The College of Arts and Sciences offers a wide variety of programs in teaching, research and outreach, but also supports and reinforces all the other programs of the University. Apart from strong programs in the natural and social sciences and in the liberal and fine arts, the College provides a number of more specialized and interdisciplinary strengths and a variety of professional and pre-professional training. The College’s 22 departments and two schools offer 65 degree programs and options at the bachelor’s level, and in conjunction with the Graduate College, 25 master’s and 15 doctoral degrees.

The Department of Economics and Legal Studies in Business in the William S. Spears School of Business offers BA and BS degrees through the College of Arts and Sciences. The Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology in the College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources also offers the BS through the College of Arts and Sciences.

The College of Arts and Sciences provides academic preparation for a wide variety of professions and graduate programs including: law, medicine, nursing, optometry, veterinary medicine, graphic arts, teaching, writing, foreign service, urban and regional planning, journalism, public service, radio/TV, advertising, public relations, medical technology, military science, public affairs, corrections, social services, and fine and performing arts.

Accreditation
Refer to departmental listings that follow for information on accreditation of specific programs.

High School Preparation
In addition to the curricular requirements for admission specified by the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education, The College of Arts and Sciences strongly recommends that high school students have a fourth year of mathematics; a third year of laboratory science; at least two years of a single foreign language; one year of arts such as music, theater, or studio art, and computer literacy.

Scholarships
A number of undergraduate scholarships are available through the College and through the departments and schools within the College. Interested students should inquire in the Office of Student Academic Services or access the OSU Internet site for a list of available scholarships. Arts and Sciences students are also encouraged to apply for the variety of scholarships available through the University’s Office of Scholarships and Financial Aid.

Academic Advising
The Office of Student Academic Services. The academic advising process in Arts and Sciences is coordinated by the Office of Student Academic Services. The advising staff in Student Academic Services advises freshmen and undecided students.
Academic Programs

Undergraduate Programs. Requirements for all degree programs and options are detailed in Undergraduate Programs and Requirements, available in all Oklahoma colleges and high schools. Separate sheets, stating the requirements for any particular degree, may be obtained on request from the department or college in which the degree is offered.

Bachelor of Arts (BA):
- American studies
- art
- economics
- English
- French
- geography
- German
- history
- journalism and broadcasting
- liberal studies
- mathematics
- music
- philosophy
- political science
- psychology
- Russian language and literature
- sociology
- Spanish
- theater

Bachelor of Science (BS):
- biochemistry
- biological sciences
- botany
- chemistry
- communication sciences and disorders
- computer science
- economics
- geography
- geology
- journalism and broadcasting
- liberal studies
- mathematics
- microbiology/cell and molecular biology
- physics
- physiology
- political science
- psychology
- sociology
- statistics
- zoology

Bachelor of Fine Arts (BFA):
- art (graphic design and studio)
- theater (acting and design and technology)

Bachelor of Music (BM):
- music (elective studies in business; performance)
- music education (instrumental/vocal certification)

Second Bachelor's Degree. To secure a second bachelor's degree, a student must complete a minimum of 30 semester credit hours in addition to those required for the first degree. The number actually needed depends on what a student must do to satisfy all the requirements for the second degree.

A student seeking a second degree in the College of Arts and Sciences at OSU should ask his or her second adviser to submit a degree plan for the second degree, clearly headed "second degree," and showing how all the requirements of the second degree are to be satisfied. The plan should also state the major, date of award and total credit hours of the first degree, and indicate those courses which represent the minimum of 30 additional hours. The second degree plan should be sent to the College of Arts and Sciences Office of Student Academic Services within two weeks after the student's last enrollment.

Students wishing to complete degrees in two different colleges at OSU should consult with each office of student academic services. Concurrent enrollment in two colleges is possible, but a student must be enrolled in a college for at least two semesters before becoming eligible for a degree from that college.

Second Majors and Minors. A student majoring in one field may also complete the specified requirements for a "major" or a "minor" in other fields, the additional majors or minors may be noted on the student's transcript. Such specified requirements may be obtained from the department in which the second major or minor is sought, or from the Office of Student Academic Services. During the semester in which the student is enrolled in courses that will complete the second major or minor the student should ask the adviser in the second major or minor to submit certification of completion of the required courses to the Office of Student Academic Services in the College of Arts and Sciences.

Graduate Programs. Twenty-five master's degrees are offered in the College along with 15 doctoral degrees. For details, see the departmental entries that follow or consult the "Graduate College" section in the Catalog.

Special Academic Programs

The Honors College. The College of Arts and Sciences has offered honors courses since the 1960s and has the greatest number of students and faculty participating in The Honors College at Oklahoma State University. The Honors College provides outstanding students with the opportunity to study, conduct research and interact with faculty and other honors students in a variety of settings designed to assist talented students who seek to make the most of their educational opportunities. Honors sections of many general education courses allow participating students the benefits of small classes taught by experienced members of the faculty, thus combining the extensive resources of a major comprehensive university with personal faculty attention to each student. Special honors seminars provide coverage of topical issues each semester in formats that encourage the exchange of ideas through discussion and writing. Honors seniors complete the requirements of The Honors College by undertaking a senior honors thesis (or similar creative activity), and honors seniors also may earn honors credit by enrollment in graduate seminars.

Three Honors College awards are available to A&S students—the General Honors award, the Departmental Honors award in the student's major field, and The Honors College degree (which is earned by completing both General and Departmental Honors requirements with a minimum of 39 honors hours with 3.50 OSU and cumulative grade-point averages). These awards are reflected on the student's transcript and a special honors diploma is awarded to students completing the requirements for The Honors College degree.

Priority enrollment is provided for students who are active in The Honors College. This allows honors students to select honors courses and other courses taught by outstanding faculty at the earliest possible date each semester and facilitates the development of class schedules tailored to the special needs of honors students. Eligibility for admission to The Honors College as a first-semester freshman is based on an ACT composite score of 27 or higher (or comparable SAT score) with a high school grade-point average of 3.75 or higher. Later entry for students with seven or more credit hours is permitted on the basis of OSU and cumulative grade-point averages. Transfer students with seven or more credit hours are eligible on the basis of cumulative grade-point average.

Bachelor of University Studies (BUS). The BUS in the College of Arts and Sciences allows students with unique educational objectives that cannot be fulfilled by any of the existing degree programs to design an individual plan of study fitted to the student's particular needs. BUS plans must be approved by the Office of the Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, and the Office of the Executive Vice-President.

Geographic Information Systems Certificate. The Geographic Information Systems (GIS) certificate provides a specialized course of study for interested students. The flexible program provides students with a theoretical and applied foundation concerning the rapidly growing
field of GIS. The program is open to any student at Oklahoma State University. For more information, contact the GIS Certificate coordinator in the Department of Geography, 225 Scott Hall.

High School Teaching Preparation. Students earning degrees in the College of Arts and Sciences may, by completing certain courses, receive state licensure for teaching in the secondary schools. Full details may be obtained from the Office of Student Services and Professional Education, 106 Willard Hall, in the College of Education.

Students who wish to qualify for teaching licensure should consult as early as possible with the adviser in their fields of interest, and should apply for admission to professional education as soon as possible, preferably before the end of their sophomore year.

It is possible to qualify for teaching licensure and the bachelor's degree within the minimum semester credit hours required for graduation. If not possible, students may meet the requirements for the degree and then complete the licensure requirements by taking additional courses.

Full teaching certification is awarded by the State Department of Education when the licensed candidate has successfully completed a period of teaching in a school system.

Pre-professional Programs in the Health Professions. Pre-medicine, Pre-dentistry, Pre-optometry and Pre-veterinary Medicine.

The pre-professional curricula for physicians, dentists, podiatrists, optometrists and veterinarians have the same basic core because they must prepare students for professional schools whose admission requirements are almost identical. These include a strong foundation in math, chemistry, physics and biology, the disciplines on which major advances in the health field depend. Included also are courses to develop written and spoken communication skills, which are highly important for a good relationship with patients, the public and other professionals.

Beyond this required core, pre-professional students may choose courses and a major as freely as any other students in the College of Arts and Sciences. Medical schools encourage study in the social sciences and humanities that contributes to the understanding of human beings in their entirety—their history and environment, their attitudes and values, their emotions, motivations, interpersonal relationships and cultural heritage. All of these may affect sickness and health.

Although most students entering a professional school in one of the above fields have a bachelor's degree, it is possible to apply for admission after three years of college work (two years for a few dental and veterinary schools). OSU permits pre-professional (health-related) students to choose between two alternative bachelor's degree programs: (1) in a specific discipline that requires a minimum of 127 semester credit hours at OSU, or (2) a biomedical sciences degree program which allows a "3 plus 1" approach, requiring at least 90 semester credit hours at OSU and up to 30 hours to be transferred from a chiropractic, dental, medical, osteopathic, pharmacy or veterinary school.

Some professional schools do not state a minimum grade-point average for admission, but a student should maintain better than a 3.00 grade-point average to be competitive. The specific admission requirements of medical, dental and veterinary schools are available on the Internet and in the Office of Student Academic Services.

Beyond this required core, pre-professional students may choose courses and a major as freely as any other students in the College of Arts and Sciences. Medical schools encourage study in the social sciences and humanities that contributes to the understanding of human beings in their entirety—their history and environment, their attitudes and values, their emotions, motivations, interpersonal relationships and cultural heritage. All of these may affect sickness and health.

Although most students entering a professional school in one of the above fields have a bachelor's degree, it is possible to apply for admission after three years of college work (two years for a few dental and veterinary schools). OSU permits pre-professional (health-related) students to choose between two alternative bachelor's degree programs: (1) in a specific discipline that requires a minimum of 127 semester credit hours at OSU, or (2) a biomedical sciences degree program which allows a "3 plus 1" approach, requiring at least 90 semester credit hours at OSU and up to 30 hours to be transferred from a chiropractic, dental, medical, osteopathic, pharmacy or veterinary school.

Some professional schools do not state a firm minimum grade-point average for admission, but a student should maintain better than a 3.00 grade-point average to be competitive. The specific admission requirements of medical, dental and veterinary schools are available on the Internet and in the Office of Student Academic Services. The OSU pre-medical and pre-veterinary course requirements are listed in the "College of Veterinary Medicine" and "College of Osteopathic Medicine" sections of the Catalog. Students whose goal is admission to medical, dental, podiatry, optometry or veterinary programs should consult with a pre-health adviser at the Center for Life Sciences and Pre-health Professions for information regarding specific requirements of these programs.

All applicants for medical schools must take the Medical College Admissions Test (MCAT), dental applicants must take the Dental Admissions Test (DAT), and optometry applicants must take the Optometry Admissions Test (OAT) prior to admission. The OSU College of Veterinary Medicine requires the General Test and the Advanced Biology Test of the Graduate Record Examination (GRE) taken within the previous four years.

Allied Health Professions. The allied health professions for which one can prepare at Oklahoma State University include dental hygiene, nursing, occupational therapy, pharmacy, physical therapy, physician's associate and radiologic technology. Each of these programs requires that the final phase of the education and degree program (usually two to four years) be completed elsewhere in a professional school.

The College of Arts and Sciences offers the general education and basic science courses that a student must complete before he or she can be accepted into a professional program. Students whose goal is admission to a professional program in the allied health professions should consult with a pre-health adviser at the Center for Life Sciences and Pre-health Professions, located in room 208 Life Sciences East for information regarding the specific requirements of particular programs and schools.

Clinical Laboratory Science: See "Department of Microbiology and Molecular Genetics."

Pre-law Preparation. Law schools have no single preference for a specific undergraduate major. Admission to law school is primarily based on a strong record achieved in a rigorous undergraduate program and a competitive score on the Law School Admission Test (LSAT). Other admission considerations include course of study and difficulty of curriculum; letters of recommendation; work and leadership experiences; and applicant's background and motivation as revealed in an application essay.

Law school admissions officers most frequently recommend students include in their undergraduate programs courses in economics, literature, languages, psychology, history, government, mathematics, logic, philosophy, accounting and speech. Courses in these areas are especially helpful in developing the verbal and analytical abilities that are particularly critical for success in law school.

Personal assistance in selecting an academic major, planning a solid pre-law curriculum, preparing and registering for the Law School Admissions Test and applying to law school is available through the pre-law adviser in the Office of Student Academic Services.

Graduation Requirements

General Education Requirements. The General Education Requirements for the degrees offered by the College are shown for each program in Undergraduate Programs and Requirements. At least 40 credit hours of General Education are required for all degrees.

All degrees include a common core of 12 credit hours. Three credit hours of American history and three hours of American government are required. These must be satisfied by HIST 1103, 1483 or 1493, and POLS 1113. Six credit hours of English composition is a University requirement, and this must be satisfied by ENGL 1113 or 1313 and 1213 or 1413. Students who obtain a grade of "A" or "B" in ENGL 1113 may substitute ENGL 3323 for ENGL 1213 with permission of their department.

The remaining 28 credit hours must be distributed as follows: six hours of analytical and quantitative thought, six hours of humanities, eight hours of natural sciences, six hours of social sciences, and two hours of General Education elective.

College Requirements. In addition to the 40 hours of general education, the college requires one credit hour of orientation, (A&S 1111), for all degrees. For the BS, nine additional hours of natural or mathematical sciences are required, as well as three additional hours from the arts and humanities. For the BA, nine additional hours of arts and humanities are required, as well as three additional hours of natural or mathematical sciences and a course focused on non-Western culture. College requirements define the BA or BS degree in the College of Arts and Sciences.

Foreign Language Proficiency Requirement. The foreign language requirement for the BA may be satisfied by 10 hours of college credit in the same language, or equivalent proficiency (e.g., passing an advanced standing exam or completing a second-year or higher college-level course in the language; etc.). RUSS 3053, 3123, 4113, and 4223 do not satisfy this requirement.
The foreign language requirement for the BS, BM, and BFA degrees may be met by presenting a high school transcript that demonstrates successful completion of two years of study in a single foreign language. It may also be satisfied by any of the options listed above for the BA.

Non-Western Requirement (BA and BFA only). One three-hour course in Non-Western studies from: A&S 2000 (Intro to African Studies), 3603 (African or Asian studies); ANTH 3443, 4223; ART 3693, 4603, 4653, 4663, 4673, 4683; ECON 4643; ENGL 3173, 3183; FLL 3500(Japanese only); GEOG 3053, 3753, 3763, 3783; HIST 1713, 3013, 3053, 3203, 3403, 3413, 3423, 3433, 3503, 3513, 3523, 3543, 3553; JAPN 1225, 2113, 2223; MUSI 3583; PHIL 3943, 4943, 4953; POLS 3053, 3223, 3233, 3313; REL 3573, 3613, 4113; RUSS 3053; SOC 4533, 4950 (Gender in the Middle East).

International Dimension Requirement (all degrees). One course which fosters understanding of, or the ability to communicate with, peoples and cultures of other countries. Courses satisfying this requirement are designated "I" in the Catalog and a list is available from the Office of Arts and Sciences Student Academic Services or on the SIS Internet site.

Scientific Investigation Requirement (all degrees). One course including an investigative laboratory that provides experience with scientific method. Courses satisfying this requirement are designated "L" in the Catalog and a list is available from the Office of Arts and Sciences Student Academic Services or on the SIS Internet site.

The non-western, international dimension, and scientific investigation requirements may be satisfied by courses used also to satisfy any other part of a student's degree program (i.e., in General Education, College, Major, or Electives requirements). No additional hours are required.

Additional College Requirements. For all degrees, six hours of general education designated courses (excluding courses in the major prefix) are to be taken at the 3000 level or above.

Major Requirements. At least 40 semester credit hours as specified by the department, including courses in the major and in supporting fields, must be completed.

Upper-division Credit. A student must successfully complete at least 48 semester hours of upper-division credit, i.e., credit in courses at the 3000 or 4000 level.

Hours in One Prefix. If a student seeking a BA or BS degree takes more than 48 semester credit hours in one subject, including lower-division and upper-division credit, the hours in excess of 48 will be added to the minimum total hours required for the degree.

This "48 hour maximum" applies to all courses taken in a subject, whether they are required or elective, with the exception of required courses in English composition and American history and government.

