

BIOSECURITY AND DISASTER PREPAREDNESS, POST-BACCALAUREATE CERTIFICATE

Students who pursue Saint Louis University's post-baccalaureate certificate in biosecurity and disaster preparedness learn how to help prevent biological terrorism and build effective rapid-response capabilities for organizations throughout the public and private sectors.

The post-baccalaureate certificate in biosecurity and disaster preparedness can be completed concurrently with any of SLU's Master of Public Health (M.P.H.) degrees (<https://www.slu.edu/public-health-social-justice/programs-and-certificates/public-health/>) other than those concentrating in biosecurity and disaster preparedness or any joint concentration that includes biosecurity and disaster preparedness.

Coursework can be applied towards a Master of Public Health with a concentration in biosecurity and disaster preparedness if students matriculate into SLU's M.P.H. program (<https://www.slu.edu/public-health-social-justice/programs-and-certificates/public-health/>) within two years of completing the certificate and assuming that the certificate courses were not part of a prior degree.

Curriculum Overview

Saint Louis University's post-baccalaureate certificate in biosecurity and disaster preparedness is a completely online program. Learn more in the program roadmap and requirements tabs.

Careers

Driven by globalization, emerging infectious diseases, the threat of terrorism and more, the field of biosecurity is rapidly expanding. A certificate in biosecurity and disaster preparedness benefits those who want to work in the military, law enforcement, public health, or state and local governments.

There are also a variety of private-sector or nonprofit employers that require emergency management specialists for situations where emergencies are prone to happen or could be potentially devastating. Examples of these employers include hospitals and health systems, large companies, colleges and universities, and various community relief organizations, such as the Red Cross.

Admission Requirements

Applicants should have a bachelor's degree, preferably with at least a 3.00 grade point average. Experience in a health-related field is preferred, but not required. Applications are reviewed on a holistic and rolling basis. To apply, applicants will need to submit their transcripts, CV, personal statement and two letters of recommendation through SOPHAS Express (<https://sophasexpress.liaisoncas.com/applicant-ux/#/deeplink/programSearch/organization/5077527303125433344>), the common application system for public health schools and programs.

Tuition

Tuition	Cost Per Credit
Graduate Tuition	\$1,310

Additional charges may apply. Other resources are listed below:

Net Price Calculator (<https://www.slu.edu/financial-aid/tuition-and-costs/calculator.php>)

Information on Tuition and Fees (<https://catalog.slu.edu/academic-policies/student-financial-services/tuition/>)

Miscellaneous Fees (<https://catalog.slu.edu/academic-policies/student-financial-services/fees/>)

Information on Summer Tuition (<https://catalog.slu.edu/academic-policies/student-financial-services/tuition-summer/>)

Scholarships and Financial Aid

For more information about Saint Louis University scholarships and financial aid, please visit the Office of Student Financial Services online at www.slu.edu/financial-aid (<https://www.slu.edu/financial-aid/>).

Accreditation

Saint Louis University's College for Public Health and Social Justice is fully accredited by the Council on Education for Public Health (CEPH). To see our most recent accreditation documentation, please visit the College for Public Health and Social Justice website (<https://www.slu.edu/public-health-social-justice/>). (<https://www.slu.edu/public-health-social-justice/about/accreditation.php>)

Learning Outcomes

1. Use an evidence-based approach to develop and analyze human, animal, and environmental hazard control strategies, programs and policies, taking into account legal and ethical considerations. Specifically:
 - a. Identify and cite relevant sources.
 - b. Apply information from relevant sources appropriately.
 - c. Apply/use biosecurity nomenclature and terminology (such as "isolation" and "quarantine") related to infectious diseases accurately.
2. Analyze and apply the scientific characteristics, such as transmission routes and control measures, of major biological hazards to develop interventions that minimize human and animal disease. Specifically:
 - a. Develop appropriate interventions that minimize human and animal disease.
 - b. Integrate appropriate scientific characteristics of an infectious disease into a scenario or case study.
3. Create and disseminate tailored messages regarding biosecurity hazards and risks to responders, the public, the media and policymakers. Specifically:
 - a. Communicate the biosecurity hazards and risks related to a scenario or case study.
 - b. Develop a health communication message that is appropriate for the intended audience.

Requirements

Code	Title	Credits
BSDP 5100	Public Health and Disasters	3
BSDP 5101	Fundamentals of Disaster Planning	3
BSDP 5206	Disaster Management and Risk Analysis	3
Focus Area		6
Students must complete two courses in one of the following focus areas or one course from each focus area:		
<i>Health/Infectious Diseases</i>		
BSDP 5103	Communicable Diseases and Infection Control	
BSDP 5203	Disaster Planning for Infectious Disease Disasters	
BSDP 5104	Public Health Ecology	
BSDP 5209	Emerging Infections: Epidemiology and Public Health Importance	
BSDP 5211	Business Continuity and Pandemic Planning	
<i>Terrorism/Security</i>		
BSDP 5201	Terrorist Organizations and Their Motivations	
BSDP 5208	Facing the Challenge of International Bioterrorism	
BSDP 5106	Disaster Communications and Media Relations	
Total Credits		15

Continuation Standards

Students must maintain a cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 3.00 in all graduate/professional courses.

Roadmap

Roadmaps are recommended semester-by-semester plans of study for programs and assume full-time enrollment unless otherwise noted.

Courses and milestones designated as critical (marked with !) must be completed in the semester listed to ensure a timely graduation. Transfer credit may change the roadmap.

This roadmap should not be used in the place of regular academic advising appointments. All students are encouraged to meet with their advisor/mentor each semester. Requirements, course availability and sequencing are subject to change.

Course	Title	Credits
Year One		
Fall		
BSDP 5100	Public Health and Disasters	3
Elective	Elective [†]	3
Credits		6
Spring		
Elective	Elective [†]	3
Credits		3
Summer		
BSDP 5206	Disaster Management and Risk Analysis	3
BSDP 5101	Fundamentals of Disaster Planning	3
Credits		6
Total Credits		15

[†] BSDP Certificate electives should be chosen from one of the two focus areas: Health/Infectious Diseases or Terrorism/Security.

Contact Us

Apply for Admission (<https://sophas.liaisoncas.com/applicant-ux/#/deeplink/programSearch/organization/6425937835738032128>)

For additional admission questions, please contact:

Bernie Backer

Director of Graduate Recruitment and Admissions

bernard.backer@slu.edu (bernard.backer@slu.edu)

314-977-8144