

**MS.BIOLOGY.NON-THESIS
ACADEMIC LEARNING PLAN**



BIOLOGY – Master’s Program/Non-Thesis Track

Mission Statement

In keeping with the University mission, the Department of Biology is dedicated to creation, transmission, application and preservation of knowledge. Within this framework, the primary mission of the Department of Biology is to develop, support and conduct high quality educational and research programs in the life sciences.

Student Learning Outcomes

UWF Biology MS/non-thesis graduates should be able to do the following:

Content

- Identify and define advanced concepts, principles, and theories that form the foundation of research in the biological sciences
- Effectively execute literature searches and employ the results in scientific writing
- Describe discipline-related career paths for which recipients of the MS in Biology are qualified

Critical Thinking

- Employ and defend the scientific method in solving defined problems in the biological sciences
- Employ statistical methods appropriate to analysis of scientific data

Communication

- Employ biological terminology accurately in oral presentations
- Use language in written form effectively and professionally in completing written assignments

Integrity/Values

- Apply ethical considerations in the conduct of scientific research with humans and animals as it applies to grants and research programs
- Adhere to appropriate ethical practices in professional activities

Project Management

- Design and execute a project within a reasonable timeframe
- Draw and defend conclusions related to the results of the assigned projects
- Collaborate effectively with your non-thesis advisor in completing the coursework and respond effectively to constructive feedback

Job Prospects for Biology Graduates

MS/non-thesis in Biology

Bioremediation
Biotechnology
Medical Research
Industry
Government
Education
Microbiology
Health Professions
Research Laboratories

Teaching
Pharmaceuticals
Public Health
Food Production
Pollution Control
Environmental Diagnostics
Forestry
Agriculture

Find Out More about Biology at UWF:
<http://uwf.edu/biology/degree>

**MS.BIOLOGY.NON-THESIS
EMBEDDED ASSESSMENT INSTRUMENT FOR DOMAIN(S): INTEGRITY/VALUES, PROJECT MANAGEMENT**

Program: M.S. Biology, Non-thesis track
Course Name: Professional Development in Biology
Instructor: Dr. Wayne Bennett
Emphasized Programmatic SLOs: Integrity/Values, Project Management
Tangible Course Product to be Evaluated: Selected term paper assignment

Suggested Implementation for Embedded Assessment:

For the term paper assignment in your course, grade the assignment as you would normally. For 10 randomly selected students completing the non-thesis track of this degree program, complete the following rubric and note characteristics contributing to your rating in the comment section below the rubric:

M.S. Biology, Non-thesis track Academic Learning Plan Criteria Upon completion of term paper, student was able to:	Unsatisfactory (D/F)	Satisfactory (C)	Very Good- Excellent (A/B)
Integrity/Values			
Apply ethical considerations in the conduct of scientific research with humans and animals as it applies to grants and research programs.			
Adhere to appropriate ethical practices in professional activities.			
Project Management			
Project Conceptualization: Design and execute the project within a reasonable timeframe.			
Project Delivery: Draw and defend conclusions related to the results of the assigned project.			
Team-Work Skills or Self-Regulation: Collaborate effectively with non-thesis advisor in completing the coursework and respond effectively to constructive feedback.			

General characteristics leading to ratings of UNSATISFACTORY:

General characteristics leading to ratings of SATISFACTORY:

General characteristics leading to ratings of VERY GOOD-EXCELLENT:

How will these results influence your course design next time?

What recommendations can you make to the department to improve the quality of this experience for future students?