Total Semester Credit Hours and Grade-point Average. The minimum number of semester credit hours for an Arts and Sciences degree is 120. The minimum grade-point average is 2.00 and must be earned in all major courses, in Major Requirements, and in all courses applied toward the degree. A minimum cumulative grade-point average of 2.00, as calculated for graduation purposes, is also required. (See "University Academic Regulations" in the Catalog.)

Particular degree programs may specify higher grade-point requirements or exceed the 120 hour minimum. Details are given in Undergraduate Programs and Requirements.

Endorsement of Student's Plan (Graduation Check). Immediately after their last enrollment, and before their last semester, students should check with their advisers to be certain a degree plan has been sent to the Arts and Sciences Office of Student Academic Services.

Changes in Degree Plan. Once a degree plan has been submitted, a student will not graduate until all requirements on it have been fulfilled. Any deviation in the plan must be recommended by the adviser on a "Change in Plan of Study" card, and sent to the Arts and Sciences Office of Student Academic Services for approval.

Checklist of Graduation Requirements.

1. Total hours. Minimum 120 (see degree sheet). Hours of "F" or "I," or in repeated courses (unless allowed in course descriptions in the Catalog), do not apply. Zero-level courses and all athletic participation and leisure activity courses are not applicable to a degree. Students must confirm grade changes for the removal of "I"s have been sent to the Office of the Registrar by the instructor who gave the "I."

2. Grade-point average. See individual degree sheets for all grade-point minima: overall, in major prefix courses, and in major requirements.

3. Validity of credits.

   a. No more than two courses from the same prefix may be used to meet each of the following General Education (GE) and College/Departmental (C/D) combinations: GE Analytical and Quantitative Thought (A) and Natural Sciences (N) combined with C/D Natural and Mathematical Sciences (except MATH, three courses permitted); and GE Humanities (H) combined with C/D Arts and Humanities.

   The General Education Controlled Elective does not count against the two-course maximum. Three hours of MUSI or TH may substitute for one three-hour course.

   b. A course used in the Major Requirements may not be used to satisfy any other degree requirement, except the international dimension, scientific investigation, upper-division general education, and non-Western requirements.

   c. Pass-No Pass Grading System. Courses taken on this campus under the Pass-No Pass Grading System (see "University Academic Regulations") may be used only as elective hours. They cannot satisfy any other requirement (General Education, Departmental, Major Requirement, and certification).

4. All degree requirements listed above and specified in "University Academic Regulations" and Undergraduate Programs and Requirements must be satisfied.

5. Exemption. A student who believes he or she has a valid reason for exemption from a College requirement should file with the Office of Student Academic Services a written request that has been approved by his or her adviser.

Departmental Clubs and Honor Societies

Advertising Club
Alpha Epsilon Delta (Health Preprofessional honor society)
Alpha Epsilon Rho (broadcasting)
Alpha Kappa Delta (sociology honor society)
American Association of Petroleum Geologists
American Choral Directors Association
American Fisheries Society, Oklahoma Student Chapter
American Institute of Graphic Arts Student Chapter
American Medical Student Association
American Student Dental Association
Arnold Air Society
Army Blades
Arts & Sciences Student Council
Association for Computing Machinery
Association for Women in Communication
Association of Women in Geoscience
Creative Writers Association
Delta Nu Alpha (Biochemistry Club)
Dobro Slovo (Slavic languages)
ECO-OSU
Economics Society
English Club
English Graduate Student Association
French Club
Friends of the Forms (philosophy)
Gamma Theta Upsilon (geography)
Geography Club
Geological Society
German Club
GIS Club (Geographic Information Systems)
History Club
Japanese Club
Kappa Kappa Psi (band honor society)
Kappa Tau Alpha (journalism/mass communication honor society)
Math Club
Microbiology Club
Microbiology & Molecular Genetics Graduate Student Association (Chapter of American Society of Microbiology)
Music Business Students Association
Music Educators National Conference
Mu Sigma Rho (statistics honor society)
Omicron Delta Epsilon (economics)
OSU Art Club
OSU Botanical Society
OSU National Student Speech-Language-Hearing Association
Pershing Rifles (military science) affiliated with ROTC but open to any student on campus
Phi Alpha Delta (prelaw)
Phi Alpha Theta (history honor society)
Phi Lambda Upsilon (chemistry honor society)
Phi Mu Alpha (music)
Phi Sigma Tau (philosophy honor society)
Pi Mu Epsilon (mathematics honor society)
Pi Sigma Alpha (political science honor society)
Political Science Club
Pre-optometry Student Association
Pre-physician Associate's Club
Prevet Club
Psi Chi (psychology honor society)
Psychology Club
Psychology Graduate Student Association
Public Relations Student Society of America
Ranger Company (military science)
Russian Club
Scabbard & Blade (military science)
Sigma Alpha Iota (music)
Sigma Delta Chi Society of Professional Journalists (journalism)
Sigma Delta Pi (Spanish honor society)
Sigma Gamma Epsilon (geology honor society)
Sigma Pi Sigma /Society of Physics Students
Silver Wings
Society of Physics Students
Society for Technical Communication
Sociology Club
Spanish Club
Speech Communication Organization
Sports Media Club
Statistics Club
Students in Design
Tau Beta Sigma (band honor society)
Wildlife Society, Student Chapter
Zoology Graduate Student Society

American Studies

Amilcar Shabazz, PhD - Associate Professor and Director

American Studies is an area studies program focused on the social relations and the cultural and intellectual life of the United States of America in a global, comparative context. Its students analyze the American past and present from the perspectives of several disciplines, learn to synthesize their knowledge, and learn the habit of mind needed for cultural analysis.

Our curriculum combines structure with latitude in course selection. In addition to two required courses in American Studies, students gain a foundation in American literature and history. Additional courses are selected in the fine arts, humanities and social sciences to develop a plan of study tailored to meet specific goals and interests.

Work in American Studies can lead to and enrich a wide variety of careers. Many of our graduates have gone into journalism, radio, TV and film work, museum curating, law, public relations, editing, advertising, government service, secondary school teaching and administration, and creative writing. With additional education, a significant number of American Studies majors have gone on to become scholars at the college and university level or into professional careers in law and public diplomacy.

Art

Sallie McCorkle, MPA - Professor and Head

The Department of Art provides courses for students interested in: (1) a strong general education background, (2) major concentrations in studio art, graphic design and art history, (3) minors in studio art and art history.

Two degrees are offered in art: Bachelor of Art (BA) with options in art history and studio art that can be combined with teacher certification; and the Bachelor of Fine Arts (BFA), a professional degree with options in studio art or graphic design. Fields of concentration are available in drawing, oil and watercolor painting, printmaking, graphic design, illustration, electronic media, ceramics, jewelry/metalsmithing, sculpture and art history.

Art majors must attain a grade-point average of 2.50 in art courses in order to qualify for licensure and graduation.

Students wishing to major in graphic design must have a minimum overall GPA of 2.75 to enroll in 2000 level graphic design courses. Three 2000 level courses are prerequisite for a portfolio review scheduled for the latter portion of each spring and fall semester. Students wishing to transfer into the graphic design program with earned credit in these courses are subject to the same review and must submit portfolio materials with application for admission into the program no later than April 1 or November 1. This portfolio review determines those students qualified to proceed to 3000 level graphic design courses.

Because of a large endowment, the department is able to offer substantial scholarships at all levels, freshman through senior.

The Department of Art maintains an exhibition gallery, the Gardiner Art Gallery in the Bartlett Center for the Visual Arts, with approximately 200 linear feet of exhibition space and 2600 square feet of floor space. Works by artists of national and international reputation, faculty and student works and cultural artifacts are shown.
Biochemistry and Molecular Biology

Earl D. Mitchell, Jr., PhD - Professor and Interim Head

Biochemistry, the central scientific discipline linking the chemical, physical and biological sciences, exerts a profound influence on the progress of medicine and agriculture. By applying concepts and methods of chemistry and physics to the fundamental problems of biology, biochemists have made great progress in their effort to understand the chemistry of living organisms. Major discoveries concerning the biochemistry of genetic material provide the tools of molecular biology that are essential to contemporary life sciences research.

Biochemists and molecular biologists are concerned with living things. They must acquire some knowledge of the biological sciences. Since a biochemist’s tools are the physical sciences, he or she must receive sound education in mathematics, physics and chemistry. Challenging positions for well-trained biochemists and molecular biologists are available in colleges and universities, state and federal laboratories, research institutes, medical centers and in an increasing number of industrial organizations, particularly the pharmaceutical and food industries. Biochemists are involved with research on the chemistry of processes occurring in plants, animals, and various microorganisms, and with the discovery and development of antibiotics, vitamins, hormones, enzymes, insecticides and molecular genetic techniques.

At the undergraduate level a major in biochemistry and molecular biology administered by the Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology is available through the College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources. The department also offers a BS degree in biochemistry through the College of Arts and Sciences. An honors program is available. The curriculum provides a broad background in chemistry and biological science and permits flexibility in meeting particular interests of the student. Courses in biochemistry are based on general, organic and analytical chemistry. The biochemistry and molecular biology curriculum provides students with sufficient background in the basic sciences of mathematics, physics, chemistry and biology to meet the needs for graduate study in most fields of modern science related to agriculture or medicine. The curriculum is excellent for preprofessional students of medicine, dentistry, pharmacy, and veterinary medicine. The department's research activities provide opportunities for part-time employment of undergraduate majors to improve their professional competence.

Graduate Programs

Because many of the opportunities in biochemistry require advanced course work, a major part of the program in the Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology is concerned with its graduate program leading to the MS or PhD degree. This graduate program is an integral part of extensive basic research activities in the Oklahoma Agricultural Experiment Station.

Prerequisites. Although the BS in chemistry or biochemistry is preferred, students with strong backgrounds in other biological or physical science disciplines are eligible. Individuals not having at least eight semester credit hours each of organic chemistry and calculus plus four credit hours each of analytical and physical chemistry must take appropriate undergraduate courses to make up deficiencies. The results of the three general GRE exams (verbal, quantitative, analytical) are required for entrance. An advanced GRE subject matter exam (biochemistry, chemistry or biology) is also recommended. A GRE score of 500 verbal, 650 quantitative and 4.0 analytical is normally required.

Degree Requirements. A more detailed description of the graduate study program in biochemistry is available from the department upon request. The requirements listed below complement the general graduate requirements described in the “Graduate College” section of the Catalog. After the first semester, continuous attendance and participation in the departmental seminar is expected.

The Master of Science Degree. Twenty-four credit hours of formal graduate courses are required, including BIOC 5753, S824, 5853, and 5930. In addition, a student must present an acceptable research thesis (six hours) and pass a final oral examination covering it and related material. Research advisers are selected at the end of the first semester.

A non-thesis Master of Science degree is also available. It does not require a research thesis, but requires a report and extensive technical training in the laboratory. The non-thesis MS is not recommended for students wishing to pursue a PhD later.

The Doctor of Philosophy Degree. The course requirements are determined with the aid of the student's graduate advisory committee. Usually they follow these guidelines: total of 30-40 credit hours of formal graduate course work which includes all the courses listed for the MS degree, at least four of the advanced graduate courses in biochemistry (6000 level) and two offerings of Special Topics (6820). Additional course requirements, appropriate to the student's interests, are determined by the advisory committee. The advisory committee is selected at the end of the second semester. Each student will take a series of cumulative examinations beginning in January of his or her first year. A more comprehensive qualifying examination is also given, usually during the fourth semester of graduate study.

One year of a foreign language at the college level is required. The student must present, and defend in a final oral examination, an acceptable research thesis which contains a substantial original contribution to the field of biochemistry. The department offers research experience in a variety of areas of biochemistry.

Botany

William Henley, PhD - Professor and Head

Botany is the science concerned with all facets of plant life. Green plants are the constantly renewable source of food, fiber and phytoc hemicals. It is important that these plants be thoroughly understood as survival and ecological balance depend upon this knowledge. As populations increase, the need for more and better supplies of food and fiber also increases. The study of botany underlies several applied sciences such as agronomy, forestry, horticulture, plant pathology, range, lake and wildlife management.

To major in botany a student should have a strong interest in science with a good background in chemistry and mathematics. Majors with a BS degree may qualify for secondary school science teaching licensure. In technical positions with the federal and state governments in plant inspection and plant introduction work, for plant breeding programs, and for various activities concerned with plants in private industry, such as plant biotechnology.

Facilities used in undergraduate teaching include well-equipped plant structure-function and ecology laboratories, constant-environment chambers, the 160-acre McPherson Preserve, and a herbarium with over 140,000 plant specimens. Faculty members teach and do research in their specialty areas of botany: plant ecology, physiology, taxonomy, anatomy, developmental genetics, algal ecology, and molecular biology.

Graduate Programs

Programs of research and study leading to the degrees of Master of Science and Doctor of Philosophy are offered in many areas of botany, including plant cell biology, ecology, physiology, taxonomy, population biology, genetics and development, and biotechnology-related areas.

Prerequisites. Applicants for admission must have received a baccalaureate degree from an accredited college and should have had 40 semester hours (or equivalent) in upper-division courses in the biological and physical sciences. A grade-point average of 3.00 (on a 4.00 scale) or above is required for unconditional admission. All applicants are required to submit scores for the Aptitude portion of the Graduate Record Examination.

Prerequisites for graduate degrees include successful completion of courses in the areas of plant taxonomy or field botany, plant
anatomy, plant pathology or microbiology, plant physiology; genetics and ecology. Chemistry through organic and mathematics through trigonometry are also required. Students with an undergraduate major in plant science will have completed a substantial portion of this minimal list upon matriculation; those with a less closely related major may be required to take some background courses without graduate credit. Final authority for each student’s plan of study, including courses to be taken at the undergraduate level, resides with the student’s advisory committee.

Degree Requirements. A potential graduate student may be required to take one or more advisory examinations covering the various subject matter areas of botany. The examinations to be taken will be determined by the student’s screening or advisory committee. The results will be used to determine course work needed or the level at which the student should proceed.

Demonstrated research competence through submission and acceptance of a thesis or dissertation is required for all botany graduate degrees. A minimum of one semester teaching experience is required of all MS and PhD candidates. This requirement may also be satisfied by enrollment in a college teaching practicum course (GRAD 5990).

All graduate students are expected to attend and participate in departmental seminars.

The Master of Science Degree. Plans of study must contain 30 credit hours including at least 21 semester credit hours numbered 5000 or above, six credit hours of thesis and two credit hours of seminar. A minimum of 16 semester credit hours must be in the major department or field, above the prerequisites required for entrance into the MS program.

The Doctor of Philosophy Degree in Plant Science. The Department of Botany is one of seven departments participating in the multidisciplinary PhD in plant science program. Students in this program have great flexibility in research and course work. The student who chooses botany as a home department has a botany faculty adviser from within the department, and will take BOT 6000 research hours in the department. To receive the PhD in plant science, students must enroll in a total of 90 credit hours beyond the BS or 60 credit hours beyond the MS. No fewer than 36 or more than 60 hours of BOT 6000 are allowed in the plan of study. Two hours of seminar (BOT 5850) must also be included in the plan of study. Students may choose as a specialization area either cellular and molecular, organismal, or ecological plant science. After a PhD candidate has completed most of the course work, qualifying examinations are scheduled. These exams cover major areas of the student’s plan of study; all relevant subdivisions of plant science are included. The examinations are both written and oral.

Chemistry

Neil Purdie, PhD – Professor and Chair

Chemistry is the science that deals with the composition, structure and interactions of matter of all kinds. Materials obtained from the earth, such as ores, petroleum and natural gas, as well as those from plants and animals, such as food, fibers and antibiotics, are all studied and modified through chemical means. The chemist creates from new products new and useful substances that add to the enjoyment of life. He or she creates new agents to combat pests that destroy great portions of food supplies and new drugs to fight diseases of many kinds. Chemists are at the forefront in developing new initiatives that address the environment, and, as experts in the physical properties of materials, are the heart and soul of developing all new technologies that cover nano-technology, medical and pharmaceutical technologies, engineering technology, new energy producing devices, optical transmission devices, bio-polymers, and forensic science.

