William Paterson University
Career Development and Gloria S. Williams Advisement Center

“Equipped with his five senses, man explores the universe around him and calls the adventure Science.” —Edwin Powell Hubble

CAREERS IN….

Quite simply, biology is the science of life. Under the biology umbrella are life-related topics such as zoology, botany, genetics, biotechnology, evolution, structures of organisms, processes that organisms undergo to sustain life, reproduction, classification of organisms, and more. Biologists make observations about life, evaluate these observations, and solve problems. Through their studies, biologists use discoveries to aid in awareness of life, and find new ways to protect life against dangers. Graduates with bachelor’s degrees in biology often start out as technicians in the field. With further education, it is possible to teach, become a doctor, or advance in an area of specialty.

The 33-39 credit Bachelor of Science in Biology program at William Paterson University is housed in the College of Science and Health. Aside from the required core courses, biology majors may choose to have a concentration in Biology, Ecology, or Physiology and Behavior. In addition to the courses in the major, students have 32 credits of co-requirements, including coursework in Physics, Chemistry, and Organic Chemistry, Calculus and Statistics. Core courses include General Biology, General Genetics, Ecology, Evolution & Behavior, and Biology Seminar.

WPUNJ Biology: http://www.wpunj.edu/cosh/departments/biology/

WPUNJ Admissions: http://www.wpunj.edu/admissions/undergraduate/academic-programs/programs_detail.dot?id=124229

Interests & Skills:
* Curiosity and creativity
* Good communication skills
* Analytical and quantitative skills
* Efficiency
* Technical skills
* Computer literacy
* Numerical computation skills
* Ability to analyze and interpret data
* Ability to understand biological theories
* Being able to work both in a team and independently
* Ability to organize large quantities of information

Work Environment:
People working within the field of biology have a number of options in terms of work environment. Biology professionals may choose to work in laboratories, as teachers in schools and universities (with certification in most schools), in a research facility, doing genetic counseling, in hospital and public health facilities, for food/chemical/pharmaceutical/cosmetic companies, in manufacturing companies, environmental agencies, botanical gardens, zoos and aquariums, museums, the Department of Agriculture and Interior, conservation agencies, veterinary hospitals, and more. Some job titles may require further education beyond a bachelor’s degree.

Possible job titles:
* Agronomist
* Aquaculture Farmer
* Naval Architect
* Barrier Beach Manager
* Paramedic
* Botanist
* Pharmacy Technician
* Coroner
* Underwater Technician
* Animal Scientist
* Mycologist
* Aquatic Biologist
* Oceanographer
* Biochemist
* Ecologist
* Commercial Fishing Engineer
* Technical Writer
* Dietician & Nutritionist
* Mortician
* Aquarium & Museum Worker
* Neurobiologist
* Bio-Engineer
* Parasitologist
* Chiropractor
* Science Laboratory Technician
* Dentist
* Science/Biology Teacher
* Environmental Engineer
* Public Health Worker
* Fish Hatchery Technician
* Wildlife Biologist
* Forester
* Physician
* Health Officer
* Systems Analyst
* Hydrographic Survey Tech
* Wildlife Resources Worker
* Marine Geologist
* Medical Librarian
* Molecular Biologist
* Physical Therapist
* Ergonomist
* Veterinarian
* Food Scientist- Technologist
* Pharmaceutical Salesperson
* Geographer
* Soil Conservationist
* Hospital Administrator
* Water Quality Technician
* Industrial Marine Economist
* Medical Illustrator
* Meteorologist
* Environmental Protection Worker
* State Parks & Recreation Worker
* Florist
* Zoologist
* Genetic Engineering Research
* Science Writer/Illustrator
* Horticulturist
* Toxicologist
* Industrial Hygienist
* Marine Biologist
* Medical Laboratory Tech
* Microbiologist

WPUNJ Alumni:

Microbiologist
President
Programmer/Systems Analyst
Safety Engineer
Eye Surgeon
Laboratory Technologist
Office Manager
Scientist
Middle & High School Teachers (many)
Business Associate
Technical Sales Rep
Technician
Health Advocate
Lab Technician
Lab Assistant (Biomedical Implants)

Bunge Food Corporation
Medical Lab of Northwest New Jersey
Aon Corporation
US Govt-Safety Dept.
RestorVision LTD.
Idexx Veterinary Services
Rickard Rehabilitation Service
Roche Molecular Services
Local New Jersey districts
Valley Hospital
Genevac
Mary Paul Laboratory
Americorps VISTA
Unilever
Collagen Matrix

Enhance Your Qualifications:
Successful students tend to seek out opportunities to enhance their qualifications through a variety of means. Within biology, some suggestions may include getting involved in research initiatives outside class, conducting an independent study for credit, joining or becoming a leader in career-related campus organizations, such as the New Jersey Water Watch and Natural Sciences Club; joining a professional biology association; learning computer skills; reading scientific journals; gaining practical experience through an internship/practicum/job shadowing; looking into the possibility of graduate school; and attending networking functions.

Related Web Sites:
Science Jobs
Biology Jobs
The American Institute of Biological Sciences
The Company of Biologists Ltd
Industry News
Occupational Outlook
Industry Information
Job Search and Salary information
Occupation Information

www.sciencejobs.com
www.BiologyJobs.com
www.aibs.org
www.biologists.com
www.biospace.com
www.bls.gov/oco/
www.vault.com
www.rileyguide.com
online.onetcenter.org

Other sources:
Please drop by the Career Development and Advisement Center to learn more about careers in accounting. The career library carries career-specific books and counselors are available to answer any further questions you may have. Visiting the department of Biology department on campus may also prove valuable.

Compliments of:
The Career Development and Gloria S. Williams Advisement Center
http://www.wpunj.edu/career/
973-720-2281/2653/2559

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