

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

Biology Majors News and Information

December 5, 2023

December Commencement

Students in A&S will graduate at the **3 pm** ceremony on **Friday December 15th** at **Rupp Arena**. Read about it [HERE](#)

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](#)

Courses to Consider

- **BIO 380-003 Bio Pics: Camera Trapping for Wildlife Survey:** Spring 2024
- **BIO 380-002 Research in Evolutionary Biology:** Spring 2024
- **BIO 580 Data Wrangling in R:** Spring 2024
- **BIO 355 Study Abroad in Belize:** Summer 2024
- **Health and Healthcare in England!** Summer 2024

[Read More](#)

Opportunities and Events

Congratulations!

Congrats to **Caroline Youdes** and **Riley Droppleman** for winning awards at the 59th annual **Oswald Research and Creativity Competition**. Click [here](#) for more information.

Below 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.

- [ForagerOne](#): Portal to connect students with research opportunities on campus
- [NSF-funded Research Experiences](#)
- Three New [Scholarships](#) from the College of A&S
- Career in [Genetic Counseling](#)
- [Aperture: University of Kentucky's Journal of Undergraduate Research](#); Information session **December 6**
- [Step-Up Fellowship](#); application deadline **December 8**
- [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

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!

[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 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](#)

Final Exams

Make sure to check when and where the final exam for your classes will be held. Most exams will follow the **Registrar's final exam schedule** (see "**Read More**"). If your course has **common hour exams**, the Registrar's final exam page has the dates and times for common hour exams as well.

If you have **more than two final exams on the same day** (i.e. 3 or more final exams on one day), you may request to reschedule the exam for the course that has the higher catalog number; if both courses have the same catalog number, then the one whose departmental prefix is first alphabetically will be rescheduled.

[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: "CELLS AND MOLECULES FOR TOUCH, PAIN AND INTEROCEPTION"; DR. ALEXANDER CHESLER from the NIH national Center for Complementary and Integrative Health (NCCIH) Intramural Pain Program. Click on "**Read More**" to learn about Dr. Chesler'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](#)

Plant of the Week

Each week, an interesting plant is placed in the lobby of TH Morgan Building, outside room 107. There is always some interesting biology about the plant posted next to it. Take a minute to read about it. It is sure to inspire you to discover and wonder at the marvels of life!

This weeks plant is ***Gasteria batesiana*, or wart-leaf gasteria or cow tongue**. The next time you are in the TH Morgan building, touch the surface of the leaves to learn why it received the name "cow tongue". Then go and touch a cow's tongue to make the connection!!! Jokes aside, see one of the many ways in which plants evolve defense mechanisms against herbivory.

[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](#)

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 their [website](#). Through these means you can share issues, concerns, comments, or feedback about your experience in Biology with us.

Three new A&S scholarships geared toward Inclusive Excellence

- [The Finish Line Fund](#): The College of Arts & Sciences' Finish Line scholarship is awarded to students with unmet financial needs and who have demonstrated potential to successfully complete a degree program within the College. This may include maintaining a certain GPA, meeting academic milestones, or other criteria that show they are on track to graduate. **The goal of this scholarship is to help students with a financial hurdle cross "the finish line" to graduation.**
- [First Generation Trailblazers Fund](#): The College of Arts & Sciences is proud of the First Generation Trailblazers in our college. **This scholarship is for students who are the first member of their immediate family to attend college.**
- [Workforce Ready Wildcats Fund](#): The College of Arts & Sciences established the Workforce Ready Wildcats Fund to provide support for career preparation for undergraduate students in the College, including (but not limited to) **support for internships, career services, professional development opportunities, mentorship activities, and hands-on learning experiences.**

For questions, please contact Melissa Miller at melissamiller@uky.edu.

[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

Winter Intercession 2023: Dec 18-Jan 5:

- Dec 17, Sunday: Deadline to drop a Winter '23 class and receive 100% refund
- Dec 18, MONDAY: Winter '23 classes begin
- Dec 20, Wednesday: Deadline to add a Winter '23 class; Deadline to drop a Winter '23 class and receive 80% refund
- Dec 22, Friday: Deadline to drop a Winter '23 class for no "W" grade; deadline to change grade type for a Winter '23 class
- Dec 23, Saturday: Deadline to drop a Winter '23 class and receive 50% refund

Spring 2024

- Jan 7, Sunday: Deadline to drop a Spring '24 class and receive 100% refund
- Jan 8, MONDAY: Classes begin for Spring '24
- Jan 12, Friday: Deadline to add a class
- Jan 14, Sunday: Deadline to drop a Spring '24 class and receive 80% refund

[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.