

## **BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES FROSH INFORMATION 2009**

Welcome to the Biological Sciences at UC Santa Cruz. Our majors emphasize a strong foundation in the basic sciences and mathematics as well as offering a broad spectrum of courses that reflect the exciting new developments and directions in the field of biology. The intellectual rigor of these programs ensures that our students are well prepared for further studies in graduate and professional schools as well as for employment in scientific fields.

The Biological Sciences are composed of two different academic departments. The Molecular, Cell and Developmental Biology Department sponsors the **Biology, Health Science, Molecular, Cell and Developmental Biology, and the Neuroscience and Behavior** degrees. The Ecology and Evolutionary Biology Department sponsors the **Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, Marine Biology, and Plant Sciences** degrees.

There are three interdisciplinary degrees offered. The **Biochemistry and Molecular Biology** degree which is sponsored by the Chemistry Department, and the **Bioinformatics** and **Bioengineering** degrees sponsored by the School of Engineering. A combined major, **Environmental Studies/Biology**, is also available sponsored by the Environmental Studies Department. Students should seek advising for these majors from the sponsoring department.

### **Helpful information for Incoming students:**

#### **I. Take appropriate placement exams:**

If you do not have college or AP credit in math, you will need to take the math placement exam, since enrollment in Math courses **requires** a placement score. Please check the Mathematics Department web site for details on the exam:

<http://www.math.ucsc.edu/undergraduate/prereqs.html>

A placement exam is not required for enrollment into introductory Biology, Chemistry or Physics. There is an optional self assessment exam available to assist you in deciding where to begin your Chemistry course work:

<http://www.chemistry.ucsc.edu/ChemistrySelf-assessment.html> A self assessment exam is not available for Biology or Physics.

#### **II. Plan your schedule:**

It is important to begin your Chemistry, Math, and Biology early. Students must complete Chemistry 1B before beginning Biology 20A; therefore, students begin Chemistry as soon as possible. Detailed sample schedules to help get you started can be found on our web site:

<http://www.biology.ucsc.edu/advising/gettingstarted/main.html>

### **III. Get familiar with the Biological Sciences and the UCSC Websites:**

Here are some helpful resources as you begin the Biological Sciences at UCSC!

Biological Sciences Websites:

Degree Checklists- All Biology majors, requirements, and sample schedules:

<http://www.biology.ucsc.edu/program/index.html>

Faculty- What they teach, their area of research, how to contact them:

<http://www.biology.ucsc.edu/faclist.html>

Course List- Biology courses and the instructors for the coming year:

<http://www.biology.ucsc.edu/courses/index.html>

Advising Index- Almost any question about your Biology major can be answered here:

<http://www.biology.ucsc.edu/advising/index.html>

How to declare you Biological Sciences major:

<http://www.biology.ucsc.edu/advising/declaration/declare.html>

#### **Advising Services**

Biology Advising can assist you in developing academic plans for your major, provide you with information on course prerequisites, enrollment, special opportunities, and major declaration.

#### **Contact Information:**

Biological Sciences Undergraduate Advising Office

387 Thimann Labs, UC Santa Cruz, Santa Cruz, CA 95064

Fax: 831-459-1568

**email: [bioadvise@biology.ucsc.edu](mailto:bioadvise@biology.ucsc.edu)**

Phone: 831-459-4143

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR INTEREST IN THE BIOLOGICAL SCIENCE MAJORS!**