

# BIODEFENSE GRADUATE CERTIFICATE

**Banner Code:** PP-CERG-BIOD

## Academic Advising

560 Van Metre Hall  
Mason Square Campus

336 Aquia Building  
Fairfax Campus

Website: [schar.gmu.edu](http://schar.gmu.edu)

The certificate provides an interdisciplinary introduction to man-made and natural biological threats, including a background in the science and technology of biodefense and the specialized areas of threat assessment, non-proliferation, and medical and public health preparedness. Students already pursuing a master's degree in the school may, after admission to a certificate program, in most cases, earn an additional six credits (two courses) in the Schar School to receive a certificate in addition to the master's degree.

The graduate certificate may be pursued on a part-time or full-time basis.

## Admissions & Policies

### Admissions

Applicants to all graduate programs must meet the admission standards and application requirements for graduate study as specified in Graduate Admission Policies (<http://catalog.gmu.edu/admissions/graduate-policies/>). Participants must be admitted to a certificate program. Admissions requirements may be found on the Schar School certificate admissions website.

### Policies

For policies governing all graduate certificates, see AP6.8 Requirements for Graduate Certificates (<http://catalog.gmu.edu/policies/academic/graduate-policies/#ap-6-8>).

### Termination from Program

Students admitted to a Schar program will be terminated from the program upon receiving one grade of F and are no longer eligible to take courses in the school. Per university regulation, students are terminated from the university after accumulating grades of F in two courses or 9 credits of unsatisfactory grades in graduate courses. See AP6.6.2 Academic Termination (<http://catalog.gmu.edu/policies/academic/graduate-policies/#ap-6-6-2>).

## Requirements

### Certificate Requirements

Total credits: 15

This certificate may be pursued on a full-or part-time basis.

## Required Courses

Code	Title	Credits
BIOD 604	Emerging Infectious Diseases I: Bacteria and Toxins	3
BIOD 609	Biodefense Strategy	3
Total Credits		6

## Electives

Code	Title	Credits
Select three electives from the following:		9
BIOD 605	Emerging Infectious Diseases II: Viral Agents	
BIOD 610	Advanced Topics in Global Health Security	
BIOD 620	Global Health Security Policy	
BIOD 706	Nuclear, Biological, and Chemical Weapons Policy and Security	
BIOD 709	Nonproliferation and Arms Control	
BIOD 725	Terrorism and Weapons of Mass Destruction	
BIOD 751	Biosurveillance	
BIOD 766	Medical Countermeasures for Responding to CBRN Threats and Pandemics	
Other course with prior written approval of program director		
Total Credits		9