Molecular Biology

Faculty
Greg L. Harris, Ph.D., Professor of Biology, Director of the Molecular Biology Institute
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Richard M. Cripps, Ph.D., Professor of Biology
Robert A. Edwards, Ph.D., Professor of Biology
Christopher C. Giembiotski, Ph.D., Albert W. Johnson Distinguished Professor of Biology
Tom Huxford, Ph.D., Professor of Chemistry and Biochemistry
Scott T. Kelley, Ph.D., Professor of Biology (Graduate Adviser, Molecular Biology, M.S. Program)
Stanley R. Maloy, Ph.D., Professor of Biology and Associate Vice President for Research and Innovation in Graduate and Research Affairs
Kathleen L. McGuire, Ph.D., Professor of Biology
Penelope J.E. Uyen, Ph.D., Professor of Public Health
Forest L. Rohwer, Ph.D., Professor of Biology
Anca Mara Segall, Ph.D., Professor of Biology
Mark A. Sussman, Ph.D., Albert W. Johnson Distinguished Professor of Biology
Elizabeth R. Waters, Ph.D., Professor of Biology
Roland Wolokowicz, Ph.D., Professor of Biology
Robert W. Zeller, Ph.D., Professor of Biology, Chair of Department
Ralph Feuer, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Biology
Marina Kalyuzhnaya, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Biology
John J. Love, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Chemistry and Biochemistry
Manal A. Swairjo, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Chemistry and Biochemistry
Peter van der Geer, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Chemistry and Biochemistry
Ricardo M. Zayas, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Biology (Graduate Adviser, Cell and Molecular Biology Ph.D. Program)
Carrie D. House, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Biology
Robert J. Luallen, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Biology
Dwayne R. Roach, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Biology
Nicholas J. Shikuma, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Biology
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Adjunct Faculty
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Alex Burgin, Ph.D., Emerald Biostructures
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Karen Cingerman, D.V.M., The Scripps Research Institute
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Mirko Volkers, M.D., San Diego State University
Gregor Zlokarnik, Ph.D., Vertex Pharmaceuticals

General Information
The Molecular Biology Institute (MBI) administers the Master of Arts and Master of Science degrees in biology with a concentration in molecular biology. The MBI is currently composed of members from the Departments of Biology, Chemistry and Biochemistry, and the School of Public Health, and is designed to serve these departments in the coordination, support, and enhancement of research and training in the molecular biological sciences. See Biology in this section of the bulletin for information on how to apply.

Graduate teaching associateships in biology and chemistry are available to qualified students. Application blanks and additional information may be obtained from the graduate coordinator of biology and are also available at http://www.bio.sdsu.edu.

Admission to Graduate Study
Candidates for admission may come from a variety of disciplines in the biological and physical sciences. Ultimately, the research programs of individuals wishing to pursue master’s degree work in molecular biology will be carried out under the supervision of MBI members.

In addition to the general requirements for admission to the university with classified graduate standing as described in Part Two of this bulletin, a student must satisfy the following admission requirements before being recommended for admission.

1. Possess a bachelor’s degree with a major in a biological or physical science equivalent to that offered at San Diego State University.
2. Have a grade point average of 2.85 or better in work taken for the baccalaureate degree.
4. Supply two letters of reference that describe the applicant’s potential for graduate work.

Students who do not meet all of the above requirements for admission may be admitted with conditionally classified graduate standing upon the recommendation of the MBI faculty. Students so admitted will be advised as to the nature of their deficiency and the time allowed to achieve full classified graduate standing.

Advancement to Candidacy
All students must satisfy the general requirements for advancement to candidacy, including the foreign language requirement for the master of arts degree, as stated in Part Four of this bulletin. Satisfactory progress on the thesis research will be prerequisite to obtaining departmental approval for advancement.

