UC RIVERSIDE
Professional and Global Education

DEFEND AGAINST BIOLOGICAL THREATS

Professional Certificate in Biosecurity

It's up to people like you—with a knack for science, security, and problem-solving—to defend against biological risks and protect what matters most. Offered in collaboration with UCR's College of Natural and Agricultural Sciences and Environmental Health and Safety, the Professional Certificate in Biosecurity helps you turn those strengths into expertise as demand for dynamic leaders with change-making skills booms.

In just 12 units, you'll expand your focus from facility containment to macro-level threat assessment, supply chain protection, cyber-biosecurity, and regulatory policy. Biosecurity-related fields are projected to expand steadily through 2033, equipping you to safeguard public health, agricultural infrastructure, and data while advancing your career.

WHAT YOU'LL LEARN

- Gain a solid understanding of biosecurity principles and global frameworks
- Identify and assess threats to health, food, and agriculture using proven tools
- Design and evaluate programs that integrate science, regulation, and technology
- Analyze evolving technologies and regulatory gaps to shape adaptive policy
- Synthesize lessons from case studies to propose evidence-based solutions
- Strengthen and monitor critical biosecurity infrastructure

TOTAL UNITS 12	**TUITION** $5,268
COMPLETION TIME 9-12 months	**FORMAT** Online

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extension.ucr.edu/advisors

(951) 827-4105 | extension.ucr.edu

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BENEFITS OF EARNING A CERTIFICATE

There are several reasons why, Bachelor's degree in hand, you might be considering continuing your studies. An upgraded education section on your resume can open the door to a new career, or, if you're already working, lead to a promotion and a higher salary. While you're working, going back to school is an excellent way to stay current in rapidly changing fields, or, if you've been away from the workforce for a while, to quickly get caught up in the latest trends, concepts, and advances.

While there are as many paths to follow, as there are reasons to follow them when approaching continuing education, there is enormous value in terms of time, financial investment, and personal flexibility while gaining practical training from working professionals in your industry that extends beyond the theory of the classroom and into the real world.

KEY BENEFITS INCLUDE:

- UC quality curriculum
- Professional endorsements
- Schedule flexibility
- Variety of courses and programs
- Instruction from professional leaders in the industry

PAY AS YOU GO

Pay per individual course as you register.

COURSE TUITION RANGE
$1,317 PER COURSE

*Learn more about *tuition assistance*.

CAREER INFORMATION

IN-DEMAND FIELD

Jobs are projected to grow at a rate of 7% over the next 5 years.

STRONG EARNING POTENTIAL

Median Salary **$90,150**

VARIETY OF JOBS TO CHOOSE FROM

- Biosecurity Specialist/ Technician
- Biosafety Professional
- Agricultural Specialist/ Technician
- Facility Security Officer

SKILLS FOR SUCCESS

- Critical Thinking
- Science
- Active Listening
- Quality Control Analysis
- Reading Comprehension

REALITY CHECK. WHAT YOU WILL DO ON THE JOB.

- Assessing biological risks/threats that may be present and developing various biosecurity analysis reports and plans to identify, assess, and mitigate biosecurity risks/threats
- Working with key stakeholders to create and implement solutions to address gaps in biosecurity
- Facilitating awareness and training for laboratorians and other biosecurity or emergency preparedness specialists in all biosecurity methods, protocols, and emergency procedures
- Researching and keeping up to date on any biosecurity risks or threats that may be present in various settings

Source: *O*NET Online, Workforce Characteristics Wages and Employment Trends 2025-2035*

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STUDY PLAN

Courses must be completed in the sequence below. Application and official transcripts required for program entry. Students may take Agricultural Biosecurity and Food Defense as a standalone course, though enrolling in the full certificate provides the most comprehensive, well-rounded biosecurity training.

Prerequisites: A background in science, or at least three years of experience working in the professional, scientific, or technical services sector.

Recommended Background: A high school diploma or GED and at least 8-12 quarter units of postsecondary biological sciences coursework.

Required Courses (12 units)

QUARTER		UNITS
1	Introduction to Biosecurity BIOL X461	3
2	Elements of Biosecurity BIOL X462	3
3	Agricultural Biosecurity and Food Defense BIOL X463	3
4	Evolving Technology and the Regulatory Landscape BIOL X464	3

ARE YOU READY FOR YOUR NEXT STEP?

Schedule an appointment with a **An Advisor** to get started. **extension.ucr.edu/advisors**

*For a full list of policies and procedures, check our **website**.*