

## MAJOR MAP

# WHO WE ARE

The Biological Sciences program at Tennessee State University provides training in the basic biological sciences leading to the Bachelor of Science in Biology degree for pre-health professionals, for entry into life science graduate training programs, for the acquisition of entry-level positions in the job market, or for students seeking certification for secondary teaching careers.

Our program also provides graduate training leading to the Master of Science and Doctor of Philosophy degrees for students interested in higher-level studies of biological processes.

In addition, our program provides service courses that meet the general education requirements for other degree programs of the University to raise the level of understanding and interest in life science processes in the scientific and general communities.

### CAREER OUTCOMES:

- Research Assistant
- Laboratory Technician
- Environmental Consultant
- Health Educator
- Wildlife Biologist
- Forensic Science Technician
- Biomedical Sales Representative
- Teaching (at Secondary Level)

### AREAS OF STUDY:

- General Biology,
- Cellular and molecular biology
- General Biology with Teacher Certification

## What skills will students learn throughout this program?

- **Data Analysis:** Learning statistical methods and data analysis techniques to interpret experimental results.
- **Communication Skills:** Effective communication of scientific concepts through oral presentations, scientific writing, and the creation of research reports.
- **Team Collaboration:** Collaborative skills for working in research teams, engaging in group projects, and sharing responsibilities.
- **Problem-Solving:** Developing problem-solving skills to address challenges in experimental design, data interpretation, and hypothesis testing.
- **Literature Review:** Conducting literature reviews to stay updated on current research and integrate existing knowledge into their work.
- **Laboratory Safety:** Understanding and adherence to laboratory safety protocols to ensure a safe working environment.

## WHAT SKILLS ARE YOUR FUTURE EMPLOYERS LOOKING FOR?

- Laboratory Techniques
- Data Analysis and Interpretation
- Research Skills
- Critical Thinking
- Communication Skills
- Problem-Solving Abilities
- Teamwork and Collaboration
- Attention to Detail
- Adaptability and Flexibility
- Ethical Conduct

For more information, [click here](https://www.tnstate.edu/ait/)  
<https://www.tnstate.edu/ait/>



# Undergraduate Experiential Major Map: BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES



## First Year/Freshman

- Complete your Handshake Profile.
- Complete your four-year educational plan in UNIV 1000 during the fall semester.
- Focus on your studies and earn good grades.
- Visit the [Office of Student Success \(OSS\)](#) and connect with your advisor for help navigating college life and your classes. Make an appointment using the student planner app and view the OSS page for other hours and services.
- First Generation students connect with your [First Generational Specialist](#).
- Get to know professors. The best time to connect outside of class is during their office hours.
- Visit the [Academic Achievement and Retention Center](#) for access to study tips, connecting to academic coaches, tutoring, and other helpful resources.
- Attend the Career Fair (Sponsored by the [Career Development Center](#))
- Get involved - Attend organizational fairs, special/corporate events, and volunteer on and off campus.

## Sophomore & Junior

- Update your resume and remove high school activities. Have it critiqued by the [Career Development Center](#).
- Review and update LinkedIn and Handshake profiles.
- Attend the Career Fair (Sponsored by the [Career Development Center](#))
- Explore graduate school options.
- Begin preparing for GRE, LSAT, MCAT, GMAT, and other exams for graduate school admissions.
- Begin building your professional wardrobe.
- Meet with your [departmental academic advisor](#) to confirm degree progress and discuss your future academic and career goals.
- Attend institutional and departmental internship workshops.

## Senior

- Meet with your [departmental academic advisor](#) to confirm degree progress and discuss your future academic and career goals.
- Apply for [Graduate and Professional School](#) or jobs that fit your interests, skills, and career goals. Follow up on applications and keep a record of the status of each.  
*\*pay attention to due dates*
- Draft a cover letter that can be adapted for a variety of employers. Have it critiqued.
- Complete the Senior Exit Exam and First Destination Survey. ([Testing Center](#))

## Academic Success Checklist

- Book an appointment with your academic advisor for pre-registration and advising.
- Discover library resources.
- Visit the math, reading, writing, and tutoring center.
- Complete FAFSA and academic scholarship applications.

## Educational Planning Checklist

- Ask your academic advisor about High Impact Practices
- Participate in at least two High Impact Practices at TSU
- Join a student group.

## Career Development Checklist

- Create your HandShake Profile.
- Visit [What Can I Do With This Major](#)
- Attend the career fair to expand your network.
- Attend Academic Department workshops and seminars.
- Visit the [Academic Pathways & Partnerships](#)

### Think

Engaging in critical thinking and inquiry inside the classroom.

### Work

Pursue experiences that will allow you to grow as a leader and professional.

### Serve

Explore opportunities to contribute to the broader community and global marketplace.