A great curiosity concerning the physical world should be characteristic of one who is considering chemistry as a profession. The student should want to learn more about the changes of materials and to use his or her knowledge for the betterment of life. The student should have an interest in physics and mathematics, since those subjects’ principles are basic to the study of chemistry.

Chemists are employed in the heavy and light industries, in food and drug production, in antiterrorist initiatives, as integral team members with biologists in dealing with major medical problems and research, and in the creation of new miniaturized highly sophisticated communications devices. They work in the areas of research, sales and quality control. Many chemists become teachers in public schools or colleges. State and federal agencies employ chemists for research and analysis. Generally an MS or PhD degree is desirable for those interested in research or college teaching.

The Department of Chemistry offers two bachelor’s degrees: (1) a BS degree that is accredited by the American Chemical Society; and (2) a BS degree that requires less specialization.

The chemical laboratories are modern and well-equipped with instruments for determination of properties of chemicals and studies of reactions. Individual laboratory work is encouraged.

Graduate Programs

Prerequisites. The student should have at least eight semester credit hours (or the equivalent) in general, analytical, organic, and physical chemistry. The physical chemistry should have been based on mathematics through calculus.

Admission Requirements. Admission requirements are minimal. For admission without qualification a grade-point average of 3.00 or better is required. Deserving applicants with grade-point averages less than 3.00 are infrequently admitted under probationary conditions. Additional support of the application is sought in the form of three letters of recommendation. Graduate Record Examination scores are not used as a criterion for admission. Recommendations on admission to the Graduate College are made on behalf of the applicant by the departmental admission officer. Acceptance by a permanent adviser is not a prerequisite to admission to the program.

Degree Requirements. A more detailed description of the graduate study program in chemistry is available in a brochure supplied by the department upon request, or on the Internet www.chem.okstate.edu. The requirements set forth below complement the general requirements stated in the “Graduate College” section of the Catalog.

Attendance and participation in the departmental colloquium and CHEM 5011 and 6011 are required.

The Master of Science Degree. Students must complete at least 30 credit hours of graduate course work in chemistry or related fields. Each student must present an acceptable thesis dealing with a research problem and pass a final oral examination covering it and related material. Research on the thesis problem should be started as early as possible in the graduate program.

The Doctor of Philosophy Degree. Work is offered which leads to the degree with specialization in analytical, inorganic materials, organic or physical chemistry. A major in biological chemistry is offered by the Department of Biochemistry. The student must pass a qualifying examination in the student’s field of specialization.

An acceptable dissertation must be presented which contains a substantial original contribution to the field of chemistry. The student must pass a final oral examination covering the dissertation and related material.

The Doctor of Philosophy degree requires the completion of at least 90 semester credit hours of work beyond the bachelor’s degree.

The course requirements are determined by an advisory committee which is appointed for each student.
Communication Sciences and Disorders

Randolph E. Deal, PhD - Professor and Head

The Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders prepares students through the master's level to serve individuals of all ages who exhibit speech, language, cognitive, swallowing, and/or hearing disorders. The undergraduate program emphasizes the study of the development and functioning of the individual who presents normal speech, language and hearing. It also stresses academic course work and clinical observation experiences in the nature, symptoms and treatment of those with various kinds of communication disorders. Acceptance into the undergraduate program requires a 2.5 grade-point average for 15 or more hours attempted.

The master's program is designed to provide students with intensive course work in the various communication disorders and with a wide variety of challenging clinical rotations both on and off campus. Graduates are prepared to take positions in hospitals, community speech and hearing centers, private practices, schools and other related settings. Graduates are also prepared to pursue additional graduate education at the doctoral level. All graduates meet the academic and clinical requirements for the Certificate of Clinical Competence in Speech-Language Pathology from the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association and for the Oklahoma license in Speech-Language Pathology. Additionally, most students elect to earn the state teaching certificate required to practice speech-language pathology in the schools. The program holds national accreditation from the Council on Academic Accreditation of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association.

Graduate Programs

Prerequisites. Other than the general requirements of the Graduate College, no other prerequisites are required for application to the graduate program. The amount of course work taken at the undergraduate level in communication sciences and disorders and related areas will determine the amount of time required for the degree. Students holding undergraduate degrees in other fields are encouraged to apply for admission; undergraduate prerequisites will add approximately 25 credit hours to the program.

Admission Requirements. Applicants should have a minimum grade-point average of 3.00 ("B") in all work and at least a 3.00 in the major, strong letters of recommendation from those familiar with the student's previous academic background, and GRE scores acceptable to the Graduate Faculty. Admission is competitive and varies according to the number of places available in the program. Application deadlines can be obtained from the department.

International students follow the same application procedure as U.S. students with one addition. If English is not the student's native language he or she is required to score a minimum of 550 on the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) and a minimum of 60 on the Test of Spoken English (TSE). It is especially important that students have readily intelligible spoken English, because they will be conducting therapy sessions in English. The International Student Services Office is available on campus to assist international students.

Financial Aid. All students are eligible to apply for graduate assistantships and fee waiver scholarships. Graduate assistantships qualify out-of-state students and international students for in-state tuition.

Program Requirements. The program leading to the Master of Arts degree consists of courses that examine the nature, causes, assessment, and treatment of communication disorders and related areas and a minimum of 15 semester credit hours in clinical practicum courses. All students enroll in a core curriculum of 42 hours plus practicum.

Examinations. Students may complete a master's thesis or pass a comprehensive examination and complete a portfolio.

Computer Science

George E. Hedrick, PhD - Regents Service Professor and Head

Computer science is concerned with theoretical and practical methods of storing, processing and communicating information by means of computers and computer networks. Professional computer scientists obtain a formal education through the BS, MS or PhD degrees and apply their knowledge to many diversified fields of science, engineering, business and communications. Computer science offers opportunities to both specialists and generalists.

In little more than three human generations, the computing field has evolved from one associated primarily with engineering and scientific calculations of only casual interest to the layperson, to a factor of significant influence in almost every aspect of modern life. Technical careers in computer architecture and software design, as well as applications in the business and scientific areas, require a thorough knowledge of the principles of computer science. In addition, most managers in any field require some familiarity with computers, not only to be able to understand them, but also to incorporate them into their own decision-making processes.

The department offers the full range of degree programs—BS, MS and PhD. All programs are offered in both Stillwater and Tulsa. To be admitted to the BS degree program the student must have minimum overall GPA of 2.0. The student must also have taken and maintained a 2.5 GPA for CS 1113, CS 2133, MATH 2144 and MATH 2153, with no course grade less than "C".

CS majors whose semester GPA is below 2.0 or 2.5 for their major core courses will be placed on departmental academic probation, regardless of overall GPA. Students on CS departmental probation must complete a minimum of 9 hours at Oklahoma State University with a GPA of 2.5 or higher to have their probationary status removed. Students who are not able to have their CS probationary status removed following the completion of a minimum of 9 hours (or the entire semester's work, if more than 9 hours) will not be allowed to enroll again as an undergraduate major in CS regardless of their overall GPA.

A student who experiences a catastrophic event that plays a significant role in his or her being placed on CS academic probation has the right to appeal to the Head of the Computer Science Department. With a successful appeal, a student will be given a semester to raise his or her GPA to the minimum level both overall and/or in his or her core courses before any probationary action is taken.

Most BS and MS graduates obtain positions in industry. Approximately half of the PhD graduates take university teaching and research positions and half are employed in industry.

The Department of Computer Science has a Sun server, Sunfire v880, as its primary computing resource. A Sun Enterprise 3000 computer and others are also available to students in the department.

Graduate students have access to a lab and a special projects room in the department.

Computers can be accessed through the OSU Information Technology Division. There are a number of personal computer labs located in various buildings on campus. Some of the residence halls have personal computer labs available. All of these labs have access to personal computer application software and all mainframe computers on campus, as well as Internet access. Both University and department computers can be accessed 24 hours a day.

Graduate Programs

The department offers degree programs leading to the Master of Science degree and to the Doctor of Philosophy degree. These
Economics and Legal Studies in Business

Ronald L. Moomaw, PhD - Professor and Head

Economics is a science of choice. The study of economics centers on individuals’ attempts to improve their living standards. It provides a comprehensive view of how a society is organized to transform the limited resources available into want-satisfying goods and services. It investigates the principles underlying the operation of the economic system and seeks to determine its weaknesses and to prescribe policy measures that will improve its operation. In the process, economics ranges over a host of the most important problems confronting contemporary society—the causes of and remedies for depression and inflation, the determinants of and methods for improving income distribution, poverty problems and welfare measures, the role of the government in economic activity, the requisites for economic growth and development, pollution and congestion and their control.

The primary objectives sought in the undergraduate curriculum are to develop a broad understanding and perspective of the economic aspects of people’s activities, coupled with thorough training in the fundamental tools of economic analyses. Toward these ends is the development of elementary mathematical and statistical skills and complementary study in the social and behavioral sciences.

A major in economics prepares students for positions with business firms, non-profit private organizations and government agencies—both national and international. It provides an excellent background for the study of law. An international economic relations option is also offered. A degree option in business economics and quantitative studies is offered through the Spears School of Business to provide additional training in analytical methods and communication skills for both public and private sector occupations. An economics degree qualifies competent students to undertake the graduate work necessary for professional positions in economic research and college or university teaching.

Graduate Programs

The department offers programs leading to the Master of Science degree and the Doctor of Philosophy degree. The graduate program in economics prepares economists for academic careers as well as research and administrative positions in business and government agencies.

Graduate fields of specialization include regional and urban economics, public finance, international economics, and economic development. In addition, graduate courses are offered in game theory, industrial organization, labor, environmental economics, and econometrics.

Admission to a graduate program is determined by an elected graduate studies committee on the basis of the applicant’s previous academic record; verbal, quantitative and analytical scores of the Graduate Record Examination; and letters of recommendation.

The Master of Science Degree. Admission to the master’s program in economics is granted to college graduates with superior academic records whose preparation has been broad and thorough. They need not have majored in economics as undergraduates but must be well grounded in economic theory. A good background in one or more such fields as history, philosophy, mathematics, statistics, political science, English, sociology, accounting, finance, psychology, or management is particularly helpful to the graduate student in economics. An applicant whose prior preparation is deficient in some respect, may, if otherwise qualified, be admitted to the program and required to take prerequisite courses for non-graduate level credit. A total of 30-33 graduate credits are required to earn an MS in economics.

Each graduate student is guided in the preparation of a plan of study by the graduate program director. At the master’s level there are two options: one provides the student with a well-rounded program that prepares the student for the doctoral program in economics or further graduate study in another related discipline. The second option is applied economics which stresses communication skills, quantitative analysis and course work from other disciplines related to a career objective.

The candidate for the master’s degree is required to show competence in basic economic theory and statistical methods, together with an understanding of the fundamental institutional operations of the United States economy.

Each program contains enough electives to permit considerable choice among areas of emphasis. A research report or thesis is required of all students who take only the MS degree. Those accepted for the PhD program have the option of applying for and receiving the MS degree without a research report upon successful completion of the PhD qualifying examinations and successful presentation of a dissertation proposal. A foreign language is not required.

The Doctor of Philosophy Degree. Admission to the doctoral program in economics is granted to college graduates who have superior academic records. A total of 60 graduate credits are required to earn a PhD with a previous earned MS degree. A total of 90 graduate credits are required to earn a PhD without a previously earned MS.

This program stresses balanced preparation in economic theory and in mathematics and statistics, as well as competence in subject-area fields of specialization. The student is required to pass qualifying examinations in the theory core and in one field of specialization. (The theory core is not considered a field of specialization.) Competence must be demonstrated in a second field of specialization, through course work. The graduate program director helps the student develop a plan of study to achieve these objectives. A foreign language is not required.

A dissertation based upon original research is required of the candidate for a PhD degree in economics. The final oral examination is the dissertation defense.
English

Carol L. Modes, PhD - Associate Professor and Head

The study of English literature and language, as well as film and other media, is fundamental to any education. Not only does it provide familiarity with the literary works and media that shape cultural heritage, but it also develops the abilities to think analytically, to speak and write effectively, and to consider various points of view when dealing with people and ideas.

The Department of English prides itself on the diversity of its course offerings and on its small lecture and discussion classes. The BA, MA and PhD degrees are awarded through the department and a full range of courses are offered in seven areas: literature, creative writing, screen studies, technical writing, linguistics, teaching English as a second language, and rhetoric and professional writing. The number of students in any English class rarely exceeds 30; and in a writing class, including freshman-level classes, the enrollment limits range from 18-25. The maximum number of students in a graduate-level class is 10.

An undergraduate English major has five options: a traditional English major, secondary education teaching certification, creative writing, screen studies, or technical writing, each of which emphasizes literature and writing in varying proportions. English majors may choose from courses in all historical periods of literature written in English from early to contemporary, and in all genres—novel, film, short story, poetry, and drama. Every literature course emphasizes literary appreciation and analysis and allows ample opportunity for discussion and writing. The student in the traditional major may also study fiction writing, poetry writing, and script writing with published writers. Also available are courses in linguistics, which is the study of language, and technical writing, which is writing for science and industry. Screen studies courses emphasize criticism, history, and theory of film, television, and new media.

Many English majors pursue careers directly related to their major, such as those in technical writing or in teaching. An English major with a technical writing option would be well prepared to pursue a career as a writer, editor, publications manager, or information developer. Students who want to teach may earn secondary teaching certification in English through either the Department of English or the College of Education, or they may decide to go to graduate school in order to teach in a college or university. A great many English majors have found the teaching profession a rewarding and challenging one. Other students find that an English major is excellent preparation for law school because it develops the analytical and language skills attorneys use. But one need not have definite career goals to major in English. It offers a variety of writing courses to fulfill the University's composition requirements; and English courses in literature, technical writing, creative writing, and film are very popular electives for students in all majors. Many students choose to complement their first major with a second major or minor in English.

The Department of English serves students other than those majoring in English. It offers a variety of writing courses to fulfill the University's composition requirements; and English courses in literature, technical writing, creative writing, and film are very popular electives for students in all majors. Many students choose to complement their first major with a second major or minor in English.

The Department of English actively participates in the University Honors Program. Students who qualify for Honors are eligible to enroll in restricted courses and to write a Senior Honors Thesis. The department offers Honors courses at all levels, including an Honors seminar on a different topic each year.

A Bachelor of Arts in English requires 42 hours of lower- and upper-division English courses. An English minor requires 18 hours of English, at least nine of which must be upper-division. (These hours do not include Freshman Composition.)

Graduate Programs

The Department of English offers programs leading to the Master of Arts and the Doctor of Philosophy. Masters students may choose among three programs: Master of Arts in English; Master of Arts in technical writing; and Master of Arts in teaching English as a second language (TESL). In consultation with their advisory committees, both masters and doctoral students have considerable flexibility in designing a degree that meets their own interests and professional goals. Students may take courses in creative writing, film, technical writing, composition and rhetoric, TESL, linguistics, literary theory, and all periods of British and American literature. The diversity of choices and the flexibility of the program prepare students to meet the demands of a changing academic marketplace.

Admission Requirements. Students seeking admission to the graduate program in English must be accepted by the Graduate College and by the departmental admission committee. In addition to the application and transcripts required by the Graduate College, students must submit to the Department of English graduate coordinator a statement of purpose; letters of recommendation; and a writing sample or the Graduate Record Examination general and subject area scores. Non-native speakers of English must submit scores for both the Test of Written English (TWE) and the TOEFL or IELTS. For fall admission the early decision deadline is January 15; the final deadline is March 1. The deadline for spring admission is October 15. Prerequisites are listed under each degree below.

Teaching Opportunities. Depending on their levels of experience and areas of emphasis, graduate teaching assistants may tutor in the Writing Center, serve as discussion leaders for selected large lecture classes, or teach their own sections of freshman composition, composition for international students, technical writing, creative writing, film, or literature. All teaching assistants are required to take an appropriate pedagogy course during their first year of teaching.

