

ASSESSMENT PLAN: MS in Biological Sciences

Date Updated: 11/1/15

PROGRAM MISSION

[CSUEB Missions, Commitments, and ILOs, 2012](#)

CSUEB Department of Biological Sciences Mission Statement

The mission of the Department of Biological Sciences is to provide students with the most current biological information possible through intensive laboratory and field experiences (needed and trained biologists contribute to society and return this knowledge to the community) (diversity of courses featuring laboratory and field) supports professional specialization in a broad spectrum of disciplines within the life sciences. The degree programs are designed for students with specific career objectives in laboratory, administrative, or field settings, and for students who may prefer graduate training or preparation for careers in health professions or teaching.

PROGRAM LEARNING OUTCOMES (PLOs)

Students graduating with a MS in Biological Sciences will be able to,

PLO 1	Demonstrate a broad and sophisticated understanding that contributes to biological concepts and principles across all levels of biological organization, from ions to ecosystems.
PLO 2	Demonstrate expertise in a specific area of biological science.
PLO 3	Independently apply the scientific method to formulate testable biological hypotheses, analyze empirical data, and synthesize the results of the analysis.
PLO 4	Clearly communicate the design and results of an observational or experimental analysis in a variety of formats, including the graduate thesis, scientific paper, scientific poster, and oral presentation.
PLO 5	Evaluate and evaluate primary scientific literature and judge the value of the information presented in relation to particular biological questions.

Year 1: 15, 16

1. Which PLO(s) to assess	/LO 2,0,1,2
2. Is it aligned to an ILO?	30
3. If yes, list ILO.	34(
4. Course name and number	Biol 561 University Thesis
5. PLO for course	Demonstrate expertise in a specific area of biological science Independently apply the scientific method to formulate testable

	Biological hypotheses, analytical empirical data, and synthesize the results of the analysis. Clearly communicate the design and results of an observational or experimental analysis in a variety of formats, including the graduate thesis, scientific paper, scientific poster, and oral presentation. Gather and evaluate primary scientific literature and manage the value of the information presented in relation to particular biological questions.
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3. If yes, list ILO.	Critical Thinking
4. Course name and number	BIOL 561 7University Thesis8
5. \$LO f!o " course	Independent& apply the scientific method to formulate testable biological hypotheses, analytical empirical data, and synthesize the results of the analysis'
% Assess student activity	Oral Defense
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3. If yes, list ILO.	Oral Communication
4. Course name and number	BIOL 561 7University Thesis8
5. \$LO f!o " course	Clearly communicate the design and results of an observational or experimental analysis in a variety of formats, including the graduate thesis, scientific paper, scientific poster, and oral presentation'
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