Program Description

Degree Awarded: PHD Microbiology

The PhD program in microbiology offers a dynamic research environment; a broad range of basic, translational and use-inspired research areas; cutting-edge transdisciplinary training; and opportunities to work with world-class faculty and collaborative research partners committed to training scientific leaders with skills necessary to address significant global microbiological problems and challenges.

The program prepares students for research and teaching careers in universities and colleges, government agencies and industry.

At a Glance

- **College/School:** College of Liberal Arts and Sciences
- **Location:** Tempe campus

Degree Requirements

84 credit hours, a written comprehensive exam, an oral comprehensive exam, a prospectus and a dissertation

The plan of study is designed by the student and the supervisory committee, which consists of a professor in the major and three additional faculty members. The program is tailored to the needs of the individual student.

Eighty-four credit hours are required.

A formal defense of the final written dissertation is required prior to graduation.

The remaining credit hours are comprised of coursework showing breadth in microbiology and related disciplines, seminars and research.
Twelve credit hours of dissertation are required.

Written and oral comprehensive examinations are required in order to advance to candidacy.

**Admission Requirements**

Applicants must fulfill the requirements of both the Graduate College and the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences.

Applicants are eligible to apply to the program if they have earned a bachelor's or master's degree in the biological sciences, biochemistry or a closely related field from a regionally accredited institution.

Applicants must have a minimum of a 3.00 cumulative GPA (scale is 4.00 = "A") in the last 60 hours of a student's first bachelor's degree program, or applicants must have a minimum of a 3.00 cumulative GPA (scale is 4.00 = "A") in an applicable master's degree program.

Applicants must submit the following:

1. graduate admission application and application fee
2. official transcripts
3. academic record form
4. personal statement
5. curriculum vitae or resume
6. GRE scores
7. three letters of recommendation
8. proof of English proficiency

**Additional Application Information**

An applicant whose native language is not English (regardless of current residency) must provide proof of English proficiency.

Desired qualifications include GRE scores that are 50 percent verbal and 70 percent quantitative, and research experience.

**Contact Information**

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