The Master of Arts Degree. The MA in English allows students to develop expertise in a variety of areas: literature written in English, creative writing, literary theory and criticism, screen studies, composition and rhetoric, technical writing, linguistics, and TESL. In consultation with their advisory committees, students devise an individualized curriculum that reflects their own intellectual interests and prepares them to enter a doctoral program or to teach at the college level. The degree programs in TESL and technical writing prepare teachers for the bilingual classroom and technical writers for industry.

Prerequisites include a baccalaureate degree with an English major, or at least 24 hours in English (excluding freshman composition). Successful applicants usually have a minimum grade-point average of 3.00 on a 4.00 scale, particularly in English courses.

The MA in English consists of 30 credit hours, including six hours of thesis. In addition to these hours, students must demonstrate reading knowledge of a foreign language, pass the MA qualifying examination, and pass an oral defense of the thesis. The thesis is a work of original research prepared with the guidance of the student's advisory committee. Creative writing students may present as their theses original works in poetry or prose fiction. The programs in technical writing and TESL have separate degree requirements described below.

Technical Writing. The MA in English program in technical writing consists of 30 credit hours (with thesis) or 33 credit hours (without thesis). In addition to these hours, students must fulfill the foreign language requirement and pass the MA qualifying examination in technical writing. Prerequisites are the same as those above.

TESL. The MA in English program in teaching English as a second language is designed to provide students with the skills necessary to teach English to non-native speakers in a variety of situations, e.g., teaching English as a foreign language in an overseas school, college or university; teaching English as a second language to international students studying in intensive English programs in the U.S.; or teaching English to bilingual and bicultural students in American public school systems and adult education programs.

Prerequisites are the same as those above except that the major may be either in English or in a field related to second language acquisition or teaching. In addition, applicants to the TESL program must have six hours in a foreign language with a grade of “B” or better, or must complete this requirement prior to taking the qualifying examination.
The TESL program consists of 30 credit hours (thesis option) or 34 credit hours (nonthesis option). In addition to these hours, students must pass the MA qualifying examinations in TESL.

TESL is especially relevant to the public school classroom as a result of recent legislation concerning bilingual education. Teachers in English and other areas of expertise will find this program especially useful. The Oklahoma State Board of Education recently approved an "optional certification" for English as a Second Language. Already certified teachers can obtain this certification upon passing the required standardized examination. Several of the courses offered for the TESL option can prepare students for this examination, although the MA/TESL option degree does not confer certification.

The Doctor of Philosophy Degree. The Department of English grants one doctoral degree, the PhD in English. Students may, however, emphasize in their courses, their exams, and their dissertations a variety of areas: all periods of British and American literature, Native American literature and language, creative writing, literary theory and criticism, film, rhetoric and professional writing, linguistics, and TESL. They may also choose an interdisciplinary emphasis. In consultation with their advisory committees, students devise an individualized curriculum that reflects their own intellectual interests and professional goals.

Prerequisites include a master’s degree in English or a field related to the student’s area of emphasis. Successful applicants usually have a minimum grade-point average of 3.50 on a 4.00 scale in their master’s degrees. All PhD students are admitted provisionally and must take the first-year examination during their second semester of enrollment.

The PhD degree consists of 60 credit hours beyond the master’s degree. Fifteen to 20 of these hours are devoted to the dissertation. In addition to these hours, students must take a first-year examination; demonstrate reading knowledge of two foreign languages or mastery of one language; pass the PhD qualifying examination in two areas; and pass an oral defense of the dissertation. The dissertation is a work of original research prepared under the direction of the dissertation committee. Creative Writing students may present as their dissertations original works in poetry or prose fiction.

Additional information and requirements may be found in the English Graduate Guidelines, which may be consulted at the Internet site (http://english.okstate.edu).

Foreign Languages and Literatures

Perry J. Gethner, PhD - Professor and Head

The Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures offers French, German, Russian and Spanish as major fields of study. Minors may be earned in French, German, ancient Greek, Japanese, Latin, Russian and Spanish, or an Area Studies program.

In all languages offered by the department, elementary courses are available for students with no previous experience. First and second-semester Spanish are offered in intensive form in the summer session. Students with previous foreign language experience may take placement tests to find the course best suited for their level of proficiency. A major in a foreign language is often supported by study of another language or work in other fields.

The study of foreign languages is a vital and humanizing part of a general education. In a rapidly changing and shrinking world, it offers new cultural insights, breaks down insularity, fosters discipline of thought and expression and leads to a better understanding of one’s native language. Foreign language majors may expect to find openings in a wide variety of careers in law, medicine, government, industry and commerce, all of which require a liberal arts degree. Job opportunities are greatly enhanced for those who combine foreign language study with a major or minor in other disciplines. Moreover, there is a growing demand for foreign language teachers in secondary education. Bachelor of Arts candidates may qualify for teaching licensure without increasing the number of hours required for graduation.

In addition to the standard courses in language, literature and civilization for individual languages, the department offers literature-in-translation courses for general education, and courses in German for reading knowledge and Russian for reading knowledge.

Geography

Dale R. Lightfoot, PhD - Professor and Head

Geography is a diverse discipline concerned with the surface of the earth and its immediate atmosphere. Geographers study the similarities, the differences and interactions among phenomena in this region. Geographers are interested in the economic, social, political and environmental qualities of places, and in how these attributes interact.

Geographers attempt to understand human behavior by answering such questions as: Where do people work? Where do they play? Where do they live? Why do people make these locational choices? What are the consequences of these decisions and behavior?

Because the physical environment is important in many explanations of spatial behavior and spatial patterns, geographers have traditionally concerned themselves with relationships between humans and their environment. What impact do people have on the land? What impact does the land have on people? How do people perceive their environment? How does this perception influence their activities?

Finally, geographers examine spatial patterns and behaviors in specific regional contexts. These analyses occur at many levels—worldwide, national and local. These kinds of studies lead to suggestions for change and improvement—the application of geography to contemporary rural, urban and regional problems. Thus many aspects of urban, regional and national planning are geographic in nature.

No academic discipline has broader interests than does geography, and the Department of Geography allows students the flexibility to pursue studies that lead to a wide range of educational goals and careers. Students with interests in environment, planning, real estate, economic development, international affairs, travel, remote sensing, geographic information systems, area studies, management or education are among those who can be accommodated. A geography minor program is also available for those who see geography as complementary to another field of study.

Those who wish to study geography tend to be interested in their own surroundings and in other places. They also possess a curiosity for maps, the basic tool of the field. Students of geography will become familiar with remote sensing, computer graphics, statistics, geographic information systems and cartography—tools which facilitate geographic inquiry and analysis.

Many careers are available to the geography major or minor. Recent graduates have been employed in urban and regional planning, community development, locational analysis in both the public and private sector, resource planning and management, various forms of domestic and foreign service, cartography and teaching. Geography also provides an excellent foundation for a liberal education and is a good basis for a career in business, industry or government.

The department manages a simulations laboratory, the Center for Applications of Remote Sensing, a paleontology/paleoecology laboratory, a computer mapping facility, spatial database facility, field mapping equipment such as global positioning system receivers, an interactive weather analysis system with satellite data feed, and an ARC GIS equipped geographic information system laboratory. Two national journals are edited and published by faculty members in the department, the Journal of Cultural Geography, and the Journal of Central Asian Studies.

The department specializes in three areas: cultural and historical geography, resource management, and urban/transportation geography. Complementary course work supporting these specialized areas is available in other departments.
The Department of Geography offers the BA and BS degrees. An option in applied resource management is available within the BS degree. An advanced program leading to the MS and PhD degrees is also available. The department also sponsors students in the interdisciplinary MS and PhD programs in environmental science.

Certificate in Geographic Information Systems (GIS). The certificate in GIS provides students with broad exposure to principles and applications of GIS. A student who has earned the certificate is well-versed in general GIS theory and has knowledge and/or practical exposure to the following: (1) hardware and software used in GIS, (2) planning and construction of spatial and nonspatial databases, (3) GIS analyses performed on data related to the student’s area of interest, and (4) representation of data in both mapped and tabular form. Requirements for the certificate are designed to parallel skills needed by GIS professionals. Through elective courses, students focus on one of several areas of specialization. Admission into the certificate program is open to anyone enrolled as an undergraduate student, graduate student or special student at OSU. To receive a certificate in GIS, a student must complete 21 hours of course work in GIS and related topics and hold a bachelor’s or more advanced degree from OSU or an accredited college. Students may work toward the certificate while completing their bachelor’s or graduate degree.

Graduate Programs

The Department of Geography offers work leading to the MS and PhD degrees. These degree programs emphasize preparation for employment in positions which are enhanced by an ability to recognize and interpret spatial distributions, and to analyze regions. Particular emphasis is placed on the applied aspects of geography, with many graduates employed by private business as well as city, regional, state and national planning agencies. Recipients of graduate degrees in geography have also gone on to a variety of successful careers in various fields, including retail store location analysis, city planning, environmental assessment, and university teaching and research.

The Master of Science Degree. Admission to the master’s program in geography is granted to college graduates with superior academic records. An undergraduate geography major is not required. Majors from the social, physical, and behavioral sciences and from the humanities are encouraged to apply. Incoming graduate students must demonstrate competency in cultural geography, physical geography, statistics, and cartography. If a student lacks these prerequisite skills, an additional course in each of these subjects is required.

Two basic plans of study exist for the master’s degree. One plan requires a minimum of 30 credit hours, including a thesis; the other is a 36-credit-hour non-thesis option. Plans of study can be developed to accommodate many interests. Major faculty interests include resource management, cultural and historical geography, urban and transportation geography, regional analysis and development, and cultural ecology.

The Doctor of Philosophy Degree. Admission to the PhD program is granted to students with superior records in their previous graduate study. A previous degree in geography is not required, but incoming students from other disciplines must demonstrate competency in cultural geography, physical geography, statistics and cartography. If a student lacks these prerequisite skills, an additional course in each of these subjects is required. A minimum of 60 hours of graduate credit beyond the master’s degree is required for the PhD degree. These hours include core courses (13 hours), elective courses in geography (20 hours minimum), elective courses outside of geography (12 hours minimum), and dissertation hours (15 hours minimum). Each student chooses an individual doctoral committee that advises the student in the formulation of an approved plan of study for the degree. Students focus their studies in one of three department specialty areas: cultural and historical geography, resource management, and urban/transportation geography. Candidates for the PhD in geography must demonstrate either (1) proficiency in one language other than English, (2) reading knowledge of two languages other than English, or (3) proficiency in advanced quantitative methods. To be advanced to doctoral candidacy, the student must demonstrate proficiency in three specialized subject areas within geography and related disciplines by passing written and oral comprehensive examinations. An important requirement for the PhD degree is the preparation and successful defense of a doctoral dissertation. The dissertation must demonstrate the candidate’s ability to plan and complete independent, original research in geography.

Boone Pickens School of Geology

Jay M. Gregg, PhD - Professor and Head

Earth is the residence of the human race. It is essential to develop a better understanding of the composition, internal and external processes that affect the Earth. Earth is an outdoor laboratory filled with opportunities to observe Earth processes in action. By applying knowledge of forces that shape the Earth, geoscientists seek to reconstruct the past and anticipate the future. Geoscientists provide information to society for solving problems and establishing policy for resource management, environmental protection, and public health, safety and welfare.

Geology is concerned with the processes, the history, and the characteristics of the rocks and sediments that shape the Earth. Human activities, predominantly on or near the surface, have utilized rocks and rock products, mainly petroleum and metals, to contribute to the quality of life. Because the Earth is dynamic—that is, the land surface is constantly changing—knowledge of earthquakes, volcanoes, plate tectonics, floods and landslides, to name a few dynamic events, is critical to minimize human suffering and economic loss. Within geology, different specialties, such as petroleum geology, ground-water geology (hydrogeology), geomorphology (study of surface processes), structural geology, and paleontology (study of fossils), have developed.

The Boone Pickens School of Geology offers traditional academic program services, awards BS and MS degrees in geology and conducts various outreach programs. Geology majors are provided a quality education designed to develop leadership skills and enhance employment opportunities. The Boone Pickens School of Geology has embraced two areas with great potential for growth: sedimentary/petroleum geology and hydrogeology/environmental geology. In both areas, the school has already established a sound infrastructure—appropriate faculty appointments, laboratory and computer upgrades, and a sound record of productivity. Geology undergraduates are eligible for one of at least 10 departmental scholarships available, based on academic achievement and need. Teaching assistantships, research assistantships, and fellowships are available for qualifying geology graduate students.

Geologists are employed extensively in applied and pure research and in teaching. Applied research includes the exploration for, and development of, oil and gas fields, metallic and nonmetallic mineral deposits, and reservoirs of ground water. The geologist is well-prepared to pursue and direct environmental studies. Careers in research may be found with private employers, government agencies or universities. Teaching positions in geology are available at all levels, beginning with secondary education. As with most other sciences, more employment opportunities will be available to students with advanced training and a broad background. In general, careers as teachers in a college or university and in research are open only to those with graduate training.

Graduate Programs

Prerequisites. The student should have at least 30 credit hours in geology. Additional undergraduate requirements to enter the master’s degree program include: two classes in chemistry or geochemistry, two classes in physics, math through calculus, and one biology course. Deficiencies in course work must be made up by the student after
entering the program. The Graduate Record Examination is recommended, but not required, for admission to the program.  

The Master of Science Degree. Emphasis in the master’s degree program is placed on applied geology, including sedimentary/petroleum geology, hydrogeology/environmental geology, palaeontology, and structural geology.

Thesis Option—this option is recommended for students planning to continue graduate studies at the doctoral level. Each candidate must complete at least 30 semester credit hours of work beyond the prerequisites. As many as 12 of these may be taken in other departments of the University upon approval by the candidate’s advisory committee. Each candidate is required to write a thesis. A final defense of the thesis and the research that it documents is required of all students.

Nonthesis Option—this option is recommended for students who do not plan to continue graduate studies. Each candidate must complete at least 33 semester credit hours of work beyond the prerequisites and three semester hours for the creative component.

Students who wish to pursue the PhD degree upon completion of the MS have the option of entering the interdisciplinary program in environmental science administered through the Graduate College. Numerous Department of Geology faculty members currently advise students seeking the doctoral degree. Funding as a teaching or research assistant may be available to assist students seeking the PhD in environmental science if the thrust of their research is related to geology.

History

Elizabeth A. Williams, PhD - Professor and Head

History is the record, explanation and interpretation of the totality of human activities. The study of history is unique in its concern for the role of time in human development. History enhances the individual’s knowledge of self and gives perspective and deeper meaning to contemporary events. Courses in the Department of History are intended to give the student a broad understanding of the evolution of civilizations, peoples, countries and institutions, and an insight into the meaning of this evolution. They are also designed to prepare graduates for many types of employment.

Because history is basic to many special fields, the department’s instruction is designed to aid students interested in education, law, journalism, scientific and technical disciplines, public service and business administration. Students in colleges other than the College of Arts and Sciences who wish to pursue the study of history are encouraged to enroll in courses of interest. The Department of History offers a number of courses that satisfy General Education requirements in the social sciences and the humanities. It participates actively in the Honors Program and offers to its majors the option of pursuing a special plan of study leading to a Departmental Honors certificate. The Department of History also participates actively in the Area Studies certificate programs and in the Women’s Studies certificate program.

Graduate Programs

The Department of History offers programs leading to the MA and PhD in history. In addition to the general Graduate College requirements, the candidate for the Master of Arts or Doctor of Philosophy degree with a major in history is expected to have prerequisites of approximately 30 semester credit hours (including 18 upper-division hours) of undergraduate history courses, with an undergraduate grade-point average of at least 3.00.

The Master of Arts Degree. Admission to the master’s program requires submission of scores for the verbal, quantitative, and analytical sections of the Graduate Record Examination. Candidates for the Master of Arts degree choose one of three alternative plans. Requirements common to all three plans include completion of a course (HIST 5023) in historical methods of research and writing, several graduate seminars, and a two-hour oral examination at the end of the program. Students must maintain at least a 3.00 (“B”) grade-point average. An advisory committee will be appointed for each student during the first semester of enrollment. The three plans are designed for different careers, and the distinctive requirements of each are summarized below:

Plan I—(This plan is recommended for those planning to continue graduate studies at the doctoral level.) Students must complete a minimum of 30 hours of graduate courses in three fields (at least one in United States history and one in non-United States history). These hours must include at least nine hours of seminar offered by the department (reading and/or research), Historical Methods (HIST 5023), and six hours of thesis (HIST 5000). With the consent of the advisory committee, students may substitute a field in a related discipline for one field in history. Students must take at least six hours in the related discipline. The specific courses used to comprise this field must be taken at the graduate level and have the approval of that member of the advisory committee representing the related discipline.

