

## **OPTIONS IN BIOLOGY**

**Preprofessional Study Preprofessional students** — those seeking careers in chiropractic, dentistry, medicine, optometry, osteopathy, physical therapy, podiatry, or veterinary medicine — should consult with their preprofessional advisor before deciding what specific elective courses in biology to take. Under exceptional circumstances, it may be possible for a biology major to begin professional school after completing three years of undergraduate work at IPFW and to receive credit for the final year after completing the first year of professional school. The B.S. is then awarded after the first year of professional school is completed. Detailed and early planning is necessary.

**Special Assignments in Biology** Students who qualify may elect to do an independent project supervised by a faculty member. With the permission of the faculty member and the department chair, the student can enroll in either BIOL 295 or BIOL 595. The student must work closely with the faculty member to design and complete the project. Credits earned in these courses cannot be used to satisfy A/B-elective requirements, and a maximum of 6 such credits can be used toward graduation as general elective credits.

**Cooperative Education (Co-op) Program** Co-op is designed to provide employment experience in an area of your academic interest while you are still enrolled in school. A co-op experience may be repeated. You may earn up to 2 elective credits toward your degree.

**Honors Degree in Biology** You may earn an honors degree in biology by achieving an overall GPA of 3.00 or higher and a biology GPA of 3.50 or higher, conducting a two-semester (6-credit) research project, preparing a senior thesis based on the research project, and giving an oral presentation of the thesis research. The senior thesis committee must be established one semester before graduation.