



COLLEGE OF NATURAL SCIENCES, FORESTRY, AND AGRICULTURE

## Zoology

### WHY STUDY ZOOLOGY AT UMAINE?

The University of Maine is the ideal place to study zoology. We have well-equipped teaching laboratories and easy access to nearby forests, fields, streams, ponds and wetlands — the ultimate outdoor classroom. We also offer many opportunities for undergraduate research in faculty laboratories and in the field. Our program provides excellent preparation for graduate study in zoology at the master's and doctoral level in specialized areas such as animal ecology, genetics, physiology and taxonomy, among others. The program also provides excellent preparation for graduate study in health professions, including medicine, dentistry and optometry. As a result of rigorous coursework and excellent pre-professional advising, UMaine has high placement rates in top graduate, medical and professional schools. The program also provides strong preparation for further specialization in graduate school. Our advanced courses vary in size, but most have 40 or fewer students allowing for extensive interaction with faculty and many have labs and take field trips. Although UMaine's introductory courses have large lectures, these courses use active learning techniques and have computer-based support. They also have small inquiry-based labs where students design and carry out their own experiments.

### WHAT CAN I DO WITH A ZOOLOGY DEGREE?

You can find cures for diseases, prepare to become a doctor, save endangered species or understand the changes that are likely to occur in Maine and elsewhere as a result of climate change. Zoology is the study of all aspects of the biology of animals, including human beings and the many vertebrate and invertebrate species that populate the Earth. Zoology majors study how animals function at the cellular, tissue, organ and organismal levels, how they have evolved, how they contribute to biodiversity and how they interact with one another, other organisms and the physical environment. UMaine's

bachelor's degree in zoology provides you with many options for employment or more specialized study. Majors can go on to become research technicians assisting with laboratory and field research; product developers and quality controllers in biotechnology and pharmaceutical companies, university and government laboratories and public health facilities; officers in government agencies related to agriculture, the environment and public health; science teachers; environmental consultants; sales representatives for laboratory equipment, science books, biotechnology and pharmaceutical companies; writers and editors of science publications, magazines and newspapers. The degree also prepares students for master's and doctoral programs in zoology with specializations in a wide variety of areas including ecology, genetics and physiology. It also prepares students for professional study in medicine, dentistry, optometry, podiatry, pharmacy and veterinary medicine.

### OUR UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAM

Upper-level courses form the core of our program. These courses build on a foundation of chemistry, math and physics, providing the basis for understanding current advances in zoology. The flexible curriculum allows students to tailor their studies to their interests. For example, one student can prepare for medical school while another prepares to do research in ecology. Students can choose from 35 upper-level biology courses and an additional 22 courses in related disciplines, including microbiology, molecular biology, marine science and wildlife ecology. Students can choose the basic program in zoology or add a concentration in ecology or pre-medical studies. Both concentrations provide academic guidance to ensure that students select the courses that best prepare them for their area of interest. Students can also choose a minor in neuroscience, which provides excellent preparation for graduate study in neuroscience. Strong students can complete

### UMaine's ADVANTAGE

- Location
- The flexible curriculum provides many choices
- Diversity of courses
- Opportunities for research and fieldwork
- Hands-on experience early in your program
- Close interaction with faculty
- Excellent placement rates in graduate school programs and top medical, dental and optometry schools
- Opportunity to combine undergraduate and graduate degrees with the 4+ program

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Connect with us:  
[umaine.edu/socialnetwork](http://umaine.edu/socialnetwork)

## ABOUT UMAINE

The University of Maine, founded in Orono in 1865, is the state's premier public university. It is among the most comprehensive higher education institutions in the Northeast and attracts students from across the U.S. and more than 60 countries. It currently enrolls more than 11,000 total undergraduate and graduate students. UMaine students directly participate in groundbreaking research working with world-class scholars. The University of Maine offers doctoral degrees in 30 fields, representing the humanities, sciences, engineering and education; master's degrees in 85 disciplines; 90 undergraduate majors and academic programs; and one of the oldest and most prestigious honors programs in the U.S. The university promotes environmental stewardship on its campus, with substantial efforts aimed at conserving energy, recycling and adhering to green building standards in new construction. For more information about UMaine, visit [umaine.edu](http://umaine.edu).



A student traps Virginia Rails as part of his Honors thesis with zoology professor, Brian Olsen. The research project investigated the nesting and mating behaviors of these very secretive marsh birds to understand how artificially created wetlands could potentially impact their populations.

## explore

*Bachelor of Science in  
Zoology*

*Concentrations in  
Pre-Medical Studies*

*Ecology*

*Bachelor of Arts in  
Zoology*

*Concentration in  
Ecology*

*Minors in  
Zoology*

*Neuroscience*

*Master of Science in  
Zoology*

*Ph.D in  
Zoology*

a combined bachelors and master's program (4+ program) that allows them to start taking graduate classes in their senior year which saves time and reduces overall tuition.

### OUR GRADUATE PROGRAM

UMaine's School of Biology and Ecology offers several master's and doctoral degrees. Our faculty lead cutting-edge, internationally recognized research programs, maintain well-equipped laboratories and win grants to support their research and that of their students. The School of Biology and Ecology provides financial support for graduate students via faculty research grants or teaching assistantships.

### OUR FACULTY

Zoology faculty care deeply about undergraduates, use a variety of teaching techniques, keep up with the rapidly changing field of zoology and welcome students into their research labs. Members of our faculty have won UMaine teaching and research awards. Zoology faculty regularly present their research results at regional, national and international conferences.

### OPPORTUNITIES TO EXCEL

Outstanding students are recognized through annual book awards. We offer scholarships for top students in animal and insect science. Our students compete successfully for on-campus scholarships and prizes, as well as national research internships. Students can work with faculty on research projects and are often published in the scientific literature together with their faculty mentor.

### NEBHE PROGRAM

Applicants to this program who reside in Massachusetts or Connecticut are eligible for reduced tuition (in-state plus 50 percent) under the New England Regional Student Program, administered through the New England Board of Higher Education ([nebhe.org](http://nebhe.org)).

### HOW DO I APPLY?

Visit [umaine.edu](http://umaine.edu) for an application, as well as information about academics and life at UMaine.