Fields of study include:

Ancient Mediterranean world
Medieval Europe
Early Modern Europe to 1789
Europe since 1789
East Asia
England to 1714
Latin America
Middle East
Russia and East Europe
United States to 1877
United States since 1877
Women’s history

Students must demonstrate satisfactory reading knowledge of one foreign language.

Plan II—(Students must be pursuing applied history.) Students must complete a minimum of 33 hours of graduate courses. These hours must include at least three hours of research seminar, six additional hours of seminar offered by the department (reading and/or research), Historical Methods (HIST 5023), an internship (HIST 5030), and two hours of research (HIST 5000). With the approval of the student’s advisory committee, as many as nine of these hours may be taken in related disciplines.

Plan III—Students must complete a minimum of 36 hours of graduate courses in three fields, at least one in United States history and one in non-United States history. (See “Fields of Study” listed under Plan I.) The 36 hours must also include at least three hours of research seminar, nine additional hours of seminar offered by the department (reading and/or research), Historical Methods (HIST 5023) and a three-hour creative component (master’s research paper). The creative component requirement is satisfied by the course HIST 6120, Special Studies in History. At least six hours of the course work must be in United States history and at least six hours in non-United States history. With the approval of the student’s advisory committee, as many as nine of these hours may be taken in related disciplines.

The Doctor of Philosophy Degree. Admission to the doctoral program requires a satisfactory score on the Graduate Record Examination. Each applicant must also meet Oklahoma State University requirements for the MA degree in history, with a grade-point average of at least 3.20 (on a 4.00 scale) in previous graduate work in history.

All doctoral students must have taken Historiography (HIST 6023), Historical Methods (HIST 5023) and Teaching History at the College Level (HIST 5021), and must take at least 12 hours seminar, including at least one research seminar in addition to any seminars taken as a master’s student. Work necessary to prepare the student for his or her written and oral examinations will be indicated in a plan of study which is prepared and approved by an advisory committee. General-
ally, a minimum of 60 semester graduate credit hours beyond the MA degree with at least a "B" grade average for all courses is required.

The prospective doctoral student must offer four fields for examination, one of which may be a pertinent field outside of history. Students specializing in United States history must offer for examination:
1. The United States history field.
2. One chronological or topical field from the following:
   - Early America to 1787
   - Nineteenth-century United States, 1877-1877
   - Modern United States, 1877-present
   - United States economic
   - United States military
   - United States social and intellectual
   - United States South
   - United States West
3. Two fields from the following:
   - Ancient Mediterranean world
   - Medieval Europe
   - Early modern Europe to 1789
   - Europe since 1789
   - East Asia
   - England to 1714
   - Latin America
   - Middle East
   - Russia and East Europe
   - Women's history
   - Students specializing in non-United States history must offer for examination:
1. Three fields from the following:
   - Ancient Mediterranean world
   - Medieval Europe
   - Early modern Europe to 1789
   - Europe since 1789
   - East Asia
   - England to 1714
   - Latin America
   - Middle East
   - Russia and East Europe
   - Women's history
2. Any field in United States history.
3. With the consent of their advisory committee, students may substitute for one of the fields (except United States history) a pertinent field outside history. At least 9 hours of graduate course work in a field outside history would normally be expected.

Upon admission to do graduate work at the doctoral level, the student's temporary adviser is the departmental director of graduate studies. Before the middle of the student's second semester, an advisory committee is appointed to assist the student in preparing the plan of study. This committee will consist of four members of the graduate faculty (one from each of the examination fields), including the student's major advisor, who acts as chairperson.

No student is admitted to candidacy until he or she has (1) demonstrated a reading knowledge in at least one foreign language; (2) completed all course work on the plan of study; (3) completed with a grade of "B" or higher graduate courses in historical methods, historiography, and teaching history at the college level; (4) obtained approval of a proposed dissertation topic; and (5) passed comprehensive written and oral examinations in each of the areas of concentration.

Upon admission to candidacy, the student begins work on the dissertation. Supervised by the major advisor and members of the advisory committee, the dissertation provides the student an opportunity to do original research on a topic within the major area of study. The final dissertation must be submitted to the Graduate College in accordance with the regulations contained in the "Graduate College" section of the Catalog. Upon completion of the dissertation, the student undergoes a final examination. Oral in nature and no more than two hours in length, the examination is primarily a defense of the dissertation.

**School of Journalism and Broadcasting**

**Tom Weir, PhD - Associate Professor and Head**

At Oklahoma State University, the professional areas of mass communication are grouped in the School of Journalism and Broadcasting (SJB). These areas seek to complement each other with a minimum of duplication.

A modern democratic society cannot live by its ideals if its mass media practitioners are merely competent technicians who worry less about what is reported to the people than how it is reported. Citizens must have accurate information about social, political and economic problems as well as knowledge of actions taken by government agencies at all levels. From village council to Supreme Court, there can be no exception from the rule that public business is the public's business.

To speak to people through radio, television or the printed page requires knowledge of the people to whom one wishes to speak and an understanding of the world in which they live. Therefore, the curriculum of the School of Journalism and Broadcasting is designed to offer more than training in communication techniques. Three-quarters of the SJB student's time at the University is devoted to a liberal education in the arts and sciences. At the same time, the student gains competence in a professional field through courses in the SJB.

Undergraduate students in the School of Journalism and Broadcasting will:
1. Demonstrate an understanding of the relevant constitutional freedoms, legal issues and ethical principles in mass communications.
2. Demonstrate an understanding of the relevance of human diversity in mass communications.
3. Demonstrate an understanding of the history and social role of mass communications.
4. Demonstrate critical, creative and individual thinking.
5. Demonstrate an understanding of the relevant theories and concepts of mass communications.
6. Demonstrate an understanding of the methods and techniques of research and information gathering.
7. Demonstrate appropriate writing, editing and production techniques in mass communications.
8. Demonstrate an understanding of relevant planning and management methods in mass communications.

**Accreditation**

The undergraduate programs of study in the School of Journalism and Broadcasting are accredited by the Accrediting Council on Education in Journalism and Mass Communication.

**Admission to the Undergraduate Program**

Admission into the School requires completion of 28 hours with a minimum graduation retention GPA of 2.50. Enrollment in all upper-division JB courses except JB 3173 and 4253 requires admission into the School, a passing score on the SJB language proficiency exam, and a minimum grade of "C" in JB 2003. The ability to type a minimum of 30 words a minute and either a computer course or computer literacy is also required for enrollment in all writing courses beginning with JB 2003.
Requirements for Graduation. The programs of study offered in the School of Journalism and Broadcasting are built around strong writing, liberal arts and professional components. Of the 127 hours required to earn a degree in SJB, students must complete up to 45 semester hours in journalism and broadcasting courses and a minimum of 65 hours in traditional liberal arts courses.

Students must have a minimum 2.5 GPA in all JB courses and major requirements with a minimum grade of "C" in each course. No more than 12 hours in JB courses may be transferred from other institutions.

All students majoring in Journalism and Broadcasting are also required to develop and maintain a portfolio exhibiting their best and most appropriate work as well as assignments required for the portfolio. School faculty, staff and industry professionals will evaluate these portfolios periodically and offer guidance and constructive criticism. It is anticipated that the portfolios will be helpful in showcasing students' performance when they apply for internships or jobs.

Advertising

Ideas ranging from the introduction of new products and services to public service messages are communicated to mass audiences through advertising. Advertising also provides the economic base for the mass media—newspapers, radio and television, magazines, cable—thus freeing them from the political control found in many countries.

Upon a strong liberal arts foundation, majors in advertising build educational experiences that prepare them for work in copywriting and layout, production, management, media selection, market analysis, sales and campaign planning. The program focuses on decision-making and problem-solving, and includes courses in marketing, psychology, sociology, management and economics. Opportunities for part-time jobs, summer internships, participation in the Advertising Club and the National Student Advertising competition round out the student's experience.

The program is also designed for students who wish to write, sell and produce commercial messages, and to move into management or ownership positions in media or other parts of the industry.

The program is affiliated with the American Advertising Federation and the American Academy of Advertising.

News-Editorial

News coverage today has gone beyond routine reporting on police and city hall activities. The modern newspaper tries to spotlight the diverse components of our complex society. This objective calls for writers with broad interests and special knowledge in politics, religion, science, business, economics, art and public welfare.

The news-editorial program prepares students for writing and editing positions on newspapers, magazines, and trade journals, in radio and television news departments, and in book editing and publishing.

Students may combine other areas of interest and journalism to prepare for specialized work in technical writing and editing.

Journalism majors assist in the publishing of a campus newspaper, The Daily Oklahoma Collegian, in the newsroom of radio stations KOSU and KZKY, and in audio and video news programming cablecast over a local cable station. Many juniors and seniors find this work a source of revenue to assist them in the cost of their education. Advanced news-editorial students also spend one summer on an internship with a commercial newspaper or broadcasting station, and some spend the spring or fall semester on a daily newspaper. Some hold part-time jobs as campus correspondents for various publications or work for media in the Stillwater area. Part of the laboratory work in JB 3263, 3313, 4313, and 4423 is done on The Daily Oklahoma Collegian or other publications.

The news-editorial program is affiliated with the Oklahoma Press Association, Southwest Journalism Congress, and the Society of Professional Journalists.

Public Relations

Public relations practitioners work in a variety of organizational situations including businesses, public relations agencies and non-profit groups of all types. The work involves a wide variety of activities from planning public relations campaigns and special events to preparing various kinds of communication such as brochures, newsletters, news releases, speeches and annual reports. The purpose of public relations work is to help develop mutual understanding between an organization and the audiences who are important to the success of the organization.

The public relations program of study is designed to provide students with the ability to: (1) write and communicate well, (2) recognize the public relations implications of real situations and the needs of organizations, (3) understand the public relations process and how to apply it, and (4) understand the characteristics of the mass media and their importance in public relations.

The public relations program is affiliated with the Society of National Association Publications, International Association of Business Communicators, and the Public Relations Society of America.

Broadcast Journalism

The hands-on broadcast journalism curriculum prepares students for careers in such performance-based fields as broadcast news and sports reporting and anchoring, while also providing extensive training in such behind-the-scenes jobs as videography, writing, editing and news production, and station management positions. Optional course work in the broadcast sequence also acquaints students with the basics of executive-level careers in radio and television programming, station promotion, and management.

Students learn the basics of audio, video and computer-mediated production on state-of-the-art equipment and are challenged to put those skills to use by participating in the daily operation of cable radio station KXZY and various video productions. Internships at broadcast and cable outlets in the region also provide students with on-the-job experience and a valuable opportunity to work with seasoned media professionals.

The broadcast program is affiliated with the National Association of FM Broadcasters, Radio Advertising Bureau, Oklahoma Association of Broadcasters, Oklahoma Broadcast Education Association, National Association of Broadcasters, Broadcast Education Association and National Public Radio.

Sports Media

This program, one of very few undergraduate degrees in sports media in the United States, offers students the option of concentrating in sports broadcasting, sports journalism or sports public relations and promotion.

Students pursuing an undergraduate degree in sports media from OSU receive classic hands-on training in all aspects of the industry. Depending on the area of concentration, course work may include sports writing, play-by-play announcing and field production.

Oklahoma State University and the School of Journalism and Broadcasting enjoy a special relationship with sports media throughout the country. As a major sports venue, the OSU campus is visited regularly by national and regional sports media - both print and broadcast - to cover major sporting events. These media organizations routinely utilize SJB student workers. The 2004 debut of ESPNU was telecast from Stillwater because the campus represents classic collegiate sports, and because the network producers were able to rely on a supply of ready and trained Journalism and Broadcasting students.

The sports media faculty have strong professional backgrounds in the field and offer students the solid foundation in both theory and practice that prepare them for a variety of career paths.
Graduate Programs

The School of Journalism and Broadcasting offers courses leading to the degree of Master of Science in mass communications. Prerequisites for unqualified admission to the master's program include a bachelor's degree in an area of mass communication with an overall grade-point average of 3.00. The Graduate Record Exam (GRE) is required. Potential doctoral candidates must have a bachelor's or master's degree in a mass communication area, in addition to professional experience. Graduates of a non-mass communication discipline may enter the Master of Science program, with the stipulation that they complete, without graduate credit, foundation courses relevant to career interests before they take graduate courses.

Basic emphasis is on media management, application of current communication theories and research methods and designs to the professional aspects of mass communication. Electives in the behavioral sciences are encouraged.

Liberal Studies

Thomas A. Wilde, PhD - Professor and Director

Liberal Studies degrees meet the needs of students who desire greater breadth in the major than typical degrees allow. By combining course work across several Arts and Sciences social sciences and humanities disciplines, students tailor their curriculum to unique academic and career goals.

The major requires 45 hours distributed across at least three Arts and Sciences disciplines. To ensure coherence among courses selected across disciplines, a three semester hour senior project is required as a part of the major. The senior project is examined and approved by a panel of three faculty members who represent the disciplines in which the candidate concentrates course work.

Mathematics

Dale E Alspach, PhD - Professor and Head

Contemporary mathematics is concerned with investigations into far-reaching extensions of such basic concepts as space and number and also with the formulation and analysis of mathematical models arising from varied fields of application. Mathematics has always had close relationships to the physical sciences and engineering. As the biological, social and management sciences have become increasingly quantitative, the mathematical sciences have moved in new directions to develop interrelationships with these subjects.

Mathematicians teach in high schools and colleges, do research and teach at universities, and work in industry and government. In industry mathematicians usually work in research, although they have become increasingly involved in management. Firms employing large numbers of mathematicians are in the aerospace, communications, computer, defense, electronics, energy, and insurance industries. In industry a mathematician typically serves either in a consulting capacity, giving advice on mathematical problems to engineers and scientists, or as a member of a research team composed of specialists in several fields. Among the qualities which he or she should possess are breadth of interests and outlook, the ability to think abstractly and a keen interest in problem solving.

An undergraduate specializing in mathematics will begin with calculus or sometimes with college algebra and trigonometry. Well-prepared students are encouraged to establish credit in elementary courses by passing advanced standing examinations. All majors take courses in differential equations, and linear and modern algebra and modern analysis. The remainder of the field of concentration is determined by the student's interests and future plans. Students are encouraged to acquire proficiency in computer programming and to take substantial work in related fields in which they have a special interest.

Undergraduate degree tracks are available to prepare students for: (1) employment in industry; (2) secondary school mathematics teaching; and, (3) graduate study in mathematics. Students choosing secondary school teaching complete all requirements for state licensure as part of this program.

Many of the more challenging positions in mathematics require study beyond a bachelor's degree. For example, university teaching requires a PhD, while teaching in a junior college requires at least a master's degree and possibly a doctorate. Approximately 25 percent of the students receiving a bachelor's degree in mathematics go on to graduate work.

Graduate Programs

The Department of Mathematics offers programs leading to the Master of Science and Doctor of Philosophy degrees.

Prerequisites. A student beginning graduate study in mathematics is expected to have had, as an undergraduate, at least 18 semester hours in mathematics beyond elementary integral calculus including courses in differential equations, linear algebra and modern algebra. An applicant whose preparation is deficient may be admitted to the program, if otherwise qualified, but will be required to correct the deficiency, increasing somewhat the time required to complete work for the degree. Prospective graduate students are advised to take at least introductory courses in related fields such as physics, statistics, and computer science.

The Master of Science Degree. The department offers three tracks in the Master of Science degree, computational and applied mathematics, mathematics education and pure mathematics. Each degree requires 32 credit hours of graduate course work in mathematics or related subjects. Two of these hours are waived if a master's thesis is written. Each student must have a grade of "A" or "B" in 18 hours of core course work.

