Recommendations

B.S. Biological Sciences

To learn more about making the most of your educational experiences within and beyond the classroom contact:
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PARTICIPATE

Community Service

Sites/experiences
- Carolina Science Outreach; Service Saturdays; Students Advocating a Greener Environment (SAGE); Green Dorm Room Certification Program; Alternative Breaks

Why this is important
Community service fosters awareness of human problems and common goals. Service projects can illustrate in a concrete way some of the concepts and issues examined in the Biological Sciences major (environmental projects) and give students the opportunity to share their knowledge with the community.

Global Learning

Timing for “study abroad”
- Summers, anytime during Junior year

Destinations
- Most study abroad programs offer language training and study in the humanities, social sciences, arts, culture, and business; Biological Sciences majors, with appropriate planning, can fulfill some general education, cognate, or elective credits while on study abroad. An increasing number of programs offer some opportunities for science study abroad, e.g., University Studies Abroad Consortium (USAC) programs in Costa Rica, which combine language study with optional courses in tropical ecology, conservation biology, and tropical plant diversity.

Peer Leadership

Student Organization(s)
- Premedical and Dental Living/Learning Community; Association of Minority Pre-Health Students; Alpha Epsilon Delta (Pre-Professional Health Honor Society); Students Advocating a Greener Environment (SAGE); Supplemental Instruction Leader for first-year biology courses.

Research

Other recommendations
- Presenting research at Discovery Day, Magellan grants

Why this is important
A major advantage of education at a large university is the opportunity students have to participate in research projects of professors. Professors of Biological Sciences maintain dual lives as educators and researchers; many research labs include undergraduate researchers. Typically, students become familiar with professors through their classes and through the descriptions of professor research on the department web site. Students can join laboratories as early as their freshman year. Research efforts can receive course credit (6 credits towards graduating, with 3 credits satisfying the major requirement). In many cases students receive financial support for research, especially during the summer, from either research grants of professors or from several competitive fellowship programs offered by the Department and University.
Related graduate programs

PhD in Biological Sciences, Professional Science Master; MD; MAT or MT (for secondary science teacher certification); Master of Earth and Environmental Resource Management; PhD in Marine Science. Other kinds of graduate programs may include dental medicine, veterinary medicine, medical technology, public health, biotechnology, agriculture, environmental sciences/studies.

The listed experiences are a sample of options for your major. See the USC Connect experiences database to search for more opportunities.

www.sc.edu/usconnect/participate