The Graduate Program in Experimental Pathology provides students with the knowledge and skills to investigate the underlying mechanisms of human disease caused by human infectious agents or toxins. Our trainees develop critical scientific investigational skills including experimental design, data interpretation, communication of research data, and safe and ethical laboratory research.

Students receive training in the pathologic basis of disease including mechanisms of cell injury and death, inflammation, tissue repair, immunity and host response, as well as basic biomedical concepts in biochemistry, cell biology, and molecular biology. Faculty research includes pathology of infectious diseases, specifically molecular and cellular pathobiology and immunobiology of emerging and tropical infectious diseases. Students receive specialized training using multidisciplinary investigative approaches that include the latest molecular biology and sequencing technology.

World-Class Infectious Diseases Research

The world-class infectious disease research programs at UTMB are breaking new ground in understanding the nature of infectious diseases. The programs of the Institute for Human Infections and Immunity (IHII) are the hub of infectious disease research at UTMB. IHII programs and centers include the Galveston National Laboratory (GNL), the Center for Biodefense & Emerging Infectious Diseases (CBEID), the Center for Tropical Diseases (CTD), the Sealy Institute for Vaccine Sciences (SIVS), the World Reference Center for Emerging Viruses and Arboviruses (WRCEVA), and the Western Gulf Center of Excellence for Vector-Borne Diseases (WGCVBD).

We have world-renowned experts leading research programs on viral encephalitis and hemorrhagic fever, anthrax, SARS, hepatitis and rickettsial diseases, amongst others. We recognize the need to train the research scientists and leaders of the future, and we know the urgency of translating today’s research findings into tomorrow’s vaccines, therapeutics and diagnostics.

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

The UTMB Graduate Program in Experimental Pathology is designed for students seeking a Ph.D. degree. The program’s goal is to prepare students for a career investigating the mechanisms of human disease. The Program guides students toward their academic and career goals through:

- Education in cellular and molecular biology, biochemistry, physiology and their pathologic counterparts in disease processes
- Interactions with clinical scientists to foster appreciation for the problems, issues and technology of diagnosis, management, and treatment of human disease
- Education in research methodology and data analysis
- Development of effective communication skills
- Journal clubs, research rotations, and small class sizes

Program Requirements and Curriculum

- Basic Biomedical Science curriculum
- Research rotations
- Three required experimental pathology courses
- A qualifying examination in order to qualify for advancement to doctoral candidacy
- An original research project, leading to a dissertation, presented at scientific meetings, and published in peer-reviewed journals

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.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

- To be considered for admission to the Experimental Pathology program in UTMB’s Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences, 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)
  - 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

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
lvlocket@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

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

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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 (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.