The Doctor of Philosophy Degree. The department offers three tracks for the PhD degree: applied mathematics, mathematics education and pure mathematics. Admission to the PhD program is granted only to students with superior records in their previous graduate or undergraduate study. A minimum of 90 semester credit hours of graduate credit beyond the bachelor's degree is required for the PhD degree. This may include a maximum of 24 hours credit for the thesis. Each student has an individual doctoral committee which advises the student in the formulation of an approved plan of study for the degree. Each student must pass three comprehensive exams from a selection of core topic areas, or pass two such exams and complete a minor thesis.

The most important requirement for the PhD degree is the preparation of an acceptable thesis. This thesis must demonstrate the candidate's ability to do independent, original work in mathematics, or mathematics education.
Microbiology and Molecular Genetics

Robert V. Miller, PhD – Regents Professor and Head

Microbiology

Microbiology is the study of bacteria, viruses and fungi and their many relationships to humans, animals and plants. Cell and molecular biology is the study of how cellular components interact to promote life processes. Microbiologists apply their knowledge to public health and sanitation; food production and preservation, industrial fermentations which produce chemicals, drugs, antibiotics, alcoholic beverages and various food products; prevention and cure of diseases in plants, animals and humans; biodegradation of toxic chemicals and other materials present in the environment; insect pathology; and other activities which seek to control microbes, to enhance their useful activities and prevent those which are harmful. Microbiology is the basis for the exciting and expanding field of biotechnology which endeavors to utilize living organisms to solve important problems in medicine, agriculture, and environmental science.

Microbes live in a great variety of environments and carry out many of the processes found in higher organisms. They are thus interesting in their own right as model systems for the study of reactions which occur in higher organisms. As subjects for research in biochemical and molecular genetics, microbes have contributed most to the current knowledge of genetics at the molecular level (microbial systems are in the forefront of genetic engineering).

Departmental courses are designed to provide comprehensive training and the skills required for working with microorganisms, as well as a broad understanding of all aspects of microbial life. Many of the microbiology positions require graduate level studies. The undergraduate program includes five options: Molecular Genetics, Microbial Ecology/Environmental, Microbial Pathogenesis, Clinical Laboratory Science, and Biomedical Science. In addition to the BS degree, the department offers graduate studies leading to the MS and PhD degrees in various areas of concentration, including virology, microbial physiology, microbial genetics, microbial anatomy, immunology, and several applied areas.

Opportunities for employment exist at all scholarly levels, in many local, state and national government agencies and in varied industries. The record for employment of microbiologists has been excellent for many years and with the increased interest in biotechnology, employment opportunities look even brighter for the future.

These fields require a solid knowledge of other sciences and students should take high school courses in mathematics, biology, chemistry and physics. Students should have broad interests in how living cells work and have aptitudes for biology and chemistry.

Molecular Genetics Option

This option includes the study of DNA and RNA synthesis and how genes are expressed to allow differentiation of a single-celled egg into a complex multicellular organism. Molecular biologists study protein synthesis, cell ultrastructure, organelle structure and function, enzymology, and the collection of concepts and procedures commonly known as "biotechnology" or "genetic engineering."

With the advent of modern molecular biology, studies of the fundamental processes of living cells have taken dramatic strides. This option at Oklahoma State University has been designed to allow students to acquire training in a multidisciplinary atmosphere that prepares them for employment in the rapidly growing fields of bioinformatics, molecular genetics, biotechnology, and several other areas. Students following this avenue of study will be well prepared to continue toward the MS or PhD degrees at this or other institutions or to find employment directly upon graduation.

Microbial Ecology/Environmental Option

Microorganisms play an astonishingly important role in the evolution, ecology, and biogeochemical processes of our planet and in sustenance of its inhabitants. The option deals with the role of microorganisms in the environment, their diversity and interactions with each other and with the environment in which they live. The application of the latest molecular tools in retrieving genomic information directly from the environment has provided access to the vast microbial world of uncultivable organisms and in exploring their identity, in-situ activity, genetic diversity, and their importance to human health and the environment. The development of innovative cultivation strategies has helped isolate elusive microbes from some of the most unusual and extreme environments, and thus providing glimpses into their novel genes and metabolic potential that can be exploited for the development of biotechnology. The Microbial Ecology - Environmental Microbiology is truly an interdisciplinary science. To explore the inner workings of microbes and the processes they catalyze in complex ecosystem, a multidisciplinary integrative approaches involving disparate disciplines such as microbiology, geology, molecular biology, and computation biology are required.

Microbial Pathogenesis Option

The aim of the Microbial Pathogenesis option is to train undergraduate students seeking to pursue graduate studies in this field or a career in medically related fields. A third of all preventable deaths on this planet are due to infectious diseases. Over a period of several decades, there has been a significant decline in infectious diseases due to the considerable impact of medicine and scientific research. However, there is an upsurge of infectious threats to human beings in the recent years. This has been due to a number of reasons, including the emergence new and antibiotic resistant infectious agents and a scarcity of effective vaccines.

The Microbial Pathogenesis Program option focuses on the study of the various groups of infectious agents, the mechanisms employed by these to subvert the host immune system and cause tissue damage, and their interactions with host cells. A comprehensive understanding of the complex mechanisms of microbial pathogenesis requires study of molecular biology of the pathogens, eukaryotic cell biology and the host immunological defense strategies. Our BS degree program in Microbiology with the Microbial Pathogenesis option is designed to expose the students to this exciting area of science so that they are well equipped to pursue their chosen careers.

Clinical Laboratory Science

This option is designed to give the student the broad general education and the highly technical skills that are required for a successful career in this important medical science. The minimum requirement for the BS degree in clinical laboratory science (CLLS) is three years of university work that includes two semesters of general chemistry; organic chemistry and biochemistry; immunology, genetics, anatomy and physiology, physics, upper-division courses in microbiology, two semesters of calculus; and one year of clinical laboratory education (internship) in an approved school of clinical laboratory science.

For the BS degree and certification, the students will, after three years of university work, complete one year of clinical internship in a school of clinical laboratory science accredited by the National Accrediting Agency for Clinical Laboratory Science (NAACLS) and currently affiliated with Oklahoma State University. Schools of clinical laboratory science/medical technology at the following hospitals: Comanche County Memorial Hospital, Lawton, OK; Muskogee General Hospital, Muskogee, OK; St. Francis Hospital, Tulsa, OK; Valley View Hospital, Ada, OK.

Clinical Laboratory Sciences is unique in that students are able to enter a health profession directly after obtaining a BS degree. Clinical laboratory scientists comprise the third largest segment of the healthcare professions and are an important member of the healthcare team, working with doctors and nurses. This is a very versatile
profession and allows the graduate to seek employment opportunities in healthcare laboratories, administration, health law, medicine, dentistry, or veterinary medicine.

**Biomedical Science Option**

Students electing this option plan to complete at least 90 hours of course work toward a microbiology/cell & molecular biology major, including professional program prerequisites, and apply to their professional program (chiropractic, dental, medical, optometry, pharmacy, podiatry, veterinary) during their sophomore year. Students accepted into one of these professional programs in their junior year can transfer credits earned in the first year of professional school back to Oklahoma State University to count toward a Bachelor of Science degree in biomedical science.

**Graduate Programs**

Programs of course work and research leading to the degrees of Master of Science and Doctor of Philosophy are offered by the department in microbiology or cell and molecular biology. Students may elect either microbiology or cell and molecular biology within the MS and PhD program.

**Prerequisites.** Applicants for admission must have received the baccalaureate degree from an accredited college and must have completed a minimum of 30 semester credit hours in biological and physical sciences. The Aptitude Test portion of the Graduate Record Examination is required of all applicants. An applicant will not be accepted unless at least one member of the departmental graduate faculty agrees to act as the applicant’s advisor at the MS level. A majority of the departmental graduate faculty must approve an applicant at the PhD level.

**The Master of Science Degree.** In addition to the general requirements for the degree, the following departmental requirements must be met in attaining 30 credit hours with thesis. The plan of study must include six credit hours in MICR 5000 and one credit hour in MICR 5160.

All candidates for the MS degree are expected to attend and participate in all departmental seminars. A final oral examination covering the thesis is administered by the advisory committee.

**The Doctor of Philosophy Degree.** The study plan of a student entering the program with a bachelor's degree must include 30 credit hours in courses other than MICR 5000 and MICR 6000. Those entering with a master's degree must include 15 hours in courses other than MICR 6000 which were not included in the master's study plan. Three hours of MICR 5160 must be included.

Candidates for the PhD degree must pass both a written and an oral qualifying examination. The final examination covering the dissertation research is given promptly after the candidate has given a public seminar on his or her research work.

**Departments of Military Studies**

**Peter M.A. Sherwood, PhD, ScD - Coordinator**

In agreement with the U.S. Air Force and the U.S. Army, OSU recognizes separate departments of Aerospace Studies and of Military Science as integral academic and administrative departments of the University. These two departments are administered within the framework of the College of Arts and Sciences. The two departments provide instruction under the basic and advanced Reserve Officers' Training Corps (ROTC) programs.

**Scholarships**

The Army and Air Force ROTC programs offer a wide variety of four, three, and two year merit based scholarship opportunities to qualified students interested in pursuing a commission in the Army or Air Force. ROTC scholarships provide payment for tuition, mandatory fees, books, and a monthly subsistence allowance for the duration of the scholarship period. An additional university based incentive scholarship of $1,000.00 per semester is allocated to 10 ROTC scholarship recipients annually. Four-year National ROTC scholarships are offered annually to high school seniors, who will be entering college in the fall semester. Scholarship applications may be obtained through local high schools, online or by contacting the university's ROTC department. In addition, the Army ROTC Program offers four and three year Guaranteed Reserve Force Duty Scholarships annually to students interested in pursuing a commission as an officer in the Army National Guard or United States Army Reserve.

**Flexibility**

ROTC at OSU offers a variety of programs, giving the student considerable flexibility in charting a path to commissioning in the Army or the Air Force. Programs are designed so those individuals in all OSU colleges, departments and majors can tailor their academic/ROTC curriculum in order to attain commissioned status. Opportunities also exist in both Army and Air Force ROTC for the student to "test the water" early in his or her academic program by participating in basic familiarity courses. Those interested in learning more about ROTC at OSU, or in enrolling, are urged to contact the professor of aerospace studies or professor of military science in Thatcher Hall on campus.

**Aerospace Studies**

**Col. Kenneth M. Konicki, MBA - Professor of Aerospace Studies and Head**

The basic four-year Air Force ROTC program consists of one classroom hour and one leadership laboratory period per week during the freshman and sophomore years. Additionally, at least two hours a week of physical conditioning is required. Basic courses give students a thorough background in United States Air Force (USAF) structure and history, as well as drill and ceremony, military customs and courtesies and wear of the uniform. Non-scholarship cadets enrolling in the freshman- and sophomore-level courses incur no military obligation. During the spring of the sophomore year, students compete for selection into the Professional Officer Course (POC); those selected will attend either a four- or five week field training encampment during the summer between the sophomore and junior years. For students getting a late start into the Air Force ROTC program, depending on academic major, there are one, two- and three-year programs that can lead to POC entrance and eventual commissioning.

Following completion of field training, students spend four semesters as POC cadets; academic courses consist of three classroom hours and one leadership laboratory per week, for three hours of credit per semester. Class work and laboratory involvement are designed to prepare the student for his or her future role as a leader in the U.S. Air Force. In addition, students are given the opportunity to gain practical leadership experience by holding various positions of responsibility in the Cadet Wing. POC cadets not on two-, three- or four-year scholar-
ships will receive $350.00-$400.00 per month subsistence allowance if they maintain retention standards.

All students have the opportunity to participate in various cadet wing-sponsored extracurricular activities during the year. These include visits to active Air Force installations to gain first-hand knowledge of the duties of junior Air Force officers; cadets are often taken on incentive flights in USAF aircraft. Cadets are also given the option to apply for numerous summer programs. These include expanded base visits, and even free-fall parachuting, and glider training programs in conjunction with the U.S. Air Force Academy.

Students who successfully complete the POC program are commissioned as second lieutenants in the United States Air Force, with a four-year obligation. Those who are selected for pilot or navigator training incur a ten- or six-year commitment, respectively.

**Military Science**

Lt. Col. Jeffrey Hensley - Professor of Military Science and Head

Students desiring to expand the scope of their education, while preparing for a dynamic and rewarding career as an officer in the United States Army, active duty, National Guard, or Army Reserve, choose the Army Reserve Officer Training Corps program (ROTC) as an adjunct to their chosen field of study. With courses dealing in a wide range of subjects from leadership to tactics, taught both indoors and out, the Army ROTC program produces 3,800 second lieutenants each year across the nation.

There are several students who join Army ROTC in the simultaneous Membership Program in which they are both students in the ROTC and members of the Army Reserve or Oklahoma National Guard. This provides tremendous experience and economic benefit.

The Army ROTC program consists of a basic course and an advanced course. Students desiring to see what the program is like may enroll in up to 10 hours of military science with no commitment to the United States Army. During this basic course, emphasis is placed upon leadership, war gaming, individual skills, problem solving, rappelling, and land navigation. All lower-division ROTC courses are open to the entire University community regardless of year in school.

Students committing themselves to a commission in the United States Army are permitted to enroll in the Army ROTC advanced course upon completion of the basic course or equivalent. The advanced course consists of 12 hours of academic work taken during the junior and senior year. In addition, participation in a five-week summer camp is mandatory. The advanced course emphasizes further development of leadership skills, offensive and defensive tactics, physical conditioning, ethics, military law, professional and basic military knowledge and skills. Additionally, advanced course students are responsible for use of required military skills as they act as assistant instructors during laboratory periods, plan leadership laboratories, plan and conduct field training exercises and are responsible for coordinating and supervising departmental extracurricular activities.

All advanced course students must satisfy directed professional military education (PME) requirements prior to receiving a commission. The PME consists of two essential parts—a baccalaureate degree and completion of commissioning requirements to include an upper division military history course.

Students interested in the Department of Military Science are encouraged to visit with departmental faculty members at any time for further information concerning departmental course offerings and class sequence. A number of two- and three-year scholarships are available through the department. Prior enrollment in military science is not a prerequisite for departmental scholarship application.

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**Music**

Julia C. Combs, DMA - Professor and Head

The music program at OSU serves students who plan careers in the field of music as well as those who desire to participate in any element of a comprehensive music program. Professional instruction prepares students for careers in performance, teaching, or the music industry. The OSU undergraduate degrees are also excellent preparation for graduate school and for church positions.

The student planning to major in music at the university level should consider his or her background carefully. It should include a strong interest in music during high school years and a talent for performance in vocal or instrumental music. Individual lessons, fundamental theory knowledge, and basic piano ability will also be helpful.

The music major may choose from the following degrees: (1) Bachelor of Music (BM) in performance, (2) BM in instrumental/vocal music education, (3) BM with elective studies in business, and (4) Bachelor of Arts (BA) in music. In addition, the Bachelor of University Studies allows the student to combine an interest in music with another outside field.

The student majoring in a discipline other than music may participate with music majors in all ensembles (choirs, opera, orchestra, wind ensemble, marching band, concert band, jazz bands, and chamber groups) and courses, as well as individual lessons for academic credit.

An active scholarship program provides assistance to music majors as well as non-majors. Students are invited to write for audition information.

Faculty members, students and ensembles present over 100 concerts and recitals annually. The department also supports an active program of extension and outreach opportunities.

The Department of Music is accredited by the National Association of Schools of Music (NASM).

**Admission Requirements.** Students wishing to major in music should contact the Department of Music to arrange for an entrance audition and interview.

**Graduate Programs**

The Department of Music offers a Master of Music in pedagogy and performance. Consult the "Master’s Degree Programs" section of the "Graduate College" in the Catalog for general regulations and requirements relating to admission.

The Master of Music in pedagogy and performance combines the salient elements of music performance and the pedagogy of music. Its intent is to adapt to the changing complexion of today's musical world by melding the areas of pedagogy and performance into a single, functional degree.

There are two tracks of study available to students enrolled in the Master of Music in pedagogy and performance. The conducting track facilitates the development of rehearsal techniques, an understanding of the pedagogical issues surrounding ensemble building, and the shaping of conducting skills. The applied music track is designed for students who wish to hone their performing and pedagogical skills on a specific instrument.

