

# 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](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.

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|--|---|
| - BIOD 610 - Advanced Topics in Global Health Security                     | - GOVT 741 - Advanced Seminar in International Politics                         |
| - BIOD 621 - Ethics and International Security                             | - GOVT 742 - International Negotiation  |
| - BIOD 622 - Negotiating in the International Arena                        | - GOVT 744 - Foundations of Security Studies                                    |
| - BIOD 705 - Intelligence: Theory and Practice                             | - GOVT 745 - International Security   |
| - BIOD 706 - Nuclear, Biological, and Chemical Weapons Policy and Security | - NEUR 612 - Neuroethics  |
| - BIOD 709 - Nonproliferation and Arms Control                             | - POGO 550 – Special Topics in Policy & Government                              |
| - BIOD 722 - Examining Terrorist Groups                                    | - POGO 750 – Special Topics in Policy & Government                              |
| - BIOD 725 - Terrorism and Weapons of Mass Destruction                     | - PUAD 630 - Emergency Planning and Preparedness                                |
| - BIOD 726 - Agroterrorism and Food Security                               | - PUAD 631 - Disaster Response Operations and Recovery                          |
| - BIOD 751 - Biosurveillance   | - PUAD 635 - Emergency Preparedness: Interagency Communication and Coordination |
| - BIOD 760 - National Security Technology and Policy                       | - PUAD 637 - Managing Homeland Security   |
| - BIOD 762 - Biotechnology and Society                                     | - PUBP 756 - Global Medical Systems Policy Analysis                             |
| - GOVT 540 - International Relations                                       | - PUBP 757 - Public Policy in Global Health and Medical Practice                |
| - GOVT 641 - Global Governance   | - PUBP 758 - Global Threats and Medical Policy                                  |



- PUBP 765 - Human Smuggling and Trafficking
- PUBP 766 - Modern Counterinsurgency: Theory and Practice
- PUBP 767 – Ethics in Health Policy
- PUBP 770 - Health Policy Analysis
- PUBP 783 - Global Governance