

Fall 2024 Undergraduate Program Director (UPD) Report

Taylor Mitchell - 11/16/2024 2:49:26 PM -05:00

Received

Date:

By:

Comment:

Instructions

This is a form for SEBS Governing Council major representatives. The purpose of this form is to encourage student engagement with faculty/department representatives and to identify academic issues that may be addressed by the council.

1. Talk to students in your major, ask around if there are any current academic issues (ex: class conflicts within the major, issues with professors or department, lack of resources).
2. Look at Degree Navigator, write down the course requirements
3. Formulate a list of things you would like to know about the program (corporate connections with the university, current research projects, opportunities for students to get involved, recent changes to the program)
4. Email Undergraduate Program Director and Arrange Appointment
5. Fill out this form and submit by 11:59pm on November 17th, 2024.

n/a

General Information

Your Name

Taylor Mitchell

Your Email

tm853@scarletmail.rutgers.edu

Represented Major

Entomology

Date of Meeting with UPD

n/a

Class Year

2026

UPD Name

Dr. Chloe Hawkings

UPD Email

c.hawkings@rutgers.edu

Major/Departmental Website Link (if applicable)

<https://entomology.rutgers.edu/undergraduate/>

Major Information

Major Options -- What options are offered within the major? How do they differ?

The major offers both a major and minor. The minor requires prerequisites of general biology 1 and 2 as well as lab (10 credits total). Then required entomology courses of insect biology (4) and insect classification (4). As well as 12-18 credits from courses in entomology totaling to 19-26 credits for the minor. The major required 83+ credits with prerequisites of general biology 1 and 2 as well as lab and general chemistry 1 and 2 as well as lab.

Total Number of Students within the Major (estimate if unknown from UPD)

about 50 students

Goals within the Major -- What are expectations of students post-graduation?

Post Graduation students are expected to have gained a broad knowledge of the systematics, anatomy, physiology, ecology, and biochemistry of insects, the ability to explain both beneficial and detrimental impact insects have on humans, the environment, plant and animals. Students are also expected to be able to communicate entomological information to the scientific community and to the general public and the ethical principles required for management.

List Upper-Level major courses -- What is the goal of each course?

11:370:381 Insect Biology (4): A survey of insects; their structure, function, behavior, evolution, diversity, and effect on agricultural production, as well as on people and animals. 11:370:409 Insect Classification (4): For students interested in insect diversity and evolution. Life histories and sight recognition of major families, especially those of economic or medical importance. 11:370:403 Insect Structure and Function (4): Physiology and functional morphology, including response systems, sensory systems, energy utilization, transport and secretion, and renewal systems. 11:370:407 Careers and Professional Development in Entomology (1): This course will provide professional development opportunities in entomological fields and prepare students for the transition to employment. The course will also cover entomological communication skills and presentation components. Students will be expected to incorporate information learned in other classes within the Department of Entomology. 11:370:495, 496 Seminar in Entomology (1): weekly speakers, expected to incorporate knowledge from past courses

Student Issues

Are there concerns with classes within the major? Are there any suggestions for solutions to these concerns?

Students suggest that the range in intensity and course load is a lot regarding an immense amount of memorization. Courses like Urban Entomology should not be an entry level course offered to first years, and should require some sort of entomology prerequisite.

From the perspective of the UPD or other major faculty members, what can currently be improved upon in the major or department? Are there any suggestions for solutions to these issues?

n/a

Are there any Visitor Events/Talks/Seminars/etc. going on within the major?

Weekly seminars offered on Fridays of every semester. This counts towards the required seminar in entomology course but is open to other students as well as faculty to join.

Suggestions for students in this major (ex: organizations to join, news to pay attention to)

Meet with UPD to discuss course path. The course catalog is not updated (I assume it will be soon since it is on degree navigator) so students should meet in person to ensure they are on the correct path.

Changes within the major for the upcoming year

New electives from departments ranging in environmental sciences, food science, human ecology, landscape architecture, nutrition, agriculture and food systems.

Any other suggestions, comments, concerns?

n/a