With a grant from the Howard Hughes Medical Institute, freshman biology majors can now opt out of their traditional introductory labs and take part in the national SEA Phage Hunters Advancing Genomics and Evolutionary Science, or PHAGES, project. These students contribute to the field of genomics and receive immediate hands-on involvement in genuine research where they hunt viruses and analyze newly discovered mycobacteriophages that infect bacteria living in soil.

“There are so many layers to biology. Every class is so different and you learn so much about the life around you. You will learn that everything really is connected and find so much purpose in all the topics you learn about.”

– Rachel Edlein ’19

This department offers a challenging but rewarding curriculum taught by an experienced, enthusiastic faculty with diverse backgrounds. The biology major allows students to tailor their programs beyond the major’s core curriculum to meet their specific needs. This provides excellent experiential learning opportunities through undergraduate research and internships. The biology major also is ideal for students preparing to enter into a health profession program because it provides a broad background in the natural sciences as well as specific training in essential biological topics related to the medical field.

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