Mission Statement of the Department of Biological Sciences at Lehman College

- We strive to provide our students with a comprehensive and multi-disciplinary education in the biological sciences, including an appreciation of evolution as the central paradigm leading to the Earth’s biodiversity, and an understanding of the need for the sustainability of this biodiversity. As a department, we commit ourselves to:
  - Maintaining an atmosphere of academic and research excellence
  - Nurturing and developing the intellectual curiosity of our students
  - Embracing the diverse backgrounds of our students
  - Encouraging and supporting the development of our students into responsible citizens

Goals and Objectives

- To offer a comprehensive range of courses that provides a strong foundation in the biological sciences
  - Students take a year of freshman biology.
  - Students select biology courses from a range of sub-disciplines covering the breadth of the field.

- To provide opportunities for students to engage in research with faculty support
  - Courses are available for credit to conduct research under faculty’s supervision.

- To enable our students to use the scientific method of inquiry when exploring all aspects of the biological sciences
  - Courses are offered in which students are actively involved in developing hypotheses, designing experiments, analyzing and interpreting the data, and presenting the results of their experiments.

- To enhance our students’ proficiency in the application and use of computer technology in learning and research.
  - Courses provide opportunities for students to use computers, software, and interactive Internet resources in learning and research.

- To assist our students in placing their knowledge of the biological sciences into a meaningful context, allowing them to make connections to the real world and other academic disciplines
  - Students are encouraged to participate in summer research internships within or outside of the department and campus.
  - By attending seminars offered at the department, students are exposed to research conducted by science faculty from a wide range of academic disciplines and institutions.

- To guide our students in developing and improving their communication skills
  - Students take courses which involve reading primary scientific literature, writing research papers, and presenting the results of their experiments.
  - Students are involved in preparation of posters and/or oral presentation of their research projects at conferences within or outside of the home campus.