why you belong here
Are you fascinated with living organisms big and small? Do you seek to better understand and improve the relationships between biological systems and living creatures around the globe? If so, then you belong in our program.

At Chatham University, the study of biology spans the spectrum from unlocking the secrets of the gene at the molecular level to providing the knowledge to help solve global environmental problems.

Here, you will be exposed to all major facets of biology in preparation for immediate employment or for further study in graduate and professional schools, medical school, veterinary school, and many other health-related professions.

what you can expect
As a biology student at Chatham University, most of your classes will be small, and taught by faculty with doctoral degrees in their fields. As a senior, you will participate in a capstone seminar that integrates the knowledge that you’ve accumulated, and allows you to channel it into a project under close faculty guidance. Many of our students have presented their work at conferences, or had their work published in journals.

Chatham offers tracks tailored to different fields of interest. The cell and molecular biology concentration is appropriate for a career in research or medicine. The human biology concentration includes all of prerequisite courses for our Master of Physician Assistant Studies program, and is well suited to careers in a variety of health professions. The ecology and environmental science concentration prepares you for a wide array of career choices including working with government and nonprofit agencies. You can also design your own concentration.
what you will learn
Along with such fundamental skills as writing papers and lab reports, presenting oral reports individually and in groups, thinking critically about texts, and becoming information literate, you will also learn how to function safely and knowledgeably in a laboratory setting. You will be instructed on how to use microscopes, balances, and other basic equipment, including modern instrumentation and computers, to perform effective laboratory work. As a student at Chatham, your knowledge of biology is expected to extend to its connections with chemistry, computing, mathematics and statistics, and should enable you to use scientific methods of high ethical standards in designing and executing your research procedures.

where it will take you
Explore the many facets of biology and acquire firsthand work experience through an internship at institutions and organizations, such as UPMC Rehabilitation Institute, Frick Park Nature Center, University of Pittsburgh Cancer Institute, University of Pittsburgh School of Dental Medicine, Carnegie Museum of Natural History, or The Pittsburgh Zoo.

If you want to teach, you can receive secondary education certification through Chatham’s Integrated Degree Program, which enables you to obtain two degrees in as little as five years. You might also consider applying to Chatham’s accelerated-degree partnership with the University of Pittsburgh’s Graduate School of Public Health.

learn more
Read faculty bios and requirements for B.S. and B.A. degrees in biology at chatham.edu/biology.

“I encourage global and environmental awareness by exploring how cultural, socio-political, and environmental factors influence contemporary issues in countries throughout the world, all while encouraging students to take the initiative to understand their interests and learning styles and to embrace a lifelong commitment to learning.”

— Sherie Edenborn, Ph.D., assistant professor of microbiology

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