Learn to manage and mitigate risks of pandemics, bioterrorism and other biosecurity threats, and gain the knowledge you need to keep people, animals and plants safe from the effects of hazardous biological agents.

**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 unique 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. The program combines concepts in public health, risk management and homeland security. Some of the coursework in this concentration area is offered through the University of New South Wales (Australia) as part of the PLuS alliance program.

The emergency management and homeland security program's 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 the 21st century. Its core values of collaboration between practitioners, faculty and students; public service; commitment to diversity; 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 Solutions
- **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 and master's degree with:

Public Service and Public Policy (Emergency Management and Homeland Security), BS

Acceptance to the graduate program requires a separate application. During their junior year, eligible students are advised by their academic departments to apply.

Degree Requirements

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

**Required Core (18 credit hours)**
- CPP 510 Hazards Governance (3)
- CPP 520 Program Evaluation for Emergency Management and Homeland Security (3)
- CPP 570 GIS for Hazards Analysis (3)
- CRJ 511 Applied Data Analysis in Criminal Justice (3)
- CRJ 554 Homeland Security (3)
- PAF 552 Integrated Emergency Management (3)

**Concentration (6 credit hours)**
- CPP 581 Bioterrorism and Health Intelligence (3)
- CPP 583 Health Aspects of Crises, Emergencies, Disasters (3)

**Elective or Research (6 credit hours)**

**Culminating Experience (3 credit hours)**
- CPP 593 Applied Project (3) or
- PAF 593 Applied Project (3)

Additional Curriculum Information

Students choose one of the applied project courses listed.

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 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 prior professional experience in this or a related field; or a bachelor's degree in a related area.

**Attend Online**

**ASU Online**

ASU offers this program in an online format with multiple enrollment sessions throughout the year. Applicants may view the program description and request more information [here](#).

**Application Deadlines**

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Global Opportunities

PLuS Alliance
The PLuS Alliance combines the strengths of three leading research universities on 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 level as well as in and related organizations. There are also private-sector job options, such as in the hospital sector, health care and security.

Career examples include:

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

Contact Information

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