THE PROGRAM

The Microbiology and Immunology Program is a comprehensive, multidisciplinary, interdepartmental program emphasizing innovative research and versatile approaches to problem-solving. Individualized research programs are tailored to your goals in areas including molecular basis of bacterial, viral, and parasitic pathogenesis, microbial genetics, molecular virology, host defenses, autoimmunity, immune regulation, host-pathogen interactions, and structural biology.

Built on a strong foundation of core courses, your training will consist of lectures, seminars, individual or small-group dialogues with faculty and visiting investigators, independent study, and scholarly research. Student seminar courses are designed to develop your verbal and organizational skills. Research experience, an integral part of the program, develops your problem-solving and conceptual skills, and training in writing successful grants through a combination of advanced course work and professional research training.

The Galveston National Laboratory

The Galveston National Laboratory (GNL) features 83,000 square feet of laboratory space, including more than 12,000 square feet of BSL4 space, where world-renowned experts from UTMB safely study disease-causing viruses and bacteria. This laboratory complements UTMB’s existing Robert E. Shope Laboratory in the GNL-Keiller complex.

Our philosophy strongly encourages cross-disciplinary efforts in research and teaching. The department sponsors weekly seminars by outstanding speakers, providing an excellent opportunity for students to keep abreast of recent developments in microbiology and immunology. Well-funded research efforts include studies on the structure-function correlates of viral entry and microbial toxins, mechanisms of pathogenesis associated with viral/bacterial/parasitic infections, working with biodefense and emerging viral and bacterial pathogens, and drug resistant microbes.

At UTMB, you will join colleagues and faculty who share an enthusiasm for working together in the pursuit of knowledge and advancing the control of infectious diseases. An environment of academic inquiry, with intellectual and technological resources designed to help you meet your highest scholarly and career goals, awaits you.

Please refer to the General Information Catalog section for Graduate Requirements for Admission available at https://www.utmb.edu/enrollmentservices/catalog.asp
**MISSION**

**UTMB Health Mission Statement:** UTMB’s mission is to improve health for the people of Texas and around the world by offering innovative education and training, pursuing cutting edge research and providing the highest quality patient care.

**Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences Mission Statement:** The mission promotes the advancement of human understanding and knowledge in health-related disciplines through scholarly teaching and research in the biomedical sciences. Foremost, the Graduate School embraces excellence in all of its academic pursuits and activities. Academic curricula and programs are available that emphasize developing individual leadership, communication, motivation, and scholarship to meet the challenges of today’s society.

**PROGRAM FACTS**

**Degree Requirements Include:**
- Two years of coursework covering subjects such as:
  - Lab Rotations
  - Cell Biology
  - Molecular Biology and Genetics
  - Biostatistics
  - Bioinformatics
  - Biochemistry
  - Three program specific courses
- Enrollment in the Student Research Update Seminar
- Written and oral qualifying examinations
- Completion of original research project resulting in an oral presentation and defense of the dissertation project
- The average time to complete the PhD program is five years

**Benefits:**
Your benefits include a graduate assistant salary of $31,000 in addition to comprehensive health insurance coverage. Dependent coverage, and dental and vision plans are available. Your tuition and fees are paid. Additional benefits include free membership in the UTMB Alumni Field House and a free student wellness center.

**ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS**

- To be considered for admission to the Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences Doctoral and Master’s programs, applicants must provide proof of a bachelor’s degree, graduate degree, or first professional degree (e.g., MD, DDS, JD) from a regionally accredited college or university in the United States, or proof of equivalent degree and training from an acceptable foreign institution of higher education
- Each graduate program has specific requirements, but common factors considered by the admissions committee include, but are not limited to, the following:
  - Undergraduate overall and upper division GPA (above 3.0 preferred)
  - Scores on the GRE
  - A minimum score on the TOEFL of 550 (paper), 213 (computer-based), or 80 (internet-based), or a minimum score of 6.5 on the IELTS for applicants whose native language is not English
  - Research or other relevant experience
  - Letters of reference
- Background for and commitment to a career of scholarly endeavor in the field of study
- Final recommendations by the graduate program faculty are based on competitive evaluation of the qualifications of the applicant plus consideration of the availability of space and resources

For more information or to apply, please visit: https://gsbs.utmb.edu

Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences
(409) 772-2665 | gsbsrecr@utmb.edu
301 University Blvd., Galveston, TX 77555-1050

**WHY UTMB?**

One of the lowest cost programs in Texas
- Small class sizes
- Low faculty-to-student ratio (1:1)
- Face-to-face courses (No online classes)

**Tuition and Fees**
https://www.utmb.edu/enrollmentservices/future-students/tuition-and-fees

**Scholarships Available**
https://www.utmb.edu/enrollmentservices/resources/scholarships

**ADA information**
Contact: Lela Lockett-Ware, OTR Student ADA Coordinator
lvelocket@utmb.edu (409) 747-4818

Accreditation: UTMB Health at Galveston is accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools to award the baccalaureate, masters, doctoral, and professional degrees

**https://microbiology.utmb.edu/graduate-program**