

RESEARCH IN BIOLOGY



As a Biology major, you are encouraged to get involved with research throughout your undergraduate career, starting in your freshman year.

Why research?

- **Graduate and Professional School:** Undergraduate researchers are more likely to move into graduate programs.
- **Academic Achievement:** Undergraduate researchers demonstrate higher achievement and are more likely to stay in school.
- **Career Goals:** Undergraduate research can help you clarify your choice of degree program, career interests, and post-graduation plans.
- **Developing mentoring relationships:** A mentor who knows you well can advise you about your undergraduate career and your next steps after graduation; s/he will also be able to write a more detailed letter of recommendation than a professor who knows you only in a classroom context.
- **Cultivating an understanding of research design and methodology:** Hands-on experience conducting original research supports students' understanding of how to design investigations, how to make appropriate methodological choices, and how to implement different techniques and methods.
- **Transferable Skills:** Undergraduate research strengthens written and oral communication, critical thinking, technical skills, and information literacy.
- **Community:** Undergraduate research provides opportunities to build a learning community with faculty and fellow students.
- **Confidence:** Undergraduate research builds confidence in your abilities within the discipline, and improves your overall perception of the discipline.

Research in the Department of Biology spans a wide range of biological fields. Some examples of fields represented in our department are:

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| • Cellular and Molecular Biology | • Plant and Animal Physiology | • Genetics |
| • Ecology and Evolutionary Biology | • Neuroscience | • Plant Ecology |
| • Animal Behavior | • Developmental Biology | • Computational Biology |
| | • Genomics | • Microbiology |

Students can also conduct research in labs in the Department of Psychology, Department of Chemistry, and various departments in the College of Medicine, as long as the research is within a field of biology.



The Office of Undergraduate Research at UK helps students get connected with researchers and provides opportunities to present their research in various forums.



UK College of Arts
and Sciences
Department of Biology