Students accepted to the Master of Music in pedagogy and performance program are required to take a placement examination in music theory and history prior to their first semester of enrollment. Prior to graduation, all students must pass a final oral examination.

**Admission Requirements.** To participate in the pedagogy and performance program, a student must first make application to the Graduate College. Prospective students must have earned a Bachelor of Music from an NASM accredited institution, or the equivalent. Students interested in the conducting track must audition on campus, or submit a video-tape of their conducting, and fill out the department of music application for admission. Students interested in the applied music track must audition on campus, or submit an audiotape of a
recent performance (minimum of 20 minutes of music), and fill out the Department of Music application for admission.

Financial Assistance. The Department of Music offers a variety of assistantships with areas of specialization including music appreciation, class piano, instrumental techniques, accompanying, and music technology. Additional scholarships may be awarded through the Department of Music.

Philosophy

Doren A. Recker, PhD - Associate Professor and Head

Philosophy is an intellectual activity to be practiced and a subject matter to be studied. As an activity, philosophy seeks to analyze, evaluate, and often reformulate the ideas, principles and arguments by which experience is understood and explained and by which action is directed and justified. Every area of experience or behavior—esthetic, political, religious, scientific or moral—is considered by philosophy. The writings produced by great philosophers are worthy of study as models of thought and as artifacts of historical influence and cultural significance. In this latter role philosophy is related to the development of every academic discipline.

Courses offered in philosophy fall into three general groups: broad introductory courses that cover a variety of topics, historical courses that proceed chronologically through a sequence of thinkers, and special topic or field courses. Some offerings combine the latter two characteristics. Few undergraduate courses are intended primarily for majors. The BA program in philosophy has been approved for offering at OSU-Tulsa.

Students may pursue work in philosophy as part of their general education, as a support to their major area of concentration, as a minor, as a major leading to a BA degree, as a second major or in connection with a graduate program. The program in the major accommodates students of three sorts. The “general” track is designed for students who wish to explore philosophy as a general path to the refinement of their thinking, writing and speaking, and a deepening appreciation of the most fundamental and guiding ideas and values of civilization. It is a very flexible program, requiring two lower-division introductory courses, two upper-division historical survey courses and 19 hours of additional unspecified philosophy courses numbered 3000 or above. The “pre-professional” track is designed for students who wish to ground their professional interests (such as law, medicine, business, public service, the ministry), on a philosophic basis. Though requirements are technically the same for these students as ones on a general track, they are assigned a second adviser who helps to coordinate curricular and other activities for the best career preparation possible. The “graduate preparation” track is designed for students who are interested in pursuing graduate studies in philosophy. It requires an additional six hours of upper-division philosophy and mandates more specific courses than either of the other tracks. Students may shift from track to track at any time in their matriculation without prejudice.

A minor or a second major in philosophy will complement any other area of study. A philosophy minor requires 18 hours of unspecified philosophy courses, 12 of which must be numbered 3000 or above.

Graduate Programs

The Department of Philosophy offers a Master of Arts degree in philosophy. Consult the “Master’s Degree Programs” section of the “Graduate College” in the Catalog for general regulations and requirements relating to admission.

The Master of Arts degree in philosophy offers a broad-based curriculum designed to serve the interests of three kinds of students:

1. Teaching Emphasis: for the student who wishes to pursue his or her study of philosophy and prepare for a career teaching philosophy at a community college or small four-year institution;

2. Professional Emphasis: for the student who wishes to pursue his or her study of philosophy as a supplement to preparation in a wide variety of professions including business, law, government, the health professions, the ministry, or counseling;

3. PhD Emphasis: for the student who wishes to pursue his or her study of philosophy as a preparation for PhD studies in philosophy at another institution.

Students interested in the teaching emphasis have the opportunity to intern at a community college, take collateral courses in second areas of teaching interest, and incorporate course work in pedagogy in the College of Education at OSU. They will typically complete their MA requirements under the “Courses Option” (see below).

Students interested in the professional emphasis have the opportunity to choose from a wide variety of courses that support their career plans (biomedical ethics, business ethics, philosophy of law, philosophy of religion, and cognate courses in other disciplines). They will typically complete their MA requirements under the "Reports Option" (see below).

Students interested in the PhD emphasis have the opportunity to enhance their understanding of the history of philosophy, logic, and metaphysics and epistemology. They will typically complete their MA requirements under the "Thesis Option" (see below).

Students in all of these programs are able to compete for teaching assistantships and may teach either Critical Thinking or Introductory Moral/Social Problems courses.

The Master of Arts degree in philosophy may be earned through any of three options: (1) Courses Option (usually 12 three-credit-hour courses); (2) Reports Option (usually 10 three-credit-hour courses and a two-credit-hour report); and (3) Thesis Option (usually three-credit-hour courses and a six-credit-hour thesis). The Courses Option requires 36 hours, the Reports Option requires 32 hours and the Thesis Option requires 30 hours.

Prerequisites for admission to the program are 24 semester credit hours (at least 18 at the upper-division level) in philosophy including courses in the history of ancient, medieval, and modern philosophy (PHIL 3113 and 3213 or equivalents) and a course in logic (PHIL 3003 or equivalent). Students without these prerequisites, but otherwise admissible, may be granted “qualified” or “provisional” status until the prerequisites are satisfied.

All candidates for the Master of Arts in philosophy degree are required to pass a six-hour written examination on selected major Western philosophical works. This exam must be passed before a student will be allowed to begin work on either a thesis or the report and normally will be taken about two-thirds of the way through the required course work for the degree. Each student is supervised by a three-person advisory committee appointed for, and in consultation with, the student. This committee arranges and administers the written examination, and is responsible for determining the student’s plan of study, thesis, report topics, and any other special requirements that may need to be fulfilled.

Master of Arts in Philosophy, Courses Option:

Thirty-six hours of course work in classes and seminars approved by the student’s advisory committee and/or the graduate adviser.

Master of Arts in Philosophy, Reports Option:

1. Thirty-six hours of course work in classes and seminars approved by the student’s advisory committee and/or the graduate adviser.

2. Two hours of PHIL 5910, in which two research papers are prepared. These papers typically will have their origin in graduate seminars taken as part of the plan of study, or in courses related to the professional field the student wishes to enter.

3. An oral examination and defense of these reports required in a formal presentation to the departmental faculty and additional invited persons with interest or expertise in the topics.

Master of Arts in Philosophy, Thesis Option:

1. Twenty-four hours of course work in classes and seminars approved by the student’s advisory committee and/or the graduate adviser.
2. Six hours of PHIL 5000, in which a well-reasoned, substantial piece of research on a narrowly defined topic is written as a thesis.

3. An oral examination and defense of the thesis before the departmental faculty and additional invited persons with interests or expertise in the topic.

A student may also, in accordance with the policies of the Graduate College, select a graduate minor in connection with any of the three programs, thus permitting a concentration of work in broad areas such as social thought, cognitive science, or religion. Interdisciplinary work is encouraged for students pursuing the Professional Emphasis and the Teaching Emphasis.

Students pursuing a master's or doctor's degree in another field may elect philosophy as a graduate minor. Selected courses and seminars in philosophy can broaden and complement work in such areas as economics, education, engineering, English, history, psychology, and sociology.

Physics

James P. Wicksted, PhD - Professor and Head

Physics is the science of matter, energy and their interactions. Physics majors learn the fundamental laws governing the natural world, and in so doing develop critical skills of observation and quantitative analysis in both experimental and theoretical settings. Because those skills are increasingly valued in diverse fields in today's technological society, persons trained in physics are found not only in science, but also in fields where analytical skills are vital to success, such as finance, medicine, law and engineering.

The Department of Physics offers two bachelor’s degrees. The BS in physics is for students who wish to concentrate on physics, and who may be interested in later obtaining the PhD and becoming professional physicists or astronomers. The BS in applied physics is for students who wish to combine physics with the study of other areas such as biology, business, computer science, engineering, mathematics, or premedicine, perhaps in preparation for graduate degrees in those areas. Interdisciplinary study is also possible through double majors with physics, or minors in physics. The detailed requirements for all degrees can be obtained from the department and its internet site.

Prospective physics majors should contact the departmental advisor as soon as possible to guarantee an enjoyable and profitable undergraduate career. A special freshman-level course, PHYS 1001, acquaints new physics majors with the department’s professors and research, as well as with each other. During their first two years, physics majors learn the laws of mechanics (forces and motion) and electromagnetism which epitomize the work of Newton and Maxwell, among others. At the time, students develop their mathematical skills through courses in calculus and differential equations.

During their last two years, physics majors delve into advanced topics including the quantum and relativistic physics of Schrödinger, Einstein and their colleagues. Courses in laboratory and computational methods further develop experimental abilities. Students are also encouraged to work in the department’s research labs or astronomical observatory. Students pursuing the BS in physics take additional physics courses and do a senior project. Students seeking the BS in applied physics replace the additional physics courses with upper-division courses in their chosen areas.

Graduate Programs

Prerequisites. Thirty semester hours of physics beyond the elementary course work and mathematics courses through advanced calculus and differential equations are required.

The Master of Science Degree. Students can choose between a thesis or non-thesis option. For both options, the required courses are PHYS 5113, 5213, 5413, 5453 and 5613. The thesis option requires the successful completion of 30 semester credit hours beyond the BS and the submission of an acceptable thesis (six credit hours of PHYS 5000) based on original and independent research, on a topic chosen in consultation with the student’s adviser. The student must successfully defend the thesis in an oral examination. In addition, nine semester credit hours of electives must be completed in physics, mathematics or an allied field. The non-thesis option requires 32 semester credit hours beyond the BS degree, including two credit hours of library research (PHYS 5000) on a topic chosen in consultation with the student’s adviser. The completed written report must be orally presented to the student’s advisory committee. Fifteen hours of electives are allowed within this program, including up to nine credit hours of senior level courses, depending upon the student’s background. The electives must be chosen in consultation with the student’s advisory committee. For example, an advanced course in mathematics along with Solid State I and II may be reasonable choices for someone with a materials specialization. For others, more courses in electrical engineering may be preferable.

Also available is an MS program in photonics, with a specialization in physics, offered through the interdisciplinary MS in Natural and Applied Sciences major, in association with the departments of chemistry and electrical engineering. Students may pursue one of three options, all of which require 24 credit hours of course work with at least one course taken outside the student’s specialization. Beyond this, the first option (30 credit hours) requires an additional six hours of research and a successful defense of a thesis. The second option (32 credit hours) requires an additional six hours of course work and a two-credit-hour report. The third option (36 credit hours) requires 12 additional credit hours of course work with a creative component. For the second and third options at least two courses must be outside the field of specialization and a successful oral presentation of the report or creative component is required.

The Doctor of Philosophy Degree. Prior to the appointment of the advisory committee, as described in the “Graduate College” section of the Catalog, a comprehensive written examination must be taken. This examination will cover the content of the course work required up to and including the MS degree and will be given once a year. It will be given in four parts of three hours each. The results of this examination will be included in a review by the Department of Physics to determine whether the student should be allowed to form a PhD advisory committee.

The following physics courses are required: PHYS 5113, 5213, 5313, 5413, 5453, 5613, 6313. Three additional PHYS prefix courses at the 5000 or 6000 level, including at least one course not in the student’s specialization, must be completed. Additional courses reflecting the candidate’s specialization may be required by the advisory committee. Ninety semester hours of credit beyond the bachelor’s degree are required. A minimum of two-thirds of the graduate course credits must be in physics. No more than six credit hours of physics at the 4000 level can be counted toward graduate credit and no more than 12 total credit hours in all subjects at the 3000 or 4000 level can be counted toward graduate credit. Courses taken at another institution will be evaluated by a faculty committee to determine whether they satisfy any requirements.

A detailed Plan of Study reflecting these requirements, electives and transfer courses should be filed with the Graduate College by the student after consultation with the PhD advisory committee soon after passing the comprehensive exam. The advisory committee then administers the qualifying exam, the successful completion of which admits the student to PhD candidacy.

The most important single requirement for the PhD in physics is the presentation of an acceptable dissertation which represents original research work by the student and which demonstrates the student’s ability to do independent study as well as to plan and carry out future research in his or her field.

A photonics PhD program involving electrical engineering and chemistry with physics as the home department is also available. Details of the multidisciplinary photonics PhD program are found in the “Graduate College” section.
Political Science

James Scott, PhD - Professor and Head

Political science is, on the one hand, an ancient discipline with roots in Plato and Aristotle, and on the other, it is one of the most recent of the social sciences with roots in the early twentieth century. Political scientists study political institutions, the political behavior of individuals and groups, the formulation of public policy, the relations among states, and also enduring moral issues, such as what is justice and how leaders should be chosen. Political science, by its very nature, blends normative and empirical issues. Questions about democracy, participation, justice, and representation have both empirical and evaluative components. The discipline attempts to understand who participates in the political process and, when they do not, what it means for society. There is, currently, a fundamental rethinking of the relations between the executive branch and the legislature, the distribution of power between the national and state governments, and the policy and budget priorities of the American people. It is a fascinating period in American political history and a major in political science offers the student a front row seat in the analysis of these changes. The principal fields of study in political science are political theory, public law, comparative politics, international relations, public administration, and American political behavior. Students may pursue the Bachelor of Arts (45 hours of political science and related course work in addition to General Education and college requirements), or the Bachelor of Science (90 hours of political science and related course work in addition to General Education and college requirements) in political science with a concentration in any of the fields of study. Either degree option requires a minimum of 24 hours of political science in courses numbered 3000 or above. Additional courses numbered 3000 or above from related areas of economics, English, foreign languages and literature, geography, history, philosophy, psychology, religion or sociology are necessary to reach the required hours of the degree option. The minimum GPA is 2.50 with a minimum grade of “C” in all upper-division political science and related upper-division course work. Additional flexibility in the degree program is offered through internships, and opportunities to work with professors in developing independent study courses in areas where the department may not offer regular course work. Students may also pursue political science as a second degree, or as a minor to complement other areas of study. The minor in political science requires 15 hours of course work numbered 3000 or above, and must include three fields of political science. At least three of the hours must be taken in a field other than American politics, public law, and public administration. The required GPA for a minor is 2.50.

The political science major prepares students for a wide range of careers, including administration of national, state and local government agencies. It also provides preparation for admission to law school; teaching at the secondary level; urban and regional planning; political journalism; the conduct and analysis of foreign policy; and for graduate study in political science. At a more general level, political science has great career versatility for students. While the major does focus on the subject matter of government and politics, it also develops students’ skills in critical analysis, written and oral communications, leadership and judgment. Such skills, prepare students for a wide range of options throughout their professional lives.

Graduate Programs

The Department of Political Science offers a Master of Arts degree in political science and a Master of Science degree in fire and emergency management administration.

Candidates for the Master of Arts degree in political science may specialize in two areas of political science offered by the department. Students may choose from the following seven areas: American politics, comparative politics, international relations, public administration, public policy, public law, and women and politics. The plan is designed to prepare professional political scientists for careers in research and teaching, as well as administrative and policy positions in local, state or national government.

Candidates who have significant professional experience in emergency services or have an undergraduate degree in an emergency service discipline may opt for the Master of Science in fire and emergency management administration. The MS in fire and emergency management administration is a specialized degree designed to provide an educational foundation for those who are currently serving or aspire to serve as managers or administrators in the fire service or emergency management.

Admission Requirements. Any student having a bachelor’s degree with an overall 3.00 grade-point average (on a 4.00 scale) may be admitted as a student in full standing. Those with less than an overall 3.00 grade-point average are considered for admission on a probationary basis. All graduate students in the MA program may be required to have completed an undergraduate statistics class, or must be willing to take such a class during their first semester as a graduate student. A GRE, LSAT, or MCAT exam score is required.

Additional Admission Requirements for the MS in Fire and Emergency Management Administration degree.

In addition to the general requirements outlined above, candidates for the Master of Science degree in fire and emergency management administration must meet one of the following requirements:

1. Have significant practical experience in a fire or emergency service organization.

2. Have a bachelor’s degree in fire or emergency related discipline such as fire protection technology, fire management administration, fire science, emergency management administration.

