

The Biology Department at St. Ambrose provides the academic rigor you seek and the support to reach, and exceed, your goals. Our faculty have high expectations and want all Biology students to think like scientists. We incorporate the scientific method into our courses so you develop critical thinking skills and the confidence to push boundaries and contribute.

Our biology programs are well-established, highly challenging and focused on your goals. Our pre-health professions concentration provides you with the coursework, knowledge and skills required by highly sought-after research and medical professional programs.

Our new major in biomedical laboratory science prepares you to work in a clinical laboratory. You will learn how to analyze and interpret medical tests used to diagnose and treat disease, and complete a hands-on, site-intensive clinical laboratory practicum.

Ambrose Advantage

Big expectations. We focus on student-driven, inquiry-based laboratory experiments; in fact, it is what sets us apart. In each biology lab course, you will design and implement an experiment, analyze the data, and present your findings in a written lab report and oral presentation. This integrated educational experience builds deep critical thinking and communication skills.

Inquiry in Action. First-year students can join our field biology learning community: Inquiry in Action. Your lab will be Nahant Marsh, one of the few remaining urban wetlands along the Mississippi River.

A strong foundation. Our anatomy and physiology courses use cadaver dissection-based labs; we are one of the few universities in Iowa to offer this experience.

Individual advising. Your academic advisor will be a Biology faculty member, ensuring you get individual attention and the best academic preparation for health- or research-related graduate programs or employment.

Close interaction. We keep classes and labs small so faculty can support your goals and professional aspirations. In turn, that relationship leads to strong, and more personalized, letters of recommendation for graduate school programs.

Career Opportunities

Qualified biologists have many career options, including **research and development; healthcare in human or veterinary medicine, physician assistant, physical therapy, dentistry, pharmacy, optometry.** Biologists work in research, teaching and outreach for



colleges and universities, government, zoos and aquariums, national and state parks, conservation agencies, museums and schools.

Most medical laboratory scientists work in a hospital setting, or in diagnostic laboratories, physicians' offices, and outpatient care centers.

Career Outlook

- > Biology graduates who venture into medical fields will enjoy an expanding job market. The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics predicts the number of jobs for physician assistants will grow by 38 percent, and jobs for physicians and surgeons by 18 percent, by 2022. More than half of the 20 fastest growing career fields are related to healthcare.
- > According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, there is a need for nearly 20,000 medical and clinical laboratory technologists to enter the field through 2026.
- > The median salary for a veterinarian is \$84,000 and the number of jobs will likely grow by 12 percent.

- > Dentist, pharmacist, and physician are ranked within the top 10 careers according to U.S. World & News Report list of the 100 Best Jobs of 2014.

Alumni Success Stories

- > Meghan Ward, graduated from University of Illinois College of Veterinary Medicine in 2014, currently employed as a DVM at Countryside Veterinary Service.
- > Jennifer (Rushton) Cassatt, graduated from SAU Masters of Physician Assistant Studies in 2018, currently employed as a PA-C at Genesis Pulmonary and Sleep Medicine in Silvis, Illinois.
- > Ryan Taylor earned his DO degree from Des Moines University in 2013, currently employed as a physician at Genesis Spine and Joint Health Center in Bettendorf, Iowa.

Many SAU Biology alumni have continued their studies in our graduate programs: Physical Therapy, Occupational Therapy, Speech-Language Pathology, and Physician Assistant Studies. Our alumni also have attended graduate programs in:

- > Dentistry: Southern Illinois University, AT Still University, University of Iowa
- > Medical (MD and DO programs): University of Iowa, University of Illinois at Chicago, University of Colorado School of Medicine, Kansas City University of Medicine and Biosciences
- > Master of Science: University of Nebraska—Omaha, Georgia Southern University, University of Wisconsin at Madison
- > Optometry: Illinois College of Optometry, Southern College of Optometry
- > Pharmacy: University of Iowa
- > PhD programs: Iowa State University, Vanderbilt University, Ohio State University, University of Illinois, University of Iowa, Virginia Commonwealth University
- > Veterinary: University of Illinois, Iowa State University

Where Some of Our Graduates Work

A few of the organizations that have employed St. Ambrose biology graduates directly after graduation:

- > Davenport Police Department, lead crime scene technician
- > Group O, director of corporate safety
- > MedTox Laboratories, clinical chromatography technician
- > Pioneer Hi-Bred International, research associate
- > QC Plasma Center, training and development coordinator

Your Career: Networking, Internships, Clinical Placements and Jobs in the Quad Cities

The Quad Cities is a welcoming, diverse and fun place. And, it is a great community to prepare for, or even start, your career. The region is a leader in healthcare and provides a variety of opportunities for science and health science graduates.

With several major hospitals and healthcare providers, you have a range of clinical placement options. Biologists and other natural science graduates play key roles in local institutions like the Putnam Museum of Science and History, the Quad City Botanical Center, and in waterway initiatives along the Mississippi River.

Get in Touch With Us Today

Visit St. Ambrose to learn more about your opportunities. Our quality academic programs are one of the best private education values in the Midwest. Check it out for yourself: contact our Admissions Office at 563-333-6300 or email admit@sau.edu, or go online to www.sau.edu.

St. Ambrose University offers a Bachelor of Science in Biology and a Bachelor of Science in Biomedical Laboratory Science degrees. We offer a minor in Biology, too. For complete curriculum information and course descriptions, consult the Course Catalog at www.sau.edu/catalog.