

# **Department of Biology**

## **Mission**

The mission of the Biology Department is to open doors to the future for our students. To accomplish this mission the curriculum is designed and organized to prepare competent and effective students who can use biological principles and who can critically think, read, and demonstrate quantitative and technological literacy. With these skills, biology students can successfully achieve their life goals and make informed judgements concerning the medical and environmental worlds.

## **Department Goals**

1. Develop a general framework and understanding of biological knowledge in order for students to make informed decisions that impact their lives or the lives of others.
2. Through a progression of highly organized sequential courses, develop the background, problem solving and decision making skills so students can advance to successfully complete a medical program or transfer Baccalaureate program.
3. Develop growth and maturity in communication through organized interaction in the classroom.
4. Provide guidance and opportunities that lead to independent learning and to the growth of critical thinking skills.
5. To have every student proficient in written and oral scientific communication.
6. Provide opportunities for students to use current technology for interpreting data, solving problems, and developing reasoning skills.
7. Develop respect and concern for the natural environment.

## **Student Learning Outcomes**

1. Students will demonstrate an understanding of the basic principles in the biological sciences.
2. Students will demonstrate competency in basic laboratory skills.
3. Students will be able to work effectively and efficiently with their peers.
4. Students will become independent learners.
5. Students will communicate effectively on scientific topics.
6. Students will demonstrate competency in the use of current technology to solve problems, interpret data and develop reasoning skills.
7. Students will apply understanding of biological principles learned in the classroom in the community at large.
8. Students will gain an understanding of current global and environmental concerns.