

Master's along the Way in Biology – MALW Degree

(A Non-Thesis Biology MS Degree for IB PhD Students)

Students participating in the Integrative Biology PhD Program are eligible to earn a concurrent Master's Along the Way (MALW) in Biology from the Department of Biological Sciences. Below are requirements for completion of the Biology MALW, a non-thesis option within the existing Biology Master's Program.

BIOLOGY MALW ELIGIBILITY

- In order to be eligible to complete the non-thesis Biology MALW, a student must be a current IB PhD student in good standing who has successfully completed the PhD Proposal Examination (oral and written) and completed 36 credits that meet the criteria described below.

BIOLOGY MALW REQUIREMENTS

- A minimum of 36 credits.
- ½ (18) of these credits must be completed at the 6000 level or above in Biology per the University catalog, which will include the following IB PhD core courses:
 - BSC 6390 Integrative Biology
 - BSC 6846 Scientific Communication
 - PCB 6456 Experimental Design & Biometry OR PSY 6206 Experimental Design 1
- Two (2) of the 36 credits must involve courses in which the student presented a formal seminar.
- Up to 3 credits of IB Lab Rotation may be applied toward the 36 credits.
- Advanced Research in Integrative Biology credits (BSC 7978) maybe be used to fulfill degree requirements of the non-thesis Biology MALW. There is no limit on the number of BSC 7978 credits which may be applied toward completion of the Biology MALW at this time.
- Students must earn a “B” or better on all course work attempted.
- New IB PhD students must declare in their first semester a desire to do a Biology MALW, and plan coursework accordingly (based on their sub-discipline) for completing the MALW and PhD Plans of Study (POS).
- The Biology MALW POS must to be created and submitted one semester before the student plans to graduate with the degree. After consultation with your PhD supervisor, complete and submit an electronic POS through the MyPOS electronic system. In the “General Information” area in MyPOS check the “Master's Along the Way” box.
- Students must submit a formal Application for Degree to the Graduate College by the appropriate deadline associated with the semester in which the degree is to be awarded (see deadlines on the Graduate College website).
- Comprehensive exams are required for all MS biology students; however, for IB PhD students participating the Biology MALW option, comprehensive exams will be substituted by successful completion of the PhD proposal examination (oral and written).
- Following completion of 36 graduate-level credits (described above) and the PhD proposal examination, along with Form 8 submission to the Graduate College, the student will be awarded the Biology MALW degree.