What to do with a degree in **PLANT BIOLOGY**

Offers students a wide variety of plant biology courses, including courses in plant relationships (systematics), structure (morphology), function (physiology) and development, and in the emerging area of plant biotechnology and molecular biology. Students complete this program with a broad appreciation of plant biology.

**Key Skills & Knowledge**

**Research**: Conducting research; collecting data and analyzing finding; testing materials and products to determine potential concerns, reactions and interactions.

**Communication**: Present technical and non-technical findings in reports and presentations; verbal and public speaking communication skills; write reasoned and clear reports.

**Organization and attention to detail**: Independent worker, ability to meet deadlines; Inspect specimens; demonstrate precision and accuracy in data collection and observation; data, time and resource management.

**Analytical and critical thinking**: Gather, assess, evaluate, interpret and then communicate scientific data; knowledge of the structure and biological function of the molecules in living organisms; understanding of how to manipulate and alter genetic information.

**Sample Job Titles**

Some of these roles may require further training, certification or education. Check out the Alberta Government’s occupational profiles for salary info and more detail: [alis.alberta.ca/occinfo](http://alis.alberta.ca/occinfo)

- Agricultural Biotechnologist
- Biological Product Researcher
- Bioprocess Engineer
- Biosafety Tester
- Biotechnologist
- Botanist
- Compliance Control Officer
- Ecological Assistant
- Ecologist
- Environmental Impact Specialist
- Food Engineer
- Genetic Engineer
- Government Advisor
- Greenhouse Technician
- Horticulturist
- Industrial Chemist
- Industrial Microbiologist
- Molecular Biologist
- National forestry or conservation expert
- Naturalist
- Plant Biotechnologist
- Plant Scientist
- Process Developer
- Product Developer
- Quality Control Officer
- Regulatory Issues Advisor
- Research Scientist
- Support Scientist
- Teacher/Professor

**Need help deciding what to do?**

Formal Career Assessments like the Strong Interest Inventory and the Myers Briggs Type Indicator can be helpful tools for your career development. **Request an assessment via CareerLink**
Associations provide an opportunity for continued professional development. Many also offer networking opportunities and other events for their members.

- Alberta Women's Science Network (AWSN) and Mentorship Program: [www.awsn.com/](http://www.awsn.com/)
- Agricultural Institute of Canada: [www.aic.ca/](http://www.aic.ca/)
- American Society of Plant Biologists: [asbp.org](http://asbp.org)
- Association of Science and Engineering Technology Professionals of Alberta (ASET): [www.aset.ab.ca/](http://www.aset.ab.ca/)
- BIOTECanada: [biotech.ca](http://biotech.ca)
- Canadian Association of Science Centres: [canadiansciencecentres.ca](http://canadiansciencecentres.ca)
- Canadian Bioethics: [bioethics.ca](http://bioethics.ca)
- Canadian Medical Association: [www.cma.ca/](http://www.cma.ca/)
- Canadian Society of Plant Biologists: [www.cspp-scpv.ca/](http://www.cspp-scpv.ca/)
- International Association of Plant Biotechnology: [www.danforthcenter.org/iapb-stl/](http://www.danforthcenter.org/iapb-stl/)
- International Organizations of Biotechnology and Bioengineering: [https://uiia.org/s/or/en/1100056004](http://https://uiia.org/s/or/en/1100056004)
- Women in Science and Engineering (WISE): [uofcwise.com](http://uofcwise.com)

### Additional Resources

Great Jobs for Biology Majors by Blythe Camenson
Careers for Nature Lovers & Other Outdoors Types
What You Can Do With A Major In Biology: Real People. Real Jobs. Real Rewards.
by Bart Astor

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**Potential Industries**

- Agricultural Companies
- Agricultural Research Service
- Biological Firms
- Biotechnology Firms
- Botanical gardens and arboretums
- Ecological consulting
- Environmental and biotechnical regulatory agencies
- Food & Beverage
- Fruit Growers
- Government
- Health Care
- Industrial
- Landscape management and design
- Marine/freshwater studies
- Museums
- Non-Profits & NGOs
- Petrochemical, chemical, and lumber and paper companies
- Post-Secondary
- Plant Research Centres
- Seed and nurseries
- Writer

**Career Services**

YOUR FUTURE STARTS HERE

- Career Planning
- Job Search Support
- Resume Reviews
- Career Workshops
- Online Job Postings
- Career Fairs
- Networking Events
- Information Sessions & much more!

Connect with us:

MacEwan Student Centre, Room 188
T: 403.220.8020
E: csstdnt@ucalgary.ca
CareerLink: [ucalgary.ca/careers](http://ucalgary.ca/careers)

[Facebook](http://facebook.com)
ucalgarycareers
@HireUCalgary

**Job Boards**

- Indeed: [https://ca.indeed.com/](http://https://ca.indeed.com/)
- LinkedIn: [www.linkedin.com](http://www.linkedin.com)
CareerLink: [careerlink.ucalgary.ca](http://careerlink.ucalgary.ca)

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**Faculty Contact**

Biological Sciences 186
T: 403.220.5261
E: biorecep@ucalgary.ca
W: bio.ucalgary.ca
W: ucalgary.ca/admissions/programs

**Student Clubs**

- Biology Student Association
  [bio.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate/student_life](http://bio.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate/student_life)
- Aligned Majors:
  Biochemistry, Ecology, Environmental Science