

What is Microbiology?

Microbiology examines the nature and activities of microorganisms, the distinctive microscopic life forms that recycle the elements in aquatic, atmospheric, and soil environments. The field has applications for fields of industry, agriculture, and medicine. As remarkably useful model systems for research, microorganisms play a key role in the development of modern biology. This program prepares students for graduate study or professional work in microbiology.

What are the major requirements?

Go to www.catalogs.umn.edu/programs.html and select “Undergraduate majors.”

How do I declare a Microbiology major?

You will be required to declare a major by the time you have completed 60 credits.

1. Talk with someone from the department: an adviser or a professor, to learn more about the major and its requirements.
2. When you decide upon a Microbiology major, meet with the appropriate person from the department to complete a Major Program form.
3. Bring a copy of the form to your CLA student community.
4. If you decide to change your major, contact your student community to learn more about your new major’s declaration process.

What can I do with a major in Microbiology?

Skills

Microbiology majors develop skills that are applicable to a wide variety of careers.

These skills include:

- Problem solving and analytical skills
- Quantitative orientation
- Independent, self-motivated work ethic
- Ability to formulate clear and persuasive messages
- Ability to work well with diverse groups

Employment

Common areas of employment for this major include but are not limited to:

- Sciences—laboratory work, research, academic, environmental, biotechnology, pharmaceutical, food science positions, etc.
- Government—public information, campaigns, research
- Business—marketing, human resources, sales, consulting, recruiting
- Education—teaching, research, student affairs

Today’s workplace requires individuals with interpersonal skills, the ability to communicate effectively, an ability to solve problems, and adaptability. CLA graduates find that they are

For more information:

About the Microbiology major:

Undergraduate Advising
1460 Mayo Building
(612) 624-5947
<http://www.microbiology.med.umn.edu/>

About CLA requirements, graduation, and other information about majors:

CLA Health and Natural Sciences Student Community
B-18 Johnston Hall
(612) 624-6044
<http://www.hns.class.umn.edu>

or

CLA Martin Luther King, Jr. Program
19 Johnston Hall
(612) 625-2300
<http://www.class.umn.edu/mlk/mlk@class.cla.umn.edu>

About careers, internships, and community learning opportunities in this major and others:

Career and Community Learning Center
135 Johnston Hall
(612) 624-7577
www.cclc.umn.edu
cclc@class.cla.umn.edu

About graduation with honors:

CLA Honors Division
20 Nicholson
(612) 624-5522
www.cla.umn.edu/honors/honors@class.cla.umn.edu

well-prepared in all these areas and that their education—especially when combined with experience gained through internships, volunteer positions, past jobs, and other collegiate involvement—makes them competitive.

The **Career & Community Learning Center** provides students with the tools to identify and pursue potential careers. An extensive resource room, career courses and workshops, and a helpful staff are just some of the ways we can help.

Remember!

You have not declared a major until you have:

- completed a Major Program form with your major adviser,
- filed a copy with the major department,
- and filed a copy with your CLA student community.

Don't forget: keep a copy for yourself!