About the Program

We believe that an understanding of genetics is essential in solving global problems such as famine, environmental degradation and disease.

The Genetics Area Program (GAP) is an interdisciplinary PhD program that will prepare you for a research or teaching career in genetics. As genetic analysis is used in all aspects of biological research, our Program has integrated the efforts of approximately 60 life sciences faculty into one of the strongest training programs at MU. The curriculum provides broad, individualized training tailored to your career objectives.

Genetics graduate students play a major role in the research programs of our life sciences departments. Students spend approximately twelve weeks in three different laboratories during their first year. This promotes diversity in techniques learned, and it encourages students to meet and work with faculty members in the associated departments. This scientific interaction helps our students choose a lab in which to complete the degree.

As part of the degree, students will spend a semester teaching or assisting with a course in the Genetics curriculum that is relevant to their career goals.

A genetics seminar series is organized and conducted by the graduate students to promote research interest and encourage scientific communication. Speakers include prominent researchers from universities throughout the country, as well as MU faculty. An annual retreat brings faculty and students together to share research results and techniques.

Genetics graduates leave MU with a strong scientific background, excellent laboratory skills and interpersonal communication abilities.

Courses

Courses for the Genetics Area Program curriculum are from a number of other areas at the University including the following: Animal Sciences (AN_SCI) (http://catalog.missouri.edu/courseofferings/an_sci), Biochemistry (BIOCHM) (http://catalog.missouri.edu/courseofferings/biochm), Biological Sciences (BIO_SC) (http://catalog.missouri.edu/courseofferings/bio_sc), Chemistry (CHEM) (http://catalog.missouri.edu/courseofferings/chem), Computer Science (CMP_SC) (http://catalog.missouri.edu/courseofferings/cmp_sc), Microbiology (MICROB) (http://catalog.missouri.edu/courseofferings/microb), Plant Sciences (PLNT_S) (http://catalog.missouri.edu/courseofferings/plnt_s). For a complete listing of all courses offered at MU, refer to the Course Offerings (http://catalog.missouri.edu/courseofferings) in the catalog.

Undergraduate

While MU does not offer undergraduate degrees specifically in the genetics area program, the University does offer baccalaureate opportunities in a number of related areas in the other Schools and Colleges that make up the University. The catalog provides a complete list of these degree options (http://catalog.missouri.edu/degreesanddegreeprograms).

Graduate

* PhD in Genetics Area Program (http://catalog.missouri.edu/undergraduate/interdisciplinaryacademicprograms/geneticsareaprogram/phd-genetics-area-program)