

Not on the Biology Majors Canvas page? Email biology@uky.edu with your name, linkblue id, and student number

Biology Majors News and Information

November 28, 2023

Opportunities and Events

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.

- [BIO-WRAP](#): Get paid to do research and earn course credit at the same time
- [ForagerOne](#): Portal to connect students with research opportunities on campus
- [NSF-funded Research Experiences](#)
- [Three New Scholarships](#) from the College of A&S
- [Secrets of the Brain: Neuroscience and Psychology for a Better Life](#): **December 1**
- [Homeland Security Professional Opportunities for Student Workforce to Experience Research 2024](#); application deadline **December 15**
- [BeeMORE: Summer Research Internship](#); application deadline **January 31**
- [Summer Research Opportunity](#); application deadline **February 2**
- [K-12 Science Teaching Jobs around the South](#): **February 3**
- [Summer REU Internship: Donald Danforth Plant Science Center](#); application deadline **February 4**
- [Apply for the Gaines Fellowship!](#); application deadline **February 5**

From the Office of Undergraduate Research

- **12/08/2023** NCUR: National Conference on Undergraduate Research: Abstract deadline
- **12/11/2023** Posters-at-the-Capitol: Abstract deadline (presentation opportunity)
- **1/16/2024** Research Expo; 11 AM - 1 PM, Gatton Student Center Social Staircase
- **4/24/2024** Showcase of Undergraduate Scholars 1 – 5 PM, Gatton Student Center Grand Ballroom

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Research Participation

Consider signing up for the following studies if you qualify.

- Recruiting Undergrad Student Participants to understand [experiences of belonging, stress, and well-being in your major](#)
- Study on [Religion and Well-Being](#)
- 1st & 2nd year students: Participate in a study about [academic advising and your student experience](#) and get paid for your time!
- Participants needed for research: [pre-med minority students](#)
- Participants needed for [mental health research](#) study: free therapy sessions offered!

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Courses to Consider

- **BIO 380-003** Bio Pics: Camera Trapping for Wildlife Survey: Spring 2024
- **BIO 380-002** Research in Evolutionary Biology: Spring 2024
- **Study Abroad in Belize:** BIO 355: Summer 2024
- **Health and Healthcare in England!** Summer 2024

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Biology Scholars

Do you have a GPA of 3.5 or above? Then, pay attention to the requirements for **Biology Scholars** when picking courses:

- Complete 6 hours of Independent Research (BIO 394, BIO 395, BIO 397, or BIO 398).
- Have an overall 3.5 GPA upon graduation.
- Complete two biology scholars courses (aka Honors courses/sections) or two 400G*, 500 or 600** level course that is an accepted Biology elective, or a combination of a BIO scholars course and a 400G/500/600 Biology elective course. Honors conversion for a Biology elective or Tier I or Tier II Core course is also acceptable.
- Publicly present your research results or write a thesis.

[Read More](#)

Graduate School

Are you interested in **Graduate or Professional School**? Here is some information that was sent out way. Click on "**Read More**" to be directed to the Canvas page; you will find the details linked there.

Application deadlines, open houses, information sessions

- Neuroscience Graduate Program at Florida Atlantic University: application deadline **December 1**
- Neuroscience Graduate Program at SUNY Upstate Medical University: application deadline **January 1**
- Ph.D. in cancer research at University of Florida: Research Showcase **January 30 through February 1**
- Master's Degree: Advanced Inquiry Program: application deadline **February 28**

Information about the following programs

- Master of Arts in STEM Teaching at UK
- MS in Forensic Toxicology at UK
- Ecological Sciences and Engineering (ESE) Interdisciplinary Program at Purdue University
- Online Masters' Degree Program in the Biotechnology of Climate Change
- University of Chicago: contact program for deadline

[Read More](#)

Graduating in December?

Graduation is NOT the same as Commencement. Graduation is earning the degree; Commencement is the ceremony to celebrate graduates. Make sure to also register for Commencement. Click on "**Read More**" for details.

[Read More](#)

Thursday Seminar

Every Thursday, the Department of Biology hosts a seminar presented by a visiting (sometimes resident) scientist. These are great opportunities to learn about the latest science in a wide variety of biological fields. Undergraduate students are welcome, and strongly encouraged, to attend. It will definitely enhance your education and give you a glimpse into all that is possible in the field of biology.

This Thursday: "LEVERAGING ANIMAL BEHAVIORAL INTERACTIONS TO LEARN ABOUT COGNITION & SOCIAL DYNAMICS"; DR. ELIZABETH HOBSON from UNIVERSITY OF CINCINNATI. Click on "Read More" to learn about Dr. Adler's research.

Location: **THM (BS) 116**

Day of the week: every **Thursday**

Time: Starts at **3:30 PM**, and goes on until 4:30 pm.

WHY ATTEND SEMINARS?

- Learn about the most recent research
- Discover new areas of biology
- Stimulate your interest in research
- Exposure to academic presentations
- Learn how to give a professional talk

You may not understand everything, but that's fine (sometimes, faculty also don't always understand everything in a seminar). Don't let that intimidate you. Even if you understand a fraction of the presentation, it is worth it. The more seminars you attend, the more comfortable you will get.

Or just come for the coffee and cookies, and you may be surprised by how interesting the seminar is!

[Read More](#)

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.

[Read More](#)

Ribble Scholars

The Biology Department encourages research activity by awarding the **Gertrude Flora Ribble Research Scholarships** to Biology majors engaged in research. Click on "**Read More**" to learn more about the scholarship.

The Spring '23-Fall '23 Ribble Scholars are:

- **Faris Allahham** in [Dr. Vincent Cassone's lab](#) studied the expression of aromatase in zebra-finch brains to find the connection aromatase expression and the circadian rhythm of the organism.
- **Elizabeth Elliott** in [Dr. Robin Cooper's lab](#) studied the effects of zinc on physiological processes in *Drosophila* and crawfish.
- **Alan Luc** in [Dr. Eve Schneider's lab](#) studied tactile acuity and its relationship with the number of mechanosensitive neurons in the trigeminal ganglia in multiple duck species.
- **Nathan Maggard** in [Dr. Beth Duncan's lab](#) studied genes that trigger planarian tissue regeneration after wound healing.

The Fall '23-Spring '24 Ribble Scholars are (contingent upon their completion of two semesters of research):

- **Carter Ahlfeld** in [Dr. Jakub Famulski's lab](#) is studying the interactions between the retinal pigmented epithelium and the photoreceptor region of the vertebrate eye.
- **Cole Milas** in [Dr. Beth Duncan's lab](#) is studying the effects of certain tumor suppressor genes in planarians to induce cancer-like growth.
- **Kimberly Turner** in [Dr. Chintan Kikani's lab](#) is creating an effective staining protocol to detect protein expression in injured stem cells.

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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 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:

- **ABRCMS ePoster Spring Symposium:** The Annual Biomedical Research Conference for Minoritized Scientists (ABRCMS) invites high school, community college, and first-year undergraduate students to apply for this unique opportunity to enhance their scientific skills by sharing their research in this virtual poster session in April 2024. For more information see [here](#).
- **Facing racism in science, 'I decided to prove them wrong':** First generation scientist and immunologist Dr. Dequina Nicholas shares why mentorship is crucial for first generation scientists. See [here](#).

[Read More](#)

Important Dates

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

[Read More](#)

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:** 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.

[Read More](#)

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.