Admissions

Enrollment in the M.S. in Anatomy and Neurobiology – Vesalius Program is offered each Fall to a select group of students. In general, the Admissions Committee looks for students who have a strong interest in neurobiology, anatomy and teaching and a strong background in science coursework. Many previously admitted students have also had prior research experience, though this is not a requirement for admission.

Admissions Requirements

In addition to completing the program’s online application, students must also submit:

- An official transcript of each college or university attended
- Official test results for the GRE or MCAT for U.S. residents, and TOEFL* results for international students
- Three letters of recommendation from faculty or people who have supervised your academic work and/or research
- A personal statement that describes your qualifications and objectives for the program
- To apply to the program, please visit bu.edu/gms and click on Admissions

*Tuition, Financial Aid and Student Resources

For the most up to date information on tuition and fees, please visit www.bumc.bu.edu/gms/students/financing-options. The Financial Aid Office at Boston University School of Medicine is available to assist students identifying sources of financial support including subsidized and unsubsidized student loans. A limited number of scholarships are awarded each year to highly qualified students.
The M.S. in Anatomy and Neurobiology – Vesalius Program is a one-of-a-kind program that is nationally recognized for preparing world-class educators in the biomedical sciences who possess an excellent understanding of the anatomical sciences and best practices in teaching. Students in the program benefit from first-year medical and graduate courses in the biomedical sciences, the opportunity to conduct primary biomedical research, and a significant amount of one-on-one mentoring. In addition to becoming educators at top colleges and medical schools, many program graduates have also gone on to pursue careers in medicine, enter doctoral programs, or pursue academic research full time. The program for the M.S. degree consists of the equivalent of one year of foundational course work and at least one year of directly supervised research work. Candidates are required to complete 32 credits at the graduate level. Course selection for the M.S. program is done in consultation with your academic advisor.

Research

The program requires the acquisition of scholarly and scientific expertise through the generation of a master’s level thesis. All M.S. degree students will participate in scientific laboratory research; the research work carried out, and the results obtained, will be presented as a thesis at the end of the M.S. program. This should be comparable in design and content to a full-length article in a scientific journal.

Vesalius Certificate

Teaching is an essential part of our program; all Master’s degree students are required to complete the Vesalius Certificate. The ultimate goal of the Vesalius certificate is to help students gain experience in applying appropriate theory, techniques and teaching methods to become outstanding educators. Students receive course instruction on teaching theory and methods. All students are required to serve as Teaching Assistants in their second year and also to develop and implement a teaching project, guided by an established educator.

Curriculum

Require Courses:
- Medical Gross Anatomy 8 credits
- Medical Neuroscience 4 credits
- Experimental Design or Elementary Biostatistics 2 Credits
- Vesalius I: Teaching in the Biomedical field 2 Credits
- Vesalius II: Teaching Apprenticeship 2 Credits
- Vesalius III: Mentored Teaching Project 2 Credits
- Research Colloquium 2 Credits
- Professional Skills for Students in the Biomedical Sciences 2 Credits
- One Departmental Elective Course Credits 2 – 4 Credits

Elective courses:
- Medical Gross Anatomy 4 Credits
- Methods of Neuroscience 4 Credits

Career Outlook

Our program prepares students for a wide range of careers in the biomedical sciences. Many students go into industries such as research and academia after the program. Other students utilize the skills gained in the program to pursue further education such as PhD programs or medical school.

The Anatomy & Neurobiology department features a state-of-the