

## **George Mason University – Master of Science in Biodefense**

The Biodefense Graduate Program in the School of Policy, Government, and International Affairs at George Mason University offers two degrees: an MS in Biodefense and a Ph.D. in Biodefense. The goal of the Biodefense Program is to educate the next generation of biodefense and biosecurity professionals and scholars. This program provides students with the knowledge, skills and training to assess the risks posed by natural and man-made biological threats, develop strategies for reducing these risks to national and international security, and bridge the gap between science and policy. The main objective of the Biodefense program is to train students for employment in the areas of biodefense, homeland security, and national security in academia, non-government organizations, industry, and government. The program provides students with a background in the science and technology of biodefense and the opportunity to specialize in the fields of international security and homeland security. By combining a foundation in the biological sciences with a focus on policy analysis, it was the first program of its kind in the United States to offer a broad program of study in the defense against biological threats.

This degree requires the completion of 36 credits.

### Required Courses:

BIOD 604: Emerging Infectious Diseases I: Bacteria and Toxins  
BIOD 605: Emerging Infectious Diseases II: Viral Agents  
BIOD 609: Biodefense Strategy  
BIOD 620: Global Health Security Policy  
BIOD 710: Health Security Preparedness  
GOVT 500: The Scientific Method and Research Design

### Electives (15 Credits):

Any BIOD course can count toward elective credit. In addition, students may choose from the pre-approved list of relevant courses on the school's website. Other courses must be approved by the program advisor. Up to six elective credits may be taken outside of SPGIA.

### Capstone (3 Credits):

BIOD 790

George Mason University is accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS).

For more information contact:

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Additional Information: <http://spgia.gmu.edu>

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