Academic Track in the Biological Science Major

Zoology is the study of the morphology, physiology, ecology, geographic distribution, and evolution of animals. Students following this academic track are generally preparing for careers in technical jobs, government, or environmental consulting. Some students will combine this track with preparation for careers in teaching. Those interested in research careers should expect to do graduate study.

CURRICULUM: Students interested in this academic track are encouraged to select courses that cover varying groups of animals and many conceptual approaches. Students who plan to pursue graduate study in zoology are strongly encouraged to take a Directed Individual Study (BSC 4900) or Research Methods (BSC 4933) course.

Subsequent to the completion of the major prerequisite courses, the following represents a list of recommended elective courses offered by the department that are applicable to zoology. Students should determine which elective courses to take based on educational interests and career goals.

**BSC 3052** - Conservation Biology (3)  
**BSC 3101** - History of Biology (3)  
**BSC 3312** - Marine Biology (3)  
**BSC 4514** - Aquatic Pollution Biology (3)  
**PCB 3043** - Ecology (3)  
**PCB 3743** - Vertebrate Physiology (3)  
**PCB 4253** - Animal Development (3)  
**ZOO 3203** - Advanced Invertebrate Zoology (2)  
**ZOO 3203L** - Advanced Invertebrate Zoology Lab (2)

**BSC 3110** - History of Biology (3)  
**BSC 3312** - Marine Biology (3)  
**BSC 4514** - Aquatic Pollution Biology (3)  
**PCB 3043** - Ecology (3)  
**PCB 3743** - Vertebrate Physiology (3)  
**PCB 4253** - Animal Development (3)  
**ZOO 3203** - Advanced Invertebrate Zoology (2)  
**ZOO 3203L** - Advanced Invertebrate Zoology Lab (2)

**ZOO 3713C** - Comparative Vertebrate Anatomy (4)  
**ZOO 4204C** - Biology of Higher Marine Invertebrates (5)  
**ZOO 4232** - Parasitology (3)  
**ZOO 4232L** - Parasitology Lab (2)  
**ZOO 4343C** - Biology of Lower Vertebrates (4)  
**ZOO 4353C** - Biology of Higher Vertebrates (4)  
**ZOO 4513** - Animal Behavior (4)  
**ZOO 4753C** - Histology (4)  
**ZOO 4823** - Insect Biology (3)  
**ZOO 4823L** - Insects of North Florida (2)

FACULTY: Undergraduate teaching and guidance is a large part of the commitment of our regular faculty in Biological Science. Our faculty value interaction and discussion with undergraduates and encourage individual discussion and research projects by undergraduates. The following faculty have expertise in zoology.

- **Lawrence Abele**  Molecular systematics and evolution of crustaceans  
- **Gregory Erickson**  Evolutionary morphology of vertebrates and paleobiology  
- **William Herrnkind**  Behavior and ecology of crustaceans  
- **Frances James**  Evolution and ecology of birds and mammals  
- **Don Levitan**  Reproductive ecology of marine invertebrates and fishes  
- **Robert Livingston**  Ecology of large-scale aquatic systems  
- **Richard Mariscal**  Structure and function of cnidarians; symbiotic associations of marine animals  
- **Thomas Miller**  Community and population ecology  
- **David Quadagno**  Hormonal control of behavior  
- **Scott Steppan**  Evolutionary biology and mammalian systematics  
- **Joseph Travis**  Population biology of fishes and amphibians  
- **Walter Tschinkel**  Social biology and ecology of ants

FACILITIES: There is a great variety of instructional and research facilities for zoology at FSU. The department shares the FSU Marine Laboratory with the Department of Oceanography. Other facilities used for research in zoology include the Analytical Laboratory, the Electron Microscope Center, the Sequencing Laboratory, a fully equipped dive locker, and boats for inshore as well as offshore research operations. Other local resources such as the privately owned Tall Timbers Research Station provide additional zoological research opportunities.