

**University of Missouri-St Louis
Graduate Program Profile
Master of Science (MS) in Biology**

Degree Program

A minimum of 30 credit hours is required. The only course required of all students is two semesters of Graduate Seminar.

Non-thesis option: students take one laboratory course or two credit hours of research. A maximum of five credit hours of research will be counted toward the 30 credit-hour total.

Thesis option: students conduct independent research in the laboratory or field that culminates in a written thesis. A maximum of 13 credit hours of graduate research will be counted toward the 30 credit-hour total.

Emphasis Areas

Cell and Molecular Biology; Ecology, Evolution, and Systematics

Program Website

<http://www.umsl.edu/~biology/programs/ms.html>

Application Requirements

1. Application

<http://www.umsl.edu/divisions/graduate/prospective/applying.html>

2. Three letters of recommendation from previous professors

3. Official transcripts from all universities attended

Successful applicants will have completed advanced undergraduate biology courses including genetics, biochemistry, and evolution and must have a baccalaureate degree before beginning the master's program.

Students admitted to the degree program who have not met some of the prerequisites may be asked to pass appropriate courses before graduating.

4. Entrance examinations

a. The Graduate Record Examination General Test is not required but is highly recommended for positive consideration (see <http://www.gre.org/ttindex.html>).

b. International students are required to document English proficiency (<http://www.umsl.edu/divisions/graduate/prospective/international.html>). Ordinarily, a minimum score of 213 on the computer-based exam (550 on the paper-based exam) is required.

5. Grade Point Average

Minimum of 3.0 on 4.0 scale overall and in biology courses

Application Deadline

December 15 for Masters admission with support for the entire upcoming school year or Master's admission for Spring semester without support. July 1 is for admission for Master's for Fall admission without support.

Application Fee

\$35 (\$40 for international students)

Assistantships

Assistantships are currently funded at \$ 8,000 per academic term plus educational fee scholarships. Students must maintain full-time status and can receive funding for up to two years. Applications for assistantships are sent directly to the Director of Graduate Studies.

Graduate Program Director

Dr. Elizabeth Kellogg

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