Welcome to Biology!

Welcome back, returning Biology majors! And welcome to all of you who are new to UK or to Biology! I hope the first week of classes went by as smoothly as can be expected for the first week, and that you are settling into the routine of classes.

My name is Dr. Kay Shenoy, and I am the Director of Undergraduate Studies for the Biology major. You are receiving this newsletter through a listerv of all Biology majors. You can expect a weekly newsletter every Monday (sometimes Tuesday) on events, news, opportunities, and so on, all of which is posted on our Biology Majors Canvas page. The Newsletter highlights these items in an systematic way to bring them to your attention each week, but you would still need to go to Canvas for the details. The Canvas course is the home for all information that is relevant to Biology majors.

Please check if you have access to the Biology Majors Canvas page by clicking on "Read More" below, or by going to Canvas and checking if Biology Majors is a course in your list of all courses. If you are new to Biology, you would have received an invitation to join the Canvas course—you can find the invitation on your Canvas home page or in your email. Please accept the invitation.

Also, take some time to explore the Biology Undergraduate Program website. Use the navigation panel to the left to find different topics to peruse. Importantly, please check out the details about each type of degree and the four-year curriculum map for each degree.

Competitions, Research, and Community Involvement

This is a list of competitions, awards, and opportunities for research, jobs, and community involvement available currently or coming up shortly. The details for each event are linked on the Biology Majors Canvas page. Click on "Read More" to go to the Canvas page.

- 5-Minute Fast Track Research Presentation Competition: Application opens Sept 1
- Announcement for RA position: Cognitive Neuroscience and Behavior Therapy (CnBT) research lab
- Fulbright Canada-Mitacs Globalink Research Internship: deadline September 21
- Goldwater Scholarship Information Session: September 5 @ 6 pm
- Job Opportunity: Virtual Medical Scribe
- Information about Central Kentucky Job Club
- Recruitment for College Mentors for Kids
- ForagerOne: Portal to connect students with research opportunities on campus

Also check out the Office of Undergraduate Research section on the Biology Majors Canvas page for more events.
Surveys

The Biology Undergraduate Affairs Committee and Committee for Inclusive Excellence are trying to gauge whether there is a need for bio-focused internships and job fairs. The survey has a total of 7 questions, and should take you less than 5 minutes to respond. Please consider responding to the survey. Your input will be very valuable. You can respond to the survey by clicking on "Read More".

STUDENT RESOURCES

Click on "Read More" for a list of campus resources that may be helpful to you as you navigate the stresses and difficulties college life or life in general. If you don't know where to find the help you need, you are always welcome to start with Dr. Shenoy!

Promoting Diversity, Equity, and Inclusivity

The Biology Department Committee for Inclusive Excellence aims to promote diversity, equity, and inclusion by making the Biology Department a place where all are welcome, all can contribute, and all have a chance to succeed. You can connect with the Inclusive Excellence Committee during our Zoom office hours, in the comments box in the office of TH Morgan Bldg, or by submitting comments on our website (click on "Read more" below). Through these means you can share issues, concerns, comments, or feedback about your experience in Biology with us.

Here are some events on campus that promote and/or celebrate diversity, equity, and inclusivity:

Diversity and the Law: AAAS hosted a town hall on race-conscious admissions and DEI efforts in higher education after the SCOTUS ruling in the Harvard and UNC admissions cases. A recording of the meeting can be found here.

Important Dates

- Aug 25, Friday: Last day to add a class
- Aug 27, Sunday: Last day to fully withdraw or reduce course load and receive an 80% refund for full-term courses
- Sep 04, Monday: Labor Day: Academic Holiday
- Sep 10, Sunday: Last day to drop a full-term class without it appearing on a transcript
- Sep 10, Sunday: Last day to change grading option for full-term classes (pass/fail to letter grade or letter grade to pass/fail; credit to audit or audit to credit).
- Sep 17, Sunday: Last day to fully withdraw or reduce course load and receive a 50% refund for full-term classes.
- Oct 23-24, Monday-Tuesday: Fall break: Academic Holiday
- Nov 01, Wednesday: Last day to fully withdraw or reduce course load from full-term classes. After this date students are only permitted withdraw for urgent non-academic reasons.
- Nov 01, Wednesday: Last day to apply for a December 2023 undergraduate or graduate degree in myUK.
- Nov 22-24, Wednesday-Friday: Thanksgiving Break: Academic Holiday
- Dec 04-06, Monday-Wednesday: Prep Days, classes do meet
- Dec 06, Wednesday: Last day of classes
- Dec 07-08, Thursday-Friday: Reading Days, classes do not meet
- Dec 11-14, Monday-Thursday: Final Exams
- Dec 15, Friday: Commencement ceremony for December ’23 graduates

**Biology Undergraduate Program Details**

**Director of Undergraduate Studies:** Dr. Kay Shenoy

Need to make an [advising appointment](#) with Dr. Shenoy? Click [HERE](#) to pick an appointment slot.

Questions about courses, degree, audits, etc.? [Email](mailto:biology@uky.edu)

Information on degree requirements, degree check-lists, 4-year course maps, acceptable electives, information on tracks, and all else undergraduate-related can be found here.

When emailing someone with a question about your academics, please always use your full name as in myUK and provide your UK student ID. This will help us find your information easily. Ideally, add your full name and student number to your email signature.