Physiology is the study of the functions and activities of life and living matter at all levels of organization within an organism. While physiology research is frequently at the molecular level, the tradition of the discipline challenges the researcher to consider all the homeostatic and developmental functions of the organism. Experiencing this challenge creates a valuable research perspective.

Biophysics is a branch of science concerned with the application of the principles of physics and physical methods to the study of biology.

These two disciplines form a joint graduate program at the Keck School of Medicine located on the Health Science Campus of the University of Southern California. The campus is also the location of other basic science graduate programs as well as programs educating health care professionals. Major tertiary care hospitals located on campus further support a focus on research that can be translated into promoting health and curing and preventing disease.

The Ph.D. program prepares a student for a career as an independent research scientist, particularly in the fields of physiology and medicine.

The MS program is normally restricted to the thesis track, which facilitates subsequent enrollment of qualified graduates to doctoral programs. Graduates of the program have also gone on to medical school, the pharmaceutical industry, and university research programs.

For more information, see: http://www.usc.edu/schools/medicine/departments/physiology_biophysics/education/index.html or contact the Graduate Program Coordinator: Elena Camarena ecamaren@usc.edu