

## BIOLOGY MINOR

### 2007-09 Cal Poly Catalog

Biological Sciences Department  
Fisher Science Hall (33), Room 273  
(805) 756-2788

The purpose of the minor is to help students from other disciplines acquire increased factual and conceptual knowledge in biology, an increased understanding of scientific methods and techniques used to study biology, and an increased ability to analyze biological topics in the news or in various jobs. Biological issues are important throughout modern life and particularly relevant in many careers, including those in health-related businesses, agriculture, several engineering disciplines, city planning, teaching K-12 students, journalism, political science, psychology, and statistics. Students in more closely related majors such as biochemistry or kinesiology may also be interested in strengthening their biology background. In addition, an enhanced biology background helps students become better educated citizens regarding a variety of controversial issues (e.g., genetically-modified organisms in agriculture, human cloning, genetic discrimination, the pressures of population growth). Students may choose courses in environmental biology or in human biology and biotechnology, or may choose to take courses in several areas.

#### **Required Courses.** *Units*

Choose 1 of the following combinations of courses 12-13

BIO 160 Diversity and the History of Life (4)

BIO 161 Introduction to Cell and Molecular  
Biology (4) (B2&B4)

BIO 162 Intro to Organismal Form and Function  
(5) *or* BIO 263 Intro Ecology and Evolution (4)

*OR*

BIO 113 Animal Diversity and Ecology (4)  
(B2&B4)

BIO 114 Plant Diversity and Ecology (4) (B2&  
B4) *or* BOT 121 General Botany (4) (B2&B4)

BIO 115 Animal/Human Structure and Function  
(4) *or* BIO 111 General Biology (4) (B2&B4)  
*or* MCRO 221 Microbiology (4) (B2&B4)

The first combination (BIO 160, BIO 161, BIO 162 or BIO 263) is recommended and provides the prerequisites for many courses offered in the department. Other introductory courses may be substituted with approval by the Biology Minor Coordinator.

#### **Advisor Approved Electives**..... 15-16

*Students must obtain prior approval from the  
Biology Minor Coordinator.*

Choose a minimum of 15-16 units from 300-400 level courses in BIO, BOT, MCRO or ZOO to create a cohesive set of courses that reflect a particular focus in biology, for a total of at least 28 units. Suggested combinations of courses in particular areas of biology are available in the department.