

PATHOBIOLOGY (PHD)

The Department of Pathobiology offers two graduate degrees: Master of Science (M.S.) and Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) in Pathobiology, with areas of concentrations in Bacteriology, Virology, and Pathology, as well as an M.S. degree in Pathobiology with an area of concentration in Veterinary Anatomic Pathology. Faculty research focuses on infectious diseases of animals and humans, vaccines, veterinary pathology, and wildlife diseases. Many faculty are members of the Center of Excellence for Vaccine Research (CEVR), which provides a unifying consortium for vaccine research at the University of Connecticut. The department also provides service to the University and citizens of the State of Connecticut through integration with the Connecticut Veterinary Medical Diagnostic Laboratory. The Veterinary Anatomic Pathology M.S. program is open only to students with the D.V.M/V.M.D. degree.

Location

- Storrs Campus

Modality

- In Person

Requirements

Doctor of Philosophy

For all areas of concentration, a total of 30 credits of coursework are required. All courses used to meet the degree and concentration requirements must be approved by the student's major advisor. The Ph.D. in Pathobiology does not have a related area or foreign language requirement. In addition, students will give at least three seminar presentations during their tenure (prospectus seminar, near midpoint of their research and dissertation defense). The General Exam should be taken within one semester after completing course work. A Dissertation Proposal is to be written in the form of an NIH grant proposal and presented in the form of a seminar. This is to be completed within six months of passing the general exam. Students must at a minimum have one first author publication before completion of their degree. The student must present at research seminars once per year.

Learning Objectives

1. Knowledge: PhD students will demonstrate mastery of core and advanced concepts in Pathobiology and analyze current theories, methods, and issues in the discipline, including a specialized subfield relevant to their dissertation research.
2. Research Skills: PhD students will design, conduct, and evaluate independent research in Pathobiology using appropriate, ethical, and rigorous methods. They will generate and interpret original data that contributes new knowledge to the field.
3. Communication: PhD students will present and defend their research through clear, evidence-based written and oral communication tailored to both specialist and non-specialist audiences. They will summarize, synthesize, and justify the significance of their work within the broader scientific literature.