



Master of Science in Biodefense (BIOD)

For students admitted **Fall 2016 to Present:**

Student name: _____ G#: _____

Core Coursework – 21 credits

Course # / Title	Semester	✓
BIOD 604 – Emerging Infectious Diseases I: Bacteria and Toxins	Fall 20__	
BIOD 605 – Emerging Infectious Diseases II: Viral Agents	Spring 20__	
BIOD 609 – Biodefense Strategy	Fall 20__	
GOVT 500 – The Scientific Method & Research Design <i>(should be taken in first two semesters)</i>		
BIOD 620 – Global Health Security Policy	Fall 20__	
BIOD 710 – Health Security Preparedness	Spring 20__	
BIOD 790 – Global Health Security Capstone	Spring 20__	

Elective courses – 15 credits

Course # / Title <i>(these may include Study Abroad programs, internships, etc.)</i>	Semester	✓

BIOD PROGRAM CREDIT TOTAL: 36

BIOD Advising Notes

For PatriotWeb step-by-step instructions, consult the **Schar Students Guide to PatriotWeb:**

https://schar.gmu.edu/sites/default/files/current-students/Courses/Students_Guide_to_PatriotWeb.pdf

Full-time vs. Part-time:

- Full-time students must be enrolled in a minimum of 9 credits (3 courses) per semester. Full-time Biodefense students typically complete the program in two academic years.
- Part-time students typically enroll in two courses per semester and complete the Biodefense program in three academic years.

Suggested Course Sequence:

- The Biodefense curriculum is arranged in a sequential manner. 500- and 600-level courses are foundation courses while 700-level courses are advanced courses. Students should complete the foundation courses before moving onto advanced coursework.
- All students should plan to take GOVT 500 in their first two semesters in the program.
- All students should plan to take BIOD 790 in their final spring semester in the program.

Study Abroad Opportunities:

- A Schar School-sponsored study abroad course may count as an elective.
- Unless prior written permission is obtained, students may apply only one study abroad course (3 credits) toward graduation.

Professional Internship:

- International students should not wait until their last term to complete an internship for academic credit. Obtaining an internship is not guaranteed.

Capstone Course

Students must demonstrate the ability to conduct original, independent research by completing a research project in BIOD 790, Global Health Security Capstone. The course requires the student to produce a substantial and original contribution to the fields of global health security on the model of a paper suitable for presentation at a scholarly conference or an article in a peer-reviewed scholarly journal. The objective of the research project is to serve as a capstone for the student's graduate education and to demonstrate the student's research, analytical and writing skills.

Academic Requirements:

- Students must maintain a minimum 3.0 cumulative grade point average to graduate.
- Students may apply up to six credits of "C" toward graduation.
- A student is terminated from the Schar School if he/she receives a grade of "F" in a single course and/or a grade of "C" in nine or more credits.
- Students must complete all Biodefense MS requirements within *six years* of the date of initial enrollment as a degree-seeking student.

Elective Courses:

Students may choose their elective courses from those listed below. Students may apply courses from outside these lists to the degree with written approval from their advisor. A maximum of six credits can be from outside the pre-approved list. PhD level courses and/or foreign language courses are *not* permissible elective options.

- BIOD 610 - Advanced Topics in Global Health Security
- BIOD 621 - Ethics and International Security
- BIOD 622 - Negotiating in the International Arena
- BIOD 705 - Intelligence: Theory and Practice
- BIOD 706 - Nuclear, Biological, and Chemical Weapons Policy and Security
- BIOD 709 - Nonproliferation and Arms Control
- BIOD 722 - Examining Terrorist Groups
- BIOD 725 - Terrorism and Weapons of Mass Destruction
- BIOD 726 - Agroterrorism and Food Security
- BIOD 751 - Biosurveillance
- BIOD 760 - National Security Technology and Policy
- BIOD 762 - Biotechnology and Society
- GOVT 540 - International Relations
- GOVT 641 - Global Governance
- GOVT 741 - Advanced Seminar in International Politics
- GOVT 742 - International Negotiation
- GOVT 744 - Foundations of Security Studies
- GOVT 745 - International Security
- POGO 550 – Special Topics in Policy & Government
- POGO 750 – Special Topics in Policy & Government
- PUAD 630 - Emergency Planning and Preparedness
- PUAD 631 - Disaster Response Operations and Recovery
- PUAD 635 - Emergency Preparedness: Interagency Communication and Coordination
- PUAD 637 - Managing Homeland Security
- PUBP 756 - Global Medical Systems Policy Analysis
- PUBP 757 - Public Policy in Global Health and Medical Practice
- PUBP 758 - Global Threats and Medical Policy
- PUBP 765 - Human Smuggling and Trafficking
- PUBP 766 - Modern Counterinsurgency: Theory and Practice
- PUBP 767 - Global Comparative Medical Practices, Ethics, and Law
- PUBP 770 - Global Health and Medical Policy Analysis
- PUBP 783 - Global Governance