

*What can I do with a major in...*

# Biology & Allied Health

*Career Advisors:*

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## GENERAL DESCRIPTION

Biology is the science of life. It involves the study of the structure, evolutionary development, interaction and function of plants, animals, and microorganisms. These organisms all follow the fundamental laws of heredity, reproduction, growth, development, self-maintenance and response. Biology majors with a bachelor's degree are able to pursue a variety of career options. Possible initial employment opportunities include but are not limited to the following: laboratory technician or animal care positions at research organizations, positions at museums or national and state parks, and fish and game agencies, laboratory and field testing positions involving water, air and soil quality control, teaching positions in either elementary or secondary education, or positions involving technical sales. These employment opportunities are associated with the pharmaceutical, agricultural, environmental and food industries as well as with university and governmental agencies.

Graduate training in a particular specialty is an option pursued by many biology graduates. Advanced education is required for higher-level positions in research and administration of research programs, and for college level teaching. Individuals interested in health related areas can pursue professional training or advanced education in the areas of medical technology, nursing, physical therapy, occupational therapy, nutrition, medicine, dentistry or pharmacy.

A variety of double major programs or concentrations may help with certain career choices. For example, biology with chemistry - biochemist; studio art - scientific illustration; history - history of science; historic preservation - landscape and garden reconstruction; math-statistics - biostatistician; computer science - computer modeling of physiological, ecological, or population systems; psychology - genetic counseling or geriatrics. The job titles and hiring institutions which follow are meant to give you an idea of the careers available to biology majors, however many other possibilities also exist. You are encouraged to explore all career paths that interest you.

## POTENTIAL JOB TITLES

Agronomist	Geneticist	Pharmacist
Biochemist	Hospital administrator	Physical therapist
Biological photographer	Lab animal specialist	Physician
Biologist (botanist, ecologist, pharmacologist, zoologist)	Laboratory assistant	Physician assistant
Biomedical engineer	Medical illustrator	Podiatrist
Chiropractor	Medical librarian	Psychologist
Dentist	Medical technologist	Public health educator
Dietitian	Museum technician	Field researcher
Editor (technical and publications)	Natural resources manager	Sales representative (pharmaceuticals)
Environmental protection analyst	Nurse	Soil scientist
Environmental scientist	Oceanographer	Sports trainer
Food and drug inspector	Occupational therapist	Teacher
	Optometrist	
	Osteopath	
	Parasitologist	

## REPRESENTATIVE HIRING INSTITUTIONS

Biological/Chemical supply companies  
College, schools, & educational institutions  
Doctors' offices, medical clinics, and laboratories

*Government agencies:*

Department of Agriculture  
Department of the Interior  
Environmental Protection Agency  
National Institutes of Health

Hospitals  
Medical/technical libraries  
Museums

National and state parks  
Pharmaceutical companies  
Professional and technical journals  
Research and development firms

*State Government:*

Natural Heritage Program  
Dept of Game & Inland Fisheries  
Dept of Natural Resources  
Dept of Environmental Quality  
Health Department  
Zoological/botanical gardens

## WHERE DO UMW BIOLOGY & ALLIED HEALTH MAJORS GO?

### EMPLOYERS/INTERNSHIP SITES

- Bimini Biological Field Station (Shark lab), Bahamas
- Pet Medical Center of Springfield, Veterinary Assistant
- Dovetail Cultural Resource Group
- Lloyd F. Moss Free Clinic
- Potomac Hospital
- National Aquarium
- Dolphin Quest Bermuda
- Orthopedic and Sports Physical Therapy Associates, Inc.
- Department of Pathology & Lab Medicine, University of Pennsylvania

### GRADUATE SCHOOLS

- Appalachian College of Pharmacy, Doctor of Pharmacy
- Auburn University, Master of Science in Wildlife Sciences
- Duke University, M.E.M., Ecosystem Science & Management
- George Washington University School of Public Health and Health Services, MPH in Global Health Epidemiology
- George Washington University, Master's degree in Systems Engineering
- Shenandoah University, Physical Therapy, Division of Physical Therapy
- Syracuse University, S.I. Newhouse School of Public Communications, Master's in Advertising
- University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey, Bachelor degree in Nursing
- University of Miami, Marine Affairs and Policy
- Virginia Commonwealth University for Physical Therapy, Division of Physical Therapy, M.S. Clinical Laboratory Science, BSN- Nursing and School of Pharmacy, Doctor of Pharmacy
- Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, Doctorate of Veterinary Medicine
- Wake Forest University, Doctor of Medicine

## FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT

1. American Dental Association: [www.ada.org](http://www.ada.org)
2. American Institute of Biological Sciences: [www.aibs.org](http://www.aibs.org)
3. Association for Zoos & Aquariums: [www.aza.org/](http://www.aza.org/)
4. American Occupational Therapy Association: [www.aota.org](http://www.aota.org)
5. American Optometric Association: [www.aoa.org](http://www.aoa.org)
6. American Physical Therapy Association: [www.apta.org](http://www.apta.org)
7. American Veterinary Medical Association: [www.avma.org](http://www.avma.org)
8. Association of American Medical Colleges: [www.aamc.org](http://www.aamc.org)
9. Botanical Society of America: [www.botany.org](http://www.botany.org)
10. Institute of Environmental Sciences and Technology: [www.iest.org](http://www.iest.org)
11. National League for Nursing: [www.nln.org](http://www.nln.org)
12. The Ecological Society of America: [www.esa.org](http://www.esa.org)
13. American Academy of Physician Assistants: [www.aapa.org](http://www.aapa.org)
14. American Pharmacists Association: [www.pharmacist.com](http://www.pharmacist.com)

*\*The Office of Career Services also maintains a resource library with a variety of books and other printed material where students can access additional information about their major or field of interest. Visit us in Lee Hall, Room 308 to learn more.*

