

GENETICS – B.S.

About the Degree:

The Department of Genetics provides a supportive and unique environment for students to understand the full spectrum of molecular, evolutionary and population genetics. Our major prepares students for careers in biomedical fields, as well as teaching, academic research, and the pharmaceutical and biotechnology industry. And, our students are competitive for admission to the top medical and professional schools and graduate programs in the country.

Interesting Facts:

There are only a few universities in the country that offer a bachelor's degree in genetics. Six of the last 21 UGA students to win the Barry M. Goldwater scholarship, the most prestigious undergraduate science honor in the country, have been Genetics majors. About 75% of our majors go on to graduate or professional schools.

What you will learn:

After taking introductory courses in genetics and evolutionary biology, majors may choose from a variety of upper level Genetics courses. Depending on the interests and career goals of a particular student, our majors can also satisfy requirements for major electives by taking upper level courses in other departments. In addition to lecture courses, majors can choose from several different laboratory courses, which focus on molecular genetics, evolutionary genetics, or genomics. The Department strongly encourages undergraduates to pursue independent research with one of our faculty. In addition to the high value placed on research by medical and graduate school admissions committees, an undergraduate research experience serves to consolidate all your Genetics training into a single keystone experience.

Curriculum & Course Descriptions:

<https://bulletin.uga.edu/Program/Details/83049?IDc=ARTS>

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Research

Genomics and Bioinformatics

Evolutionary Biology

Eukaryotic Molecular Genetics

Evolutionary Ecology

Developmental Biology
Biotechnology
Molecular Evolution
Prokaryotic Molecular Genetics

<https://www.genetics.uga.edu/undergraduate-research-opportunities>

OUTSIDE THE CLASSROOM

Student Organizations

Genetic Education Network and Experience Society

<https://uga.campuslabs.com/engage/organization/genes>

Careers

You can find information about careers in genetics and genomics, including educational requirements and median salary, at www.genome.gov/genomicCareers/.

Salaries*

Title	Low	High	Median
Sequencing center technician	\$24,530	\$62,260	\$38,400
Biology teacher (secondary school)	\$34,280	\$80,970	\$65,080
Botanist	\$34,620	\$105,340	\$58,390
Molecular geneticist	\$35,620	\$101,030	\$65,080
Bacterial geneticist/genomicist	\$35,620	\$101,030	\$65,080
Bioinformatician	\$35,620	\$101,030	\$65,080
Policy maker/analyst	\$40,244	\$105,124	\$74,675
Cytogenetic technologist	\$45,000	\$60,000	\$52,000
Science writer	\$61,659	\$84,041	\$73,000

Employers*

The University of Georgia
University of Cincinnati
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
Omni International
Saint Jude Children's Hospital

Possible Job Titles **

Biotechnologist

Botanist

Clinical Geneticist

Clinical Research Coordinator

Crime Lab Analyst

Embryologist

Field Study Coordinator

Forensic Scientist

Food and Drug Inspector

Genetics Counselor

Geneticist

Genetics Laboratory Supervisor

Laboratory Geneticist

Medical Equipment Sales Rep.

Medical Investigator

Medical Doctor/Nurse

Medical/Science Librarian

Medical/Science Writer-Editor

Microbiologist

Nuclear Medicine Specialist

Plant Geneticist

Public Health Specialist

Parasitologist

Pharmaceutical Sales Rep.

Physician Asst.

Public Health Specialist

Research Immunologist

Research Geneticist

Toxicologist

Zoologist