Specific Requirements for the Master of Arts or Master of Science Degree
(Major Code: 04161) (SIMS Code: M.A. 771459; M.S. 771458)

In addition to meeting the requirements for classified graduate standing and the basic requirements for the master’s degree as described in Part Four of this bulletin, the student must complete a graduate program of 30 units of 500-level and above courses selected, with the approval of the MBI graduate adviser. A list of suggested courses is presented on the following page. All students entering the Master of Science program in molecular biology will be required to take an advanced course in molecular biology. At least 15 units of the courses selected must be in 600- and 700-numbered courses including 799A, Thesis. The student must complete at least three units of Molecular Biology 601 and six units of Molecular Biology 610. With the approval of the graduate adviser of molecular biology, a student may substitute for Molecular Biology 610 another 600- or 700-numbered course. A final oral examination on the thesis will be administered by the thesis committee.
Courses Acceptable for the Concentration in Molecular Biology (M BIO)

Refer to Courses and Curricula and Regulations of the Division of Graduate Affairs sections of this bulletin for explanation of the course numbering system, unit or credit hour, prerequisites, and related information.

UPPER DIVISION COURSES

Biology (BIOL)

BIOL 510 Molecular Evolution .................................................. 3
BIOL 549 Microbial Genetics and Physiology ......................... 3
BIOL 554 Molecular Virology .................................................. 3
BIOL 556 Scanning Electron Microscopy Laboratory ................. 2
BIOL 557 Transmission Electron Microscopy Laboratory .......... 3
BIOL 567 Advanced Biochemistry, Cellular, and Molecular Biology .................................................. 4
BIOL 567L Biochemistry, Cellular, and Molecular Biology Laboratory II ........................................... 2
BIOL 568/ BIOMI 568 Bioinformatics ............................................. 3
BIOL 570 Neurobiology .......................................................... 3
BIOL 575 Molecular Basis of Heart Disease ............................... 3
BIOL 576 Developmental Biology ............................................. 3
BIOL 584 Medical Microbiology ................................................. 3
BIOL 585 Cellular and Molecular Immunology .......................... 3
BIOL 589 Stem Cell and Regenerative Biology ............................ 3
BIOL 590 Physiology of Human Systems .................................... 4
BIOL 596 Special Topics in Biology ........................................... 1-4
BIOL 597A Univariate Statistical Methods in Biology ................. 3

Chemistry (CHEM)

CHEM 510 Advanced Physical Chemistry ..................................... 3
CHEM 550 Instrumental Methods of Chemical Analysis ................... 2
CHEM 560 General Biochemistry ................................................. 3
CHEM 562 Intermediary Metabolism ............................................. 2
CHEM 563 Nucleic Acid Function and Protein Synthesis ............... 2
CHEM 564 Receptor Biochemistry and Protein Modification ........... 2
CHEM 567 Biochemistry Laboratory ............................................. 3
CHEM 596 Advanced Special Topics in Chemistry ..................... 1-3

GRADUATE COURSES

Biology (BIOL)

BIOL 600 Seminar ................................................................. 1-3
BIOL 696 Advanced Topics in Biology ......................................... 1-3
BIOL 797 Research ............................................................... 1-3 (Cr/NC/RP)
BIOL 798 Special Study .......................................................... 1-3 (Cr/NC/RP)

Chemistry (CHEM)

CHEM 712 Chemical Kinetics .................................................... 3
CHEM 751 Separations Science .................................................... 3
CHEM 763 Cellular Regulation .................................................... 2
CHEM 790 Seminar ................................................................. 1-3
CHEM 791 Research Seminar ..................................................... 1
CHEM 792 Bibliography ............................................................... 1
CHEM 797 Research ............................................................... 1-3 (Cr/NC/RP)
CHEM 798 Special Study .......................................................... 1-3 (Cr/NC/RP)

M BIO 600. Seminar in Molecular Biology (1-3)
Prerequisite: Consent of instructor.
Evaluation of current literature in molecular biology. May be repeated with new content. Maximum credit six units applicable to a master’s degree.

M BIO 601. Colloquium in Molecular Biology Research (1) Cr/NC/RP
Recent research advances in selected areas of modern molecular biology presented by faculty of the Molecular Biology Institute and established outside investigators. May be repeated with new content. Open only to students admitted to the molecular biology program or by permission of the graduate adviser for molecular biology. Maximum credit six units, three of which are applicable to a master’s degree.

M BIO 610. Advanced Topics in Molecular and Cell Biology (1-4)
Prerequisite: Graduate standing in a life or physical science.
Intensive study in specific areas of molecular and cell biology. May be repeated with new content. See Class Schedule for specific content. Maximum credit six units applicable to a master’s degree.