3. Successfully complete a minimum of 12 hours of undergraduate study in fire protection and/or emergency management. Three of 12 hours must be an internship experience in fire or emergency management.

A complete application for admission to the master's program must include:

1. A completed Graduate College application submitted with a non-refundable application fee.

2. An official copy of undergraduate transcript(s).

3. Two letters of recommendation with at least one from an employer or faculty member familiar with the applicant's academic abilities.

4. TOEFL results for students for whom English is a second language. Students must have a score above 549 (paper exam) or 213 (computer exam) to be considered for admission.

5. A brief letter indicating interests and other information the applicant considers relevant.

6. GRE, LSAT, or MCAT score.

Degree Requirements for the MA in Political Science. In addition to the general requirements of the Graduate College, requirements for the Master of Arts degree in political science are listed below.

1. A minimum of 33 credit hours in political science or closely related courses, including six hours of research methods, POLS 5103 and POLS 5013. A minimum of 21 hours of political science graduate seminars (seminars numbered 5000 or above); either a six-hour thesis or a three-hour creative research paper; and additional graduate level courses to complete the 33 hour requirement. The student must successfully defend the thesis or creative component orally before the faculty committee.

2. Satisfactory completion of comprehensive exams in two of the following areas: American politics, comparative politics, international politics, public administration, public policy, public law or women and politics.

3. Minimum 3.00 grade-point average, with only one grade of "C" allowed.

Degree Requirements for the MS in Fire and Emergency Management Administration.

In addition to the general requirements of the Graduate College, requirements for the Master of Science degree in fire and emergency management administration are listed below.
1. A minimum of 39 credit hours in political science or closely related courses; completion of a three-hour practicum that represents the student’s creative component; and the following required courses: Readings in Public Administration, Seminar in Public Organizations, Seminar in Public Program Evaluation, Seminar in Public Budgeting and Finance, Seminar in Public Management, Seminar in Public Personnel Administration, Seminar in Public Policy Analysis, Seminar in Quantitative Methods, and Seminar in Fire and Emergency Management.

2. An optional three-credit hour internship, required for pre-service students.


4. Nine hours of electives to complete degree requirements.

5. Minimum 3.00 grade-point average, with only one grade of “C” allowed.

Psychology

Maureen A. Sullivan, PhD - Associate Professor and Head

The student pursuing a BA or BS in psychology is provided with a background which can be of great value in dealing with the personal, social and vocational areas of his or her life. The course of study applies the scientific method to the study of the behavioral and individual and behavior between individuals. The understanding of such material can be directly related to a variety of vocational opportunities.

A bachelor’s degree in psychology is useful in a wide number of occupations in business, education and industry. The range of positions obtained by graduates covers almost all occupations requiring direct personal contact with other people. Some examples are supervision, training, sales, public relations and interviewing. Also included are positions with city, state and federal agencies, and in applied research. Although there is no licensure or certification to teach psychology in the schools, it is possible to earn a teaching certificate or license in social studies education with endorsement in psychology while pursuing a major in psychology. Persons interested in such teaching should contact the Office of Professional Education. (See “Professional Education Programs” in the “College of Education” section of the Catalog.)

The department also offers courses in speech communication to enhance the student’s ability to effectively communicate in the interpersonal, organizational and public contexts. Both conceptual knowledge and practical application are stressed to prepare students to begin careers in business and industry, or to enter graduate or professional schools.

Graduate Programs

Employment in the professional field of psychology requires a graduate degree. Psychologists with advanced degrees have exclusive claim to some professional positions.

The Department of Psychology offers two programs of study leading to the degree of Doctor of Philosophy, one in clinical psychological and one in lifespan developmental psychology. Students applying for the doctoral degree should have the following prerequisites: introductory psychology, quantitative psychology, experimental psychology, history and systems. Abnormal psychology is recommended for students applying to the clinical program.

Students in the doctoral program first work toward a Master of Science degree. In addition to meeting the general requirements of the Graduate College, for completion of the Master of Science, students must also:

1. Complete two semesters of quantitative psychology along with other course credits totaling 30 credit hours.
2. Complete a thesis project, supervised and reviewed by appropriate faculty members.

Following the completion of requirements, the student may be admitted to doctoral status in clinical psychology or lifespan developmental psychology.

Religious Studies

Bruce C. Crauder, PhD - Professor

Courses in religious studies are a vital part of a liberal arts education. The field involves the objective study of religious belief, literature and practice around the world. Opportunity is given for serious and objective study of these aspects in relation to major religions of past and present cultures. Special attention is given to the historical bases of world religions as well as to their effect upon present-day societies, in both the East and West. Courses are offered in several world religions, biblical studies, religious thought, and religion and culture.

Courses are open to all students without regard to personal views or affiliations. No attempt is made to promote a particular view. Emphasis is placed on the academic study of religion rather than the practice of a particular form of religion. Many of the undergraduate courses enable students to satisfy humanities requirements and also provide an excellent background for many types of graduate and professional programs.

Sociology

Patricia A. Bell, PhD - Professor and Head

Sociology is the scientific study of human society and social behavior. Sociologists study a broad array of social phenomena ranging from the dynamics of social interaction to the composition and workings of entire societies.

The diversity of the faculty is reflected in the many different types of courses offered. Topics include criminology and corrections; environment and population; law and society; organizations, industry and work; social psychology; race, ethnicity and gender; and, urban sociology. Many undergraduate majors take advantage of the applied research option by selecting supervised work-related internships.

The Department of Sociology offers BA and BS degrees in general sociology and applied sociology. The general sociology degree provides students the opportunity to obtain a strong liberal arts degree with a maximum number of electives, and provides a good base for pursuing a professional or graduate degree in sociology and in several other fields of study. The applied options focus on social and criminal justice, environmental issues, and social and community services and provide practical experience for work in a variety of settings.

The option in anthropology provides students with a basic introduction into methods, theory and principles of cultural anthropology, archaeology, and physical anthropology. Regular course offerings introduce students to past and present cultures within and outside the United States.

Graduate Programs

The Department of Sociology offers the Master of Science and Doctor of Philosophy degrees. Programs are designed to prepare students for appointments to the faculties of colleges and universities, to work in private industry and in social service agencies, and for research positions in business and in government. The department offers concentrations in environmental sociology, social inequality, complex organizations, deviance and crime, and social psychology.

The department offers employment to a limited number of graduate students as teaching assistants or as research assistants. These teaching and research experiences constitute an invaluable part of the student’s professional preparation.

Admission Requirements. Students seeking admission to graduate programs in sociology must be accepted by the Graduate College and the departmental graduate committee prior to official admittance.
A combination of several criteria is used to evaluate an applicant’s suitability for full admission to either of the programs. These include grade-point average, Graduate Record Examination scores, and letters of recommendation. Conditional or probationary admittance is considered under specified circumstances. Details on admission criteria are provided in the departmental Graduate Student Manual that can be obtained by contacting the Department of Sociology or the director of graduate programs.

**Degree Requirements.** The MS in sociology requires a minimum of 31 hours of course work. For students pursuing the PhD, a minimum of 94 semester credit hours beyond the baccalaureate, or 64 hours beyond the master’s degree, is required. Each student is required to take nine hours of sociological theory, six hours of research methods, and nine hours of statistics. Detailed information on each program is available by writing to the department and requesting a Graduate Student Manual.

### Statistics

**William D. Warde, PhD – Professor and Head**

Statistics is the science of learning from data. It is concerned with the development of theory and with the application of that theory to the collection, analysis and interpretation of quantitative information.

Because statistics is important in many scholarly disciplines, a degree in statistics provides the opportunity to enter not only the statistics profession but also many other fields which make extensive use of statistics. The areas of application include agriculture, the biological sciences, engineering, the physical sciences, the social sciences, education, business and home economics, among others. Statistics also promises to be important in emerging endeavors such as pollution and environmental research, energy utilization and health-care administration.

Those who pursue the study of statistics should be interested in scientific inquiry and should have a good mathematical background. In addition it is desirable that they have a genuine interest in some other subject which uses statistics.

Careers in government, industry and education, involving the disciplines previously mentioned, are open to the statistics graduate. In government and industry a statistician usually serves as a researcher or as a consultant to research scientists and decision-makers. In education, of course, the teaching function is added to those of research and consultation. In almost all careers, the statistician uses the computer.

The Statistical Laboratory operates within the department to provide statistical consulting to researchers—both faculty and student—across the campus.

The Department of Statistics offers the BS and MS degrees to those interested in applications of statistics, and the PhD degree to those who wish to make original contributions to the theory of statistics.

### Graduate Programs

**Graduate Programs**

**Admission Requirements.** It is necessary to have an undergraduate degree, not necessarily in statistics or mathematics, to begin a program of study toward the master’s degree in statistics. In some instances, it may be advantageous to have an undergraduate degree in another field. However, the student should have acquired a good mathematical background as an undergraduate. This should be equivalent to the required mathematics courses in the bachelor’s program (MATH 2144, 2153, 2163, 3013, 4013). Students admitted to the program with deficiencies will be required to remedy such deficiencies.

**The Master of Science Degree.** The Master of Science degree in statistics may be completed by following one of the three plans listed in the "Graduate College" section of the Catalog. Normally, the all-course work plan will be initiated at the suggestion of the faculty. Each student will be required to attain an introductory knowledge of some field of application outside of statistics, mathematics and computer science. This requirement may be satisfied by having taken a three-hour graduate course in an approved field of statistical application. Each student is required to have completed CS 1113 or to have demonstrated competence in a procedure-oriented language such as C or FORTRAN.

**The Doctor of Philosophy Degree.** The PhD requires the completion of 90 hours beyond the BS degree. A maximum of 30 of these credit hours may be earned by research for the dissertation. Each student will be required to attain an introductory knowledge of some field of application which may be satisfied by taking two three-hour graduate courses outside the fields of statistics, mathematics and computing. Each student is required to have completed CS 1113 or to have demonstrated competence in a procedure-oriented language such as FORTRAN.

### Theatre

**Judith Cronk, MFA – Associate Professor and Interim Head**

The Department of Theatre offers the BA and BFA degrees. Both degree options share a core of broad-based course work and practical experiences in all areas of the art form. The BA and BFA degrees emphasize professional training within the context of a rich liberal arts education.

The Bachelor of Arts degree is a generalist degree, designed to provide a broad background in practical and theoretical areas while allowing students to develop a limited emphasis area. Students interested in several areas of performance and production or students interested in pursuing a double major or minor elect this degree plan.

The Bachelor of Fine Arts degree is a preprofessional degree and is only open to students through audition or portfolio review at the end of their third semester. Each BFA class is kept small to ensure appropriate individual instruction. Options in acting, and design and technology are available.

An active production program in two well-equipped theater spaces augments course work for both degrees. The regular production schedule consists of four major productions each year and two to four fully mounted studio productions that are directed, designed, and performed by students. Students also have the opportunity to study with a variety of guest artists and scholars during each academic year.

In addition to professional careers in acting and production, this major can lead to careers in arts management, teaching, law, counseling, or any career area where self-awareness, problem solving, group collaboration and effective personal communication are essential.

### Graduate Programs

The department offers course work leading to the Master of Arts degree in Theater. The Master of Arts degree in Theater is an initial graduate degree designed to build on students’ individual theatre skills and to deepen a student’s theoretical and practical understanding of the art form. Accepting only a limited number of students each year, the degree affords a great deal of individual contact with faculty members and considerable latitude in developing the plan of study.

Graduate candidates take a central general core of graduate level courses augmented by other courses available in the department and the university to develop and support their areas of special interest. Typically students seeking this degree plan to become teachers in secondary schools or two year colleges, or students who seek to enhance their background and skills in preparation for the pursuit of advanced degree work in a Master of Fine Arts or Doctoral Program.

The Master of Arts degree may be achieved in accordance with any of the three plans described in the section "Master’s Degree Programs" in the "Graduate College" section of the Catalog.

A limited number of teaching assistantships are available to highly qualified students. Information and application forms may be obtained from the department head.
Undergraduate credentials should be referred to the department graduate program coordinator for evaluation to assist advisement and to determine any possible deficiencies, that will affect the admission status.

Zoology

Joseph Bidwell, PhD • Associate Professor and Interim Head

The Department of Zoology offers BS degree programs in biological science, physiology, and zoology.

The undergraduate degree in biological science is available for students wishing to obtain a broad program encompassing all of the life sciences. By including appropriate course work, students can obtain licensure to teach in the secondary schools. Requirements for admission to graduate and professional schools can be met through the biological science curriculum.

The undergraduate degree in physiology also serves as preparation for graduate school or a medically-related professional school. The bachelor’s degree in physiology requires participation in undergraduate seminars and intensive course work in general biology, genetics, comparative anatomy, endocrinology, mammalian physiology, biochemistry, mathematics, physics, and chemistry.

The curriculum in zoology is designed to provide a thorough background in the biology of animals. The BS degree requires courses in cell biology, ecology, evolution, genetics, and vertebrate and invertebrate zoology. To become a zoologist the student must also have a good foundation in the related fields of chemistry, physics, and mathematics. Zoology provides a background for graduate school and for many applied and professional careers.

Graduate Programs

Programs of Study. Programs of study leading to MS and PhD degrees are offered in conservation science and zoology. The department emphasizes aquatic and terrestrial toxicology, and ecology, evolution and behavior. Among faculty research interests are behavioral and evolutionary ecology, cytogenetics, ecotoxicology, environmental physiology, evolutionary biology, fisheries biology, herpetology, ichthyology, landscape ecology, limnology, mammalogy, molecular systematics, ornithology, parasitology, population ecology, stream and wetland ecology, and wildlife biology and nutrition. The department includes the Ecotoxicology and Water Quality Research Laboratory and the Oklahoma State University Collection of Vertebrates.

Teaching and research assistantships and out-of-state tuition waivers are available to qualified students. Information and application forms may be obtained from the departmental office or on the Internet.

Prerequisites. Applicants must have completed a baccalaureate degree including 40 semester hours in biology and related areas and have completed the Graduate Record Examination.

The Master of Science Degree. In addition to the general Graduate College requirements, students are required to show competence in either a reading knowledge of a foreign language or a relevant research technique such as statistics, mathematics, or geographic information systems science. Students must prepare a research proposal and complete either a thesis or a report. For the thesis option, 30 credit hours are required; for the report option, 32 credit hours.

The Doctor of Philosophy Degree. In addition to the general Graduate College requirements, students are required to show competence in either a reading knowledge of a foreign language or relevant research technique such as statistics, mathematics, or geographic information systems science. This requirement is in addition to the competence demonstrated for the MS degree. The plan of study must include 60 credit hours. A student must pass written and oral examinations, prepare a research proposal, and complete a dissertation based on original research worthy of publication.

Financial Aid. The department employs more than 30 graduate teaching assistants. Faculty members also award research assistantships based on ongoing grants and contracts. Out-of-state students receiving either award are assessed in-state tuition only. Students completing packets available from the Office of Scholarships and Financial Aid are eligible to compete for in-state tuition waivers.

Research Facilities

The Department of Zoology occupies a six-floor building with offices, classrooms, laboratories, and animal rooms. A broad range of instrumentation is available for both teaching and research. The department maintains laboratories in wildlife toxicology, genetic toxicology, conservation genetics, geographic information systems and remote sensing, and water quality. Specialized equipment within the department includes atomic absorption spectrophotometers, ultraviolet and visible spectrophotometers, ion chromatographs, high pressure liquid chromatograph, liquid scintillation counter, ultracentrifuges, gas chromatograph, ion specific electrodes, forage fiber analyzer, bright field and ipepifluorescent microscopes and photomicrography systems, cryostats, laminar flow hoods, tissue culture equipment, PCR thermocyclers, ultracold freezers, horizontal starch, agarose, and polyacrylamide gel apparatus, automated DNA sequencer, and computer labs. Available for use in field studies is the university-owned Lake Carl Blackwell area. The Department of Zoology also houses the OSU Collection of Vertebrates which includes over 25,000 lots of fish, 14,000 reptiles and amphibians, 3,000 birds, and 13,000 mammals.