**George Mason University – Doctor of Philosophy in Biodefense**

The Biodefense Graduate Program in the Schar School of Policy and Government at George Mason University offers a Ph.D. in Biodefense.

The goal of the Biodefense Program is to educate the next generation of biodefense and biosecurity professionals and scholars. The program operates at the nexus of science and policy to provide students with the knowledge, skills, and training to assess the risks posed by natural and man-made biological threats, while teaching them to develop strategies for reducing these risks to national and international security. The Biodefense program seeks to educate students for employment in all sectors, including work with the U.S. government, private corporations, and non-governmental organizations. The program provides students with a broad background in the science and technology of biodefense while giving them the opportunity to specialize in the narrower fields of International Security; Terrorism and Homeland Security; or Technology and Weapons of Mass Destruction.

**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
- GOVT 540: International Relations
- GOVT 500: The Scientific Method and Research Design

Select one of the following advanced research courses:
- GOVT 717: Qualitative Methods
- POGO 611: Advanced Data Analysis for Policy and Government
- POGO 646: Policy and Program Evaluation

**Specialization: International Security**
- GOVT 744: Foundations of Security Studies
- GOVT 745: International Security

**Specialization: Terrorism and Homeland Security**
- BIOD 722: Examining Terrorist Groups
- BIOD 725: Terrorism and Weapons of Mass Destruction

**Specialization: Technology and Weapons of Mass Destruction**
- BIOD 706: Nuclear, Biological, and Chemical Weapons Policy and Security
- BIOD 760: National Security Technology and Policy

**Two Courses from another Specialization**

**Electives**

**Dissertation Research**
- BIOD 998: Doctoral Dissertation Proposal 1-12 Credits
- BIOD 999: Doctoral Dissertation Minimum of 9 Credits

For the most up to date list, please visit: [https://catalog.gmu.edu/colleges-schools/policy-government/biodefense-phd/](https://catalog.gmu.edu/colleges-schools/policy-government/biodefense-phd/)
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: https://schar.gmu.edu/

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