history, contexts, and methodologies of the life sciences assists students in becoming scientifically literate. Courses in this category prepare students to understand and appreciate not only themselves as organisms, but also other organisms in the world around them. Courses contribute to the development of critical thinking and problem-solving skills, and help students apply an understanding of scientific ways of thinking to make more informed personal and social choices.

Knowledge Student Learning Outcomes

Students will:

1. Explain how life scientists investigate and understand the physical universe.
2. Explain unifying concepts of the life sciences such as evolution and cellular organization and organisms.

Skills Student Learning Outcome 1 (choose one of the following):

Graduates are proficient in:

- a) Information Literacy: Identify the need for information; access, evaluate, and use information effectively, ethically, and legally; or
- b) Quantitative Literacy: Work effectively with numerical data.

Skills Student Learning Outcome 2 (choose one of the following):

Graduates are proficient in:

- a) Collaboration: Effectively work on a team. *{Students must participate in a group project conducted over a significant portion of the semester}*; or
- b) Problem Solving: Design and evaluate an approach to answer an open-ended question or achieve a desired goal.