Evolutionary Medicine (Graduate Certificate)

ASU is not currently accepting applications for this program.

Learn innovative ways to frame questions about health and illness and how to holistically approach ideas about evolution, human vulnerability and the future of medicine. Your exposure to multiple fields of science will lead to a new understanding of disease and the improvement of human health.

Program Description

Degree Awarded: Certificate Evolutionary Medicine (Certificate)

With rising need for health science-related skills and an aging population in the United States, innovations in health and medicine are in demand.

Evolutionary medicine is a new and burgeoning field situated between the life and social sciences that integrates the fields of genetics, medicine, global health, evolutionary biology and public health to transform understanding of disease and improve human health. Students that complete this certificate program learn how to integrate perspectives from across fields to answer questions about health and disease in the context of human life history.

Students are introduced to integrated approaches within the biological and social sciences that are capable of addressing an emerging, anticipated public need such as reemerging infectious disease, challenges with vaccines, the expansion of chronic disease and other growing public health crises.

At a Glance
Degree Requirements

15 credit hours including the required capstone course (BIO 571)

Required Core (3 credit hours)
ASB 507/BIO 507 Advanced Evolutionary Medicine (3) or
ASM 503/BIO 510 Evolutionary Medicine and Global Health (3)

Restricted Electives in Anthropology (3 credit hours)
ASB 503 Medical Anthropology (3)
ASB 510 Health: Social and Biocultural Theories (3)

Restricted Electives in Biology (3 credit hours)
ASM 546/BIO 546 Principles of Human Genetics (3)
BIO 545 Populations: Evolutionary Genetics (3)
EVO 601 Principles of Evolution (3)

Electives or Research (3 credit hours)

Culminating Experience (3 credit hours)
BIO 571 Evolutionary Medicine Capstone (3)

Additional Curriculum Information
Students choose one course from an approved list of electives or research courses and cannot choose courses already taken for required core or restricted electives in anthropology and biology. For restricted electives in anthropology and biology, students must choose one course from the list indicated for each subject.

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 life or social sciences or related field from a regionally accredited institution.

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

Applicants are required to submit:
1. graduate admission application and application fee
2. official transcripts
3. professional resume
4. written statement
5. proof of English proficiency

Additional Application Information
An applicant whose native language is not English must provide proof of English proficiency regardless of current residency.

The professional resume should demonstrate the applicant's skills and previous training.

The written statement should address future career goals to better assist the student with selection of the most applicable set of courses in evolutionary medicine.

International students who need an F1 or J1 visa first need to apply to and be accepted into a graduate degree program prior to being considered for the certificate program. International students residing in the U.S. on other types of visas must adhere to all Graduate College policies and procedures regarding admission to be considered for admission to this certificate program.

Career Opportunities
According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, demand for health science-related careers is expected to grow 18% between 2016 and 2022. With an aging population in the United States and a pivot toward global health concerns, there is an increase in demand for health care services.

Health care professional programs have competitive admissions processes and students with a certificate in evolutionary medicine are able to set themselves apart from their peers with skills in problem-solving to address the integration of basic medical and public health science and practice. They also have a working knowledge of how evolutionary thinking influences medical and public health intervention and have the ability to apply an integrated conceptual framework to the problems of public health and medicine in order to produce more holistic outcomes for the improvement of human health.

Career examples include:

- anthropologists and sociologists
- biologists
- educators
- physicians, nurses, psychologists and psychiatrists
- public health professionals

Contact Information
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