

# BSc Biodiversity & Ecology

This BSc degree programme offers broad training in Botany and Zoology. It focusses on the diversity, origin, and function of organisms in relation to their environment and provides a conceptual understanding of ecology, evolution, animal and plant forms and functions, biological changes on a global scale (climate change, invasive species, pollution, and anthropogenic factors) and remediation practices (applications). Both terrestrial and marine concepts are covered.

## Major subject

Biodiversity and Ecology (which can lead to specialisation in Botany or Zoology).

Take note: Consult the 2024 Calendar for detailed information on all subjects in the BSc Biodiversity & Ecology degree programme.

## Do I qualify?

### Minimum admission requirements

- Average (excluding Life Orientation): **65%**
- English OR Afrikaans  
(Home Language or First Additional Language): **50%**
- Maths: **60%**
- Physical Sciences: **50%**



## Focal areas explained:

### Biodiversity & Ecology

The Programme in Biodiversity and Ecology aims to develop an understanding of the diversity, origin, and function of organisms in relation to the environment. The three main streams of study are Functional Biology, Organismal and Environmental Biology, and Evolutionary Biology and our department presents modules in all these streams.



## Why study BSc Biodiversity & Ecology?

- You will gain an understanding of the natural world and the role you can play in conserving it.
- You will gain insight into global challenges such as climate change and food security, helping to find solutions to help animals, plants, and humans.
- You will gain an intimate understanding of the physiology of animals, their behaviour, evolution, and the marine and terrestrial ecosystems in which they live.



Photo: Sara Andreotti

## Why study Biodiversity & Ecology at Stellenbosch University?

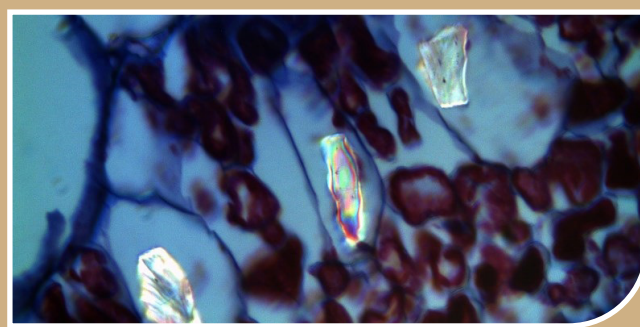
### Did you know?

- The Department of Botany and Zoology at SU is a leader in the field of evolutionary biology, with a specific focus on the unique opportunities offered by Africa's biodiversity. Our lecturers are world-recognised leaders in their fields, ranging from plant biotechnology, marine biology and zoology to climate science. You will gain exposure to all these fields so that you can make an informed and experienced decision as you decide how to shape your future career.
- We are home to the Centre for Invasion Biology, as well as the School for Climate Studies. These entities respond to existing and emerging issues in the management of invasive species, climate change impacts, adaptation and mitigation responses, thus supporting societal resilience to the impacts of climate change and global warming.

## What can I do with a BSc Biodiversity & Ecology degree?

Agricultural advisor  
Biologist  
Botanist  
Conservation scientist  
Ecologist  
Environmental assessment practitioner  
Environmental consultant  
Environmentalist  
Land-use planner

Life Sciences teacher  
Marine scientist  
Plant biotechnologist  
Plant specialist  
Marine scientist  
Plant biotechnologist  
Plant specialist  
Science communicator  
Zoologist



"I have gained a better understanding of how the world works, from a molecular level up to ecosystems. This will help me to effect change."

– undergraduate BSc student

### Contact details

Department of Botany and Zoology

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E-mail: [chandre1@sun.ac.za](mailto:chandre1@sun.ac.za)

Website: <https://www.cs.sun.ac.za/>

### Contact our recruitment officer

**Qaqamba Mhlauli**

[qmhlauli@sun.ac.za](mailto:qmhlauli@sun.ac.za) or [science@sun.ac.za](mailto:science@sun.ac.za)

**Deadline for applications:** 31 July

### General selection and application criteria

<https://www.sun.ac.za/english/maties>