

## PhD (Third Cycle) Programme in Biology

### General Information

In 1992, Nigde University was founded with the establishment of the Department of Biology, the first department of the Nigde University. The Department of Biology launched its education activities in 1992 and its first graduates in 1996, began graduate studies in 1996.

Department of Biology PhD (Third Cycle) Program, each of the four-year programs consist of 240 ECTS worth eight semesters. An ECTS refers to 30 hour work load of student for each semester. The Department has a young, dynamic and complete academic staff of 18 people, consisting of 4 Professor, 8 Associate Professors, 6 Assistant Professors.

Department of Biology is available 12 research laboratories, 4 student laboratory, Herbarium, Zoological Museum and Museum Arachnology. Students and lecturers carry out cooperation and exchange with a wide variety of countries under the ERASMUS. PhD program consisting of compulsory and elective students who successfully complete are PhD degree. Successful students will also complete their training double major or minor education in other disciplines.

In the department, numerous national and international level scientific studies and BAP, TÜBİTAK and so on. projects are carried out.

### Aims and Objectives

#### Aims :

- To train biologists who every aspect of the well- equipped, basic biology information, transferring modern educational methods, able to practice their profession in the national and international level, competent to meet the needs of industry
- To provide for the students in the process of their education, opportunity to work actively in the field of health and industry with technologically advanced laboratory facilities
- To provide advanced training for students who engaged in research in the field of science and technology, contribute to research and development field
- To train scientists who have PhD level vision, analytical thinking and ethical value

#### Objectives

:

- To make academic research and publications in the field of 'biotechnology' born in the science biology and technology
- To produce scientific research and projects that will contribute to national progress
- To produce graduates equipped with the necessary scientific and social faculties, can follow a top-level education, critical thinking and leadership skills will work environments, provide interdisciplinary collaboration, administrative features, produce innovative and unique solutions
- To train individuals who improved national environmental awareness, observing the current problems around, solution to investigate

### Qualification Awarded

Upon successful completion of this program, students are awarded with the qualification of DOCTORATE DEGREE in BIOLOGY.

### Level of Qualification

PhD with thesis in BIOLOGY is a four-year (8 semesters) program with 240 ECTS credits. The program meets the requirements both for ECTS credits and level descriptors of the "Third Cycle" degree qualifications of the [Overarching Framework of European Qualifications Framework HE \(QF-EHEA\)](#) and the "8th Level" qualifications of the [Turkish Qualifications Framework for HE \(TYYÇ, NQF-HETR\)](#), as well as the "8th Level" requirements of the qualifications of the [European Qualifications Framework for Lifelong Learning \(EQF-LLL\)](#) in terms of the level descriptors.

### **Specific Admission Requirements**

Admission requirements are determined in line with the regulations set by Higher Education Council of Turkey. Information on application for graduate programs and access requirements are announced on the web page of the university at the beginning of each academic year. The following requirements are applied for both national and foreign students:

- To have a First Cycle (BSc) degree in Biology
- To have ALES (Entrance Exam for Academic Personnel and Postgraduate Education) with minimum score of 55 (or equivalent)
- To have a foreign language proficiency from national exams such as YDS (Foreign Language Proficiency Test), UDS (The Interuniversity Foreign Language Examination) or KPDS (The Foreign Language Examination for Civil Servants) or from international exams such as IELTS (International English Language Testing System) or TOEFL (Test of English as a Foreign Language) accepted by Interuniversity Board. Students who do not have a foreign language proficiency might apply yet their foreign language score is evaluated as 0.
- The candidates with a Bachelor's Degree from abroad must have the certificate of equivalence from the Council of Higher Education (YOK).
- ALES score is valid for 3 years.
- The candidates must apply in person. The applications with incomplete documents will not be evaluated.

For further and detailed information please visit [General Admission Requirements](#) and [Registration Procedures](#) in the menu items of the Information on the Institution.

For further information on the admission requirement for foreign students, please contact to Nigde University International Office.

### **Contact:**

International Office  
Niğde Üniversitesi, Kampüs, Bor Yolu, Niğde, TÜRKİYE

**Phone:** 0 388 225 21 48

**Fax:** 0 388 225 23 85

**E-mail:** [erasmus@nigde.edu.tr](mailto:erasmus@nigde.edu.tr)

**Web:** <http://www.nigde.edu.tr/uluslararasi/index.php?ln=en>

### **Specific Arrangements for Recognition of Prior Learning**

With an understanding of lifelong learning, Nigde University recognizes the previously taken courses in another institution and exempt them from graduation credit, as long as the courses match with the learning outcomes of the registered PhD (Third Cycle) programme in Biology at Nigde University.

## Profile of the Programme

Biology Department PhD Program established to students to follow the latest technologies to provide a high-quality program and at the same time to ensure the participation of applied and theoretical research. This program is prepared in accordance with understanding to gain practical experience and a joint training strategy. Thus, the new trends in technology will be able to adapt easily. The program primarily includes general Biology, Botany, Zoology, Molecular Biology and Biotechnology areas. Therefore aims to provide to students understanding different areas by using information from the basic sciences and biology, to gain skills at least one specialist expertise in the field of biology and participate in the activities of the creative and unifying desing. The students also may continue their academic career in related in Turkey or abroad.

PhD Program In Biology ("Second Cycle" In Qf-Ehea And "8th Level" In Tyyç ) is an academically-oriented program giving access to research programs and professional practice demanding advanced levels of knowledge, skills and competencies. The program can be classified in regards to [ISCED \(The International Standard Classification of Education\) 2011](#) and [NQF-HETR \(The Turkish Qualifications Framework for HE\)](#) profiles and fields of education as follows:

- ISCED Field of Education: 42 – Biology
- ISCED 2011 Level: 8, Orientation (Profile): 64, Subcategory: 645, Academically-oriented "Third Cycle" degree
- NQF-HETR Field of Education: 42 – Biology
- NQF-HETR Profile of Education: Academically-oriented "Third Cycle" degree

## Learning and Teaching Methods

The most frequently used instructional methods of the educational programs of Nigde University are given below. Programmes commonly apply these methods as appropriate instructional approaches in accordance with their aims and objectives.

The instructional methods applied for achieving the goal of meeting the expected learning outcomes of the PhD program in biology program at large are indicated in the section of 'program learning outcomes', and those methods utilized for individual course units are indicated in the relevant section of " description of indivusal course unit".

## Learning and Teaching Methods

- Lecture & In-Class Activities
- Land Surveying
- Group Work
- Laboratory
- Reading
- Assignment (Homework)
- Project Work
- Seminar
- Web Based Learning
- Implementation/Application/Practice
- Thesis Work
- Field Study
- Report Writing

## Occupational profiles of graduates with examples

Students who graduate from the program within the scope of the universality of science find career opportunities in Turkey, Europe and elsewhere. According to personal interests and

preferences of our graduates biotechnology, molecular biology, botany and zoology fields of research and work in the areas of project development.

Doctorate program in Biology can take part in national and international projects which are not routine applications of everyday research and development activities. They can work as academic staff in higher education institutions.

### Qualification Requirements and Regulations

PhD Degree program (third cycle) in BIOLOGY is awarded to students who have scored a Cumulative Grade Point Average (CGPA) of not less than 2.50 /4.00, defended his/her thesis successfully, and have completed all the courses (240 ECTS) with at least a letter grade of CB or S in the program.

For detailed information: Please see "[Nidge University's Rules & Regulations for Graduate Education](#)"

### Access to Further Studies

Upon successful completion of PhD degree programme, students can pursue an academic career in related fields.

### Examination Regulations, Assessment and Grading

The methods applied for assessment of the achievement of the expected program learning outcomes for the entire Third Cycle program of BIOLOGY DOCTORATE DEGREE'S are shown below and those for the individual course units are given in the relevant section of the course description with their contribution to the final grades.

- Mid-Term Exam
- Final Exam
- Make-up Exam
- Homework Assessment
- Presentation of Report
- Computer Based Presentation
- Presentation of Thesis
- Presentation of Document

Mid-term and final examinations are conducted in dates, places and times determined and announced by the University. The students' final semester grade is given by their instructors based on mid-term examination, homework evaluation, short-examinations, final examination and, if there is any other assessment results taking into account the students' compliance with attendance to the course activities.

The contribution of assessment grades of the in-term activities to the final grade is 40% and that of the final exam is 60% for all the course units.

### **Grading:**

The success of a student for each assessment (in-term and final) defined for each course unit is evaluated by the instructor. Evaluations are made over a scale of 100 points and converted to the letter grades at the end of the semester.

A student is considered to be successful in a course if he/she gets one of the following grades: AA, BA, BB, CB or S (Successful). The student's academic standing is calculated in the form of a Grade Point Average (GPA) out of a scale of 4.00 and announced at the end of each semester. The total grade point of a course is obtained by multiplying the grade point by the course ECTS

credit. The semester GPA is calculated by dividing the total amount of grade points of courses gained in that semester by the total amount of ECTS credits of courses taken in the semester. The yearlong courses are included in the spring semester GPA. Cumulative Grade Point Average (CGPA) is calculated by dividing the total amount of grade points of all the courses in the curriculum to be taken by the total amount of 240 ECTS credits. For each course taken, the student is given one of the following letter grades and grade points:

Course Score	Course Grade	Grade Points
90-100	AA	4.00
85-89	BA	3.50
80-84	BB	3.00
75-79	CB	2.50
70-74	CC	2.00
65-69	DC	1.50
60-64	DD	1.00
50-59	FD	0.50
0-49	FF	0.00

#### Classification of the qualification

A student who obtains a CGPA of 2.00-2.99 is considered as a Satisfactory Student, the one who obtains a CGPA of 3.00-3.49 is considered as a Honours Student, and the one who obtains a CGPA of 3.50-4.00 is considered as a High Honours Student.

#### Graduation Requirements

In order for a student to graduate from PhD Degree (Third Cycle) Programme in BIOLOGY, he/she has

- Completed 240 ECTS credits with passing grades
- A cumulative grade point average (CGPA) of at least 2.50 out of 4.00.
- Prepared and defended a thesis successfully.

#### Mode of Study:

Doctorate Programme in Biology at Nigde University is a full time / face to face programme.

#### Contact (Programme Director or Equivalent):

Position	Name Surname	Phone	E-Mail
Head of Department	Prof. Dr. Aydın TOPÇU	+903882254012	<a href="mailto:aydintopcu@hotmail.com">aydintopcu@hotmail.com</a>
Deputy Head of Department	Assoc. Dr. Recep KARA	+903882254034	<a href="mailto:recepkara@nigde.edu.tr">recepkara@nigde.edu.tr</a>
Deputy Head of Department	Assoc. Dr. Osman SEYYAR	+903882254059	<a href="mailto:oseyyar@nigde.edu.tr">oseyyar@nigde.edu.tr</a>
ERASMUS and ECTS Coordinator	Assoc. Dr. Zeliha SELAMOĞLU TALAS	+903882254211	<a href="mailto:ztalas@nigde.edu.tr">ztalas@nigde.edu.tr</a>