PATHWAYS
Organismal Biology - Conservation & Biodiversity Option

Bachelor of Science in Organismal Biology

COURSE SELECTION

FRESHMAN
- Gateway courses: BIOL 1020/1021, BIOL 1030/1031, CHEM 1030/1031, CHEM 1040/1041
- Enroll in the Conservation Biology Learning Community course

SOPHOMORE
- Finish core requirements and foundation science courses
- Gateway Courses: BIOL 3000, 3030, 3060

JUNIOR
- Build breadth and depth in biology with junior year courses, focus on Organismal and Functional courses
- Plan ahead to be sure courses are offered during the semester you want to take them (long range schedules are on the COSAM website)
- In preparation for graduation next year, get a Credit Check with your COSAM academic advisor

SENIOR
- Consult with your faculty advisor to select electives that best fit your career or graduate school goals
- BIOL 4950: Senior Seminar should be taken during your senior year
- If planning on Graduate School, take GRE in Fall

ASK FOR ASSISTANCE
- Meet with your academic advisor early to familiarize yourself with courses and prerequisites and to discuss undergraduate research opportunities
- Academic Support provides several free resources to improve performance including Study Partners, Supplemental Instruction and academic coaching (auburn.edu/academicsupport)
- Discuss research opportunities with your academic advisor.
- Meet with your faculty advisor to discuss graduate school options and the application process, and/or meet with someone in the Career Center to explore career options in Fall
- Work with the Career Center to update your CV
- Ask about internships at Natural Heritage Programs, Zoos, Botanical Gardens, etc.
- Apply early to graduate schools for the best chances at an assistantship.

GAIN EXPERIENCE
- Seek opportunities to volunteer in a faculty research lab or with the AU Museum of Natural History
- Attend departmental research seminars
- Investigate internship opportunities, especially during the summer of Sophomore and Junior years
- Begin to pursue undergraduate research opportunities in the Department
- Present research in Research Week
- Attend national or local research meetings
- Attend lab meetings in your research lab
- Prepare thesis (if in thesis option)

GET INVOLVED
- Join the AU Society for Conservation Biology (SCB)
- Get involved with Earth Day (April 22)
- Join the Auburn University Department of Biological Sciences Facebook page for information on department activities
- Join the AU Society for Conservation Biology
- Participate in the Auburn University Department of Biological Sciences Facebook page
- Become an undergraduate teaching assistant
- Pursue leadership roles in student organizations in which you participate
- Look for appropriate training workshops
- Become an undergraduate teaching assistant

Career Planning
Auburn University Career Center
303 Mary Martin Hall | auburn.edu/career

Forester
Minimum Education: B.S.
Entry Level Salary Range: $34.2K - $53.8K
These are just three options out of many that organismal biology majors pursue. For more career options be sure to check out “What Can I Do With a Major In...” on auburn.edu/career.

Conservation Scientist
Minimum Education: M.S./Ph.D.
Entry Level Salary Range: $46.7K - $71.8K

Veterinarian
Minimum Education: D.V.M.
Entry Level Salary Range: $43.7K - $68.4K

The program is designed to provide students with a solid foundation in biology. This program focuses on conservation and provides a strong preparation for further study in graduate programs or in professional schools, including medicine, dentistry, veterinary medicine and other allied health fields.