• Make your education a high priority in your life!
• Be sure to register for classes as soon as possible.
• Know your degree plan backwards and forwards so that you know exactly what you need to do to graduate. If you need assistance, please see your advisor or the Department Chair.
• Plan ahead for the courses that you want to take in the future so that you can be sure to complete all prerequisites before registering.

Progression requirements
Admission to the College of Education and P-16 Integration is required for participation in Apprentice Teaching Seminar (UTCH 4101). Students unable to be admitted to UTCH 4601 and UTCH 4101 will be required to substitute advanced hours to satisfy the degree requirements, as recommended by advisor.

Graduation requirements
Minimum GPA of 2.75 is required for graduation. BIOL 1406 (or BIOL 1487 Honors), BIOL 1407 (or BIOL 1488 Honors), CHEM 1111/1112, CHEM 1109-1105, CHEM 3102, UTCH 3101, UTCH 3310, UTCH 3303, UTCH 4101, UTCH 4601 with a grade of 'C' or better grade in all of these courses; and approval of UTeach portfolio are required for graduation.

Degree requires 33 advanced hours for the major and 52 advanced hours overall.

Additional Info

Contact Info

Department Chair
Dr. Kristine Lowe
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Associate Department Chair
Dr. Daniele Provenzano
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Degree Info

The Department provides a broad-based undergraduate education in Biology to give students the opportunity to pursue careers in biological sciences, health professions, and education.

Biology students study:
- Biological systems: molecular, genetic, cellular, physiological, and ecological.
- Biology of whole organisms: humans, evolution, and biological diversity.
- Applied Biology: cancer, food safety, and vector-borne diseases.

Additionally, UTeach provides a proven pathway for teacher certification.
### MILESTONES

- **FIRST YEAR**
  - UTRGV has a Writing Center and a Learning Center. Make it a point to visit them!
  - Complete your core English classes (section 010) during your first year.
  - Complete 30 credit hours every year in order to graduate in 4 years.
  - Shoot for a GPA of 3.0.
  - Take MATH in your first year. See degree plan for options.
  - Meet with your academic advisor and bring your orientation folder with you to every session!
  - Choose a major with confidence - Visit my.utrgv.edu and check out MyMajors.
  - Visit a faculty member during their office hours and ask a question about class.
  - Classes fill up fast. When registration opens, be sure to register on the first day for your group.
  - Cold or flu getting you down? We have Student Health Services on campus with free office visits.

- **SECOND YEAR**
  - Complete major foundation classes. See degree plan for options.
  - Complete 30 credit hours.
  - Admission to the College of Education and P-16 Integration is required to be admitted into UTRGV 4601 Apprentice Teaching and UTOP 4101 Seminar.
  - Apply to the TEP program. Visit www.utrgv.edu/csp for more information.

- **THIRD YEAR**
  - Complete 30 credit hours.
  - Have you landed an internship or acquired research experience? This is the year to make it happen.
  - Seek out research opportunities within your major and join a professional organization.
  - Check DegreeWorks to make sure you are on track for graduation next year.

- **FOURTH YEAR AND BEYOND**
  - Shoot for a GPA of 3.0.
  - "I have a plan for after graduation." If this describes you, great! If not, visit your Faculty Advisor or Career Center!
  - Register for your Capstone/senior/portfolio project. Please see degree plan for options.
  - Complete at least 30 credit hours to graduate.
  - Submit your application(s) for graduate school, an apprenticeship, or for fulltime employment.

### ADVICE & SUPPORT

- **APPLY WHAT YOU LEARN**
  - Look for a service learning course for guidance, visit Engaged Scholarship & Learning Office.
  - Participate in a campus-sponsored community service project.
  - Ask a student in class to study with you.

- **GLOBAL, CAMPUS & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**
  - Set up your profile on the Engagement Zone through My.UTRGV.edu.
  - Attend a diversity based campus or community event (e.g. MLK Day of Service).
  - Attend a departmental program!
  - Join a student organization! Visit VLink (utrgv.edu/vlink) for options.

- **LIFE AFTER GRADUATION**
  - Create a résumé and set up your profile on the Handshake icon: (My.UTRGV.edu).
  - Got summer plans? Visit Career Center and ask about places to do some job shadowing.
  - Research shows that students who work on campus perform better than those who work off campus. Look for a job on Handshake!
  - Check your UTRGV email for the daily Messenger - locate and attend one student workshop.