

Emergency Management and Homeland Security (Biosecurity and Threat Management), MA

PPEMHSTMA

Biological threats, including germ warfare, deadly viruses and other natural hazards, are a growing concern, and the world needs experts like you to help keep us safe. Learn how to manage and mitigate these threats in a degree program U.S. News & World Reports ranks No. 1 in the country.

Program description

Degree awarded: MA Emergency Management and Homeland Security (Biosecurity and Threat Management)

Biosecurity and threat management is an important and emerging area related to the intersection of homeland security, public health and risk management. It addresses a distinct set of hazard and threat management issues related to bioterrorism, agroterrorism and communicable disease threats associated with disaster incidents, as well as biodefense overall.

The biosecurity and threat management concentration within the MA program in emergency management and homeland security is designed to assist professional development aimed at meeting these types of current and emerging challenges. Some of the coursework in this concentration area is offered through the University of New South Wales in Australia as part of the PLuS alliance program.

The students serve and promote stronger and more resilient communities across public, private or nonprofit sector organizations. The program emphasizes a blended approach of practical knowledge and broader integrative thinking about the complex societal challenges of today's world. Its core values of collaboration between practitioners, faculty and students; public service; commitment to diversity; and critical thinking and evidence-based assessment are all central to promoting informed and effective leadership.

At a glance

- **College/School:** [Watts College of Public Service & Community Solut](#)
- **Location:** [Downtown Phoenix](#) or [Online](#)

Accelerated program options

This program allows students to obtain both a bachelor's and master's degree in as little as five years. It is offered as an **accelerated bachelor's plus master's degree** with:

[Emergency Management and Homeland Security, BS](#)

[Public Service and Public Policy, BS](#)

[Public Service and Public Policy \(Business\), BS](#)

[Public Service and Public Policy \(Criminology\), BS](#)

[Public Service and Public Policy \(Emergency Management and Homeland Security\), BS](#)

[Public Service and Public Policy \(Law and Policy\), BS](#)

Acceptance to the graduate program requires a separate application. Students typically receive approval to pursue the accelerated master's during the junior year of their bachelor's degree program. Interested students can learn about eligibility requirements and [how to apply](#).

Degree requirements

33 credit hours including the required applied project course (PAF 593)

Required Core (18 credit hours)

CRJ 511 Applied Data Analysis in Criminal Justice (3)

CRJ 554 Homeland Security (3)

PAF 551 Hazards Governance (3)

PAF 552 Integrated Emergency Management (3)

PAF 558 Program Evaluation for Emergency Management and Homeland Security (3)

PAF 559 GIS for Hazards Analysis (3)

Concentration (6 credit hours)

PAF 564 Health Aspects of Crises, Emergencies, Disasters (3)

PAF 581 Bioterrorism and Health Intelligence (3)

Elective or Research (6 credit hours)

Culminating Experience (3 credit hours)

PAF 593 Applied Project (3)

Admission requirements

Applicants must fulfill the requirements of both the Graduate College and the Watts College of Public Service and Community Solutions.

Applicants are eligible to apply to the program if they have earned a bachelor's or master's degree in criminology or criminal justice, public administration or public service, sociology or social work, public safety or fire service management, parks and recreation management, applied sciences or another closely 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. two letters of recommendation
4. a written statement
5. evidence of current employment
6. proof of English proficiency

Additional Admission Information

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

The written statement must be at least one page in length and describe the applicant's educational and career goals and long-term professional development strategy.

Applicants must provide evidence of current employment in an organization in this field; at least two years of prior professional experience in this or a related field; or a bachelor's degree in a related area.

Tuition information

When it comes to paying for higher education, everyone's situation is different. Students can learn about [ASU tuition and financial aid](#) options to find out which will work best for them.

Attend online

ASU Online

ASU offers this program in an online format with multiple enrollment sessions throughout the year. Applicants may [view the program's ASU Online page](#) for program descriptions and to request more information.

Application deadlines

Fall

Spring

Summer

[expand](#)

[expand](#)

[expand](#)

Global opportunities

PLuS Alliance

The PLuS Alliance partnership combines the strengths of three leading research universities from three continents --- Arizona State University, King's College London and UNSW Sydney --- to create and share knowledge that will solve pressing educational and societal challenges.



Students have the opportunity to collaborate with peers and specialists across the globe through PLuS-partner courses offered online. Through this PLuS Alliance collaboration degree program, students develop transferable global competencies and gain exposure to international teaching and academic content. <https://www.plusalliance.org/global-learning-network-programmes>

Career opportunities

A biosecurity and threat management degree can help students pursue key leadership and management positions at a variety of public sector agencies at the federal, state and local levels and in related organizations. There are also private-sector job options, such as in the hospital sector, in health care and in security.

Career examples include:

- biosafety officer
- biosecurity monitor
- biosecurity officer
- biosecurity specialist
- bioterrorism researcher
- data scientist

Contact information

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