The Department of Biology provides students a core foundation in the biological sciences, yet flexibility to craft a unique and individualized educational experience. The department boasts low student-to-instructor ratios that foster interactions between instructors and students, opportunities to conduct research with faculty, and a modern and well-equipped science building. In addition to a flexible major in general biology (B.S. Biology), the department offers specialized degree options tailored to different career tracks (on back). All biology degree options require students to take a similar foundational core of courses, after which different upper-level course requirements specialize each degree option.
Degree Options in Biology

B.S. Biology
The B.S. in Biology is the most versatile option for students interested in the life sciences. After completion of the core curriculum, this program allows students to choose from a large number of elective biology classes, depending on the particular interests of each student.

B.S. Biology: Pre-Health Option
The Pre-health option is designed to maximize the success of students pursuing careers in professional and allied health fields, including medicine, pharmacy, and physical therapy, among others. To plan the best path toward career goals, students are carefully advised as they progress through the program by a dedicated pre-health advisor.

B.S. Biology: Wildlife and Conservation Option
The Wildlife and Conservation option prepares students for careers in wildlife conservation and resource management, including those in academia, with state or federal agencies, and in the private sector. Students are carefully mentored toward their career goals, and are also encouraged to pursue undergraduate internships.

B.S. Biology: Marine Biology Option
The Marine Biology option prepares students for careers in marine science, including those in academia, state or federal management agencies, and private industry. Most students will take required marine science classes at The University of Southern Mississippi Gulf Coast Research Laboratory (GCRL) located in Ocean Springs, MS (GCRL website: www.usm.edu/gcrl).