Recent discoveries and new technologies are revolutionizing the biological sciences, placing increasing emphasis on integrating knowledge across all levels of organization, from molecules to ecosystems. Our programs give students both the intellectual tools and the hands-on experience they need to pursue careers in fields as diverse as conservation and endangered species; land-use management; ecotoxicology; academic, industry or government research; or health care. Learning takes place through traditional classroom instruction, innovative laboratory projects with state-of-the-art technologies, field-based courses around the world, and a strong research program in which undergraduate students of all years are intensively mentored in a research lab.

The honours program in biology allows for in-depth study in one or more biological disciplines. Students can concentrate on a particular area by choosing one of three options: Cellular and Molecular Biology, Physiology, or Ecology, Evolution and Behaviour. This route includes a compulsory independent research project to equip students with advanced research, analysis and communication skills applicable to diverse careers. Students thinking of a career in research should consider the Research Focus, an immersive research experience in the third and fourth years.

This program is offered in English and in French.

Program Requirements
The extended French stream is available with this program.

Compulsory Courses at the 1000 level
BIO 1130 Introduction to Organismal Biology 3 Units
BIO 1140 Introduction to Cell Biology 3 Units
CHM 1311 Principles of Chemistry 3 Units
CHM 1321 Organic Chemistry I 3 Units
GEO 1111 Introduction to Earth Systems 3 Units
MAT 1330 Calculus for the Life Sciences I 3 Units
MAT 1332 Calculus for the Life Sciences II 3 Units
PHY 1321 Principles of Physics I 3 Units

Compulsory Courses at the 2000 level
BCH 2333 Introduction to Biochemistry 3 Units
BIO 2129 Ecology 3 Units
BIO 2133 Genetics 3 Units
BIO 2135 Animal Form and Function 3 Units
BIO 2137 Introduction to Plant Science: Biodiversity to Biotechnology 3 Units
CHM 2120 Organic Chemistry II 3 Units
MAT 2379 Introduction to Biostatistics 3 Units

Compulsory Courses at the 3000 level
BIO 3009 Research Practicum 6 Units
BIO 3152 Cell Biology 3 Units
BIO 3170 Molecular Biology 3 Units

Compulsory Courses at the 4000 level
BIO 4009 Honours Research 9 Units
BIO 4158 Applied Biostatistics 3 Units
BIO 4920 Seminar I Evaluating Science 1.5 Units
BIO 4921 Seminar II Developing and Communicating Science 1.5 Units

Optional Courses
3 course units from: 3 Units
BIO 3151 Molecular Biology Laboratory
BIO 3152 Cell Biology Laboratory
6 course units from: 6 Units
BCH 3120 General Intermediary Metabolism
BIO 3102 Molecular Evolution
BIO 3119 Population Genetics
BIO 3124 General Microbiology
BIO 3126 General Microbiology Laboratory
BIO 3147 Developmental Biology
BIO 3360 Computational Tools for Biological Sciences
BCH 4172 Topics in Biotechnology
BIO 4115 Topics in Molecular Genetics
BIO 4140 Plant Developmental Biology
BIO 4144 Plant Biochemistry and Molecular Biology
BIO 4145 Eukaryotic Microbiology
BIO 4175 Membrane Physiology
BIO 4537 Génétique évolutive humaine
BPS 3101 Genomics
BPS 4104 Bioinformatics Laboratory

9 optional course units in biology (BIO), biopharmaceutical science (BPS) or environmental science (EVS), ITI 1120, BCH 3120, BCH 3125, BCH 3356, BCH 4122, BCH 4125, BCH 4188

3 optional course units in biology (BIO), biopharmaceutical science (BPS) or environmental science (EVS) at the 3000 or 4000 level, BCH 3120, BCH 3125, BCH 3356, BCH 4122, BCH 4125, BCH 4188

9 elective course units offered by the Faculty of Arts, the Faculty of Education, the Faculty of Law, the Faculty of Social Sciences or the Telfer School of Management

Elective Courses
15 elective course units 15 Units

Total: 120 Units