**M.S. Program Required Curriculum**

For the M.S. students, it is required that students take 2 hours of BSC 420 Seminar. For students enrolled in the Conservation Biology Sequence, those hours must come from (1) 1 hour of BSC 420.29 (see Sequence Core Courses) and (2) 1 hour chosen from any other BSC 420 courses.

**Sequence Required Curriculum**

**Sequence Core Courses**
- BSC 406 Conservation Biology - 3 Credit Hours
- BSC 420.29 Seminar in Conservation Biology - 1 Credit Hour
- *BSC 490/420.27 Biostatistics/Biostatistics Lab - 4 Credit Hours
- BSC 499 Thesis Research - 4 Credit Hours

Total Required Hours for Sequence Core = 12

*These two courses must be taken concurrently

**Elective Courses**

Students in the sequence must take elective courses that add to at least 17 credit hours to meet the 30 credit hour requirement for a M.S. degree. For the sequence, these are to be distributed as follows:

1. (1) one course from each of the first three groups (I, II, III);
2. (2) fourth and fifth elective courses can be met in one of three ways (choices b and c require prior approval by the Director of the Conservation Biology Sequence):
   - (a) additional choice(s) from any of the four groups (I, II, III, IV),
   - (b) minimum of 3 hours of relevant Independent Study (BSC 400) or relevant Graduate Research in Biological Sciences (BSC 495),
   - (c) minimum of 3 hours of relevant other graduate course work at Illinois State University or another university.

**Elective Courses (cont'd)**

**Group I—Ecology**
- BSC 375/376 Stream Ecology - 4 Credit Hours
- BSC 404 Population Ecology - 4 Credit Hours
- BSC 405 Community Ecology - 4 Credit Hours

**Group II—Genetics & Evolution**
- BSC 470 Evolution - 3 Credit Hours
- BSC 488 Systematic Biology - 3 Credit Hours

**Group III—Taxon Focus**
- BSC 301 Entomology - 4 Credit Hours
- BSC 330 Biology of Algae - 4 Credit Hours
- BSC 333 Plant Diversity - 4 Credit Hours
- BSC 335/336 Plant Taxonomy/Laboratory in Plant Identification - 4 Credit Hours
- BSC 396 Avian Biology - 4 Credit Hours

**Group IV—Other Electives**
- GEO 303 Geographic Information Systems - 3 Credit Hours
- GEO 304 Geographic Information Systems Applications - 3 Credit Hours
- GEO 305 Remote Sensing I - 3 Credit Hours
- BSC 311 Rain Forest Ecology - 3 Credit Hours
- BSC 325 Ecological Physiology of Animals - 3 Credit Hours
- BSC 333 Plant Diversity - 4 Credit Hours
- BSC 353 Biotechnology Laboratory I: DNA Techniques - 3 Credit Hours
- BSC 486 Ethology - 4 Credit Hours

Required Elective Hours = 17

Total Required Hours = 30