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
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.

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:
Eligible students can qualify for a package that includes a graduate assistant salary of $31,000 in addition to comprehensive health insurance coverage. Other benefits include paid tuition and fees, free membership to the campus fitness center, and several others.

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)

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

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
l Lockheed@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

Nondiscrimination, Equal Employment Opportunity and Affirmative Action
The University of Texas Medical Branch, in compliance with applicable federal laws and regulations, strives to maintain an environment free from discrimination against individuals on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex (including pregnancy), age, religion, disability, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, genetic information, or veteran status. This includes, but is not limited to, academic program admissions, employment, financial aid, health care services, educational services, and access to UTMB programs, facilities, or services. This applies to all employees and students, and anyone who utilizes UTMB facilities.