



# Push the frontiers. Explore the Life Sciences your way.

**Within Integrated Life Sciences, you choose.** Entering ILS students sample three faculty research programs prior to committing to a major professor and graduate program. With more than 250 faculty and 14 PhD graduate programs affiliated with ILS, a student is certain to find a great research and learning environment. ILS students also engage in innovative curriculum that is purposefully designed to facilitate the transition to graduate education and research.

- ❖ **PhD training in emerging and interdisciplinary areas**
- ❖ **Customized research specializations**
- ❖ **Competitive financial support**
- ❖ **Strong mentoring and outcomes**

## Research Strengths

- Behavioral & Cognitive Neuroscience
- ❖ Biology Education Research
- ❖ Cancer
- ❖ Cell Biology
- Cellular & Molecular Neuroscience
- ❖ Climate Change
- ❖ Computational Chemistry in Biology
- ❖ Developmental Biology
- ❖ Drug Discovery & Development
- Epigenetics & Chromatin
- Evolution & Ecology
- ❖ Fungal Biology
- Glycoscience
- ❖ Insect Biology
- ❖ Medicinal Chem. & Chemical Bio.
- ❖ Microbial Biotechnology
- ❖ Microbial Physiology & Ecology
- ❖ Molecular Plant Sciences
- ❖ Pathogens, Vaccines & Immunity
- ❖ Regenerative Medicine
- ❖ Structural Biology
- ❖ Systems Biology
- Tropical & Emerging Global Diseases

## PhD Graduate Programs

- Biochemistry & Molecular Biology
- ❖ Bioinformatics
- Cellular Biology
- ❖ Chemistry
- ❖ Entomology
- Genetics
- Infectious Diseases
- ❖ Marine Sciences
- ❖ Microbiology
- Neuroscience
- ❖ Nutritional Sciences
- ❖ Pharmaceutical & Biomedical Sciences
- ❖ Physiology & Pharmacology
- ❖ Plant Biology
- ❖ Toxicology

## Support & Mentorship

- ❖ NIH T32 Grants
  - ❖ NIH Bridges-to-Doctorate
  - ❖ NSF Graduate Scholars Leadership, Engagement and Development
  - ❖ Gateway to Graduate Education
  - ❖ Professional Development Courses
- These areas are closely associated with NIH- and NSF-funded training programs.



**Do tomorrow's research today at UGA!**

For more information, visit [ils.uga.edu](http://ils.uga.edu) or contact us at [ilsinfo@uga.edu](mailto:ilsinfo@uga.edu) or 706-583-0854.



# UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA

## Integrated Life Sciences

You are receiving this letter because you either contacted *Integrated Life Sciences (ILS)* about applying to graduate study in the Life Sciences at the UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA (UGA) or were referred to ILS by a UGA faculty member. ILS is an entry point for 14 PhD graduate programs that strives to attract the best and brightest graduate students possible. We are honored that you are considering our programs.

Here are some facts about graduate study at UGA. *First*, the total graduate population is over 9000; there are over 600 graduate students in the Life Sciences; ILS aims to admit ~65 new graduate students per year (~25% international). *Second*, our students enjoy heavily subsidized tuition (\$25 per semester) and health care. *Third*, **ILS graduate students enjoy innovative curriculum and sample various lab environments and research projects prior to starting thesis research.** ILS students are guaranteed stipend support for 5 years, initially provided as a research assistantship with no teaching obligation in the first semester. Subsequent stipend support is either through a Research or Teaching Assistantship; international scholars with independent funding (e.g. national scholarships, Fulbright awards, etc.) will receive additional stipend support if their awards are less than that of our standard stipend.

ILS evaluates multiple criteria when deciding whom to admit into our programs, and we receive many excellent applications. **The average international ILS student has significant laboratory research experience, a GPA >3.5 (4.0 scale), excellent TOEFL scores (>100 Total; >23 Speak Test), and strong passion for a research-oriented career.** Exceptional excellence in one area has the potential to offset deficiencies in other areas.

**Applications are due December 1st** for matriculation in the following Fall semester. For application instructions, see <http://ils.uga.edu/admissions/how-to-apply>. We strongly urge you to submit your application before the deadline to insure timely receipt of your application. Applications from students that are exceptionally qualified may be evaluated after the above deadline, but late applications are generally considered with the following year's applicant pool. Applications are processed in early January, and qualified candidates undergo a Skype (preferred) or telephone interview, or may be included in any recruiting methods that change as a result of the administrative burden brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic. Admission offers are extended soon after.

**A complete application typically includes official transcript(s), TOEFL scores, letters of recommendation, and a web-based Background & Interest form, which must all be received before any action can be taken on an application.** The Background & Interest form has a section for a Personal Statement and requests that you list the names of departments, interdisciplinary groups and faculty that are of interest to you (<http://ils.uga.edu/admissions/how-to-apply>). The TOEFL requirement is country-specific and waived if you hold a degree from or attended at least one-year of study at a US institution. Country-specific requirements can apply to certain applications, (<http://grad.uga.edu/index.php/prospective-students/international-application-information/international-supplement/country-specific/>); carefully review this information before applying. Report TOEFL scores using ETS code **5813**; there is no departmental/program code, but you can select "Biological Sciences"/ "Other Biological Sciences" if desired. You can also voluntarily report GRE test scores (ETS code **5813**). A Certification of Finances is not required at the time of application.

Several web sites provide information about our incredibly vibrant academic community. UGA maintains a website about our institution and city (<http://www.uga.edu>). The UGA Graduate School website (<http://grad.uga.edu/>) is the portal for submitting your electronic application and has detailed information about applying. There is much information on these sites, and I think you will enjoy reading about our graduate programs, institution, and community (<https://www.visitathensga.com/media/rankings-press-coverages/>).

Thank you for your interest in *Integrated Life Sciences (ILS)* at UGA. We are proud of our graduate programs and its students and firmly believe that the UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA represents an excellent education and training opportunity. We look forward to receiving your application.

Best regards,

Eric Lafontaine, PhD  
ILS Graduate Coordinator