**Ph.D. in Biological Sciences**

The Ph.D. in Biological Sciences covers a broad array of ecological topics and serves the needs of students whose dissertation research addresses basic, fundamental ecological principles or of those conducting applied research not involving fish or wildlife management. It serves the interests of students primarily interested in research careers in federal or state agencies or in academic careers in ecology departments. Coursework associated with this degree tends to emphasize fundamental principles of ecology. To learn more about applying for the program, please see the Ecology Graduate Admissions Information (https://www.montana.edu/ecology/graduate_admissions.html) page.

The full program of study is determined by the graduate committee following the Graduate School degree requirements (http://www.montana.edu/gradschool/policy/degreq_doctoral.html), usually after the student has completed the required oral qualifying exam during the third semester in the program.

Courses taken while in a master's degree program at M.S.U, *beyond* those listed on the master’s Program of Study, may be used on an additional master’s program or a doctoral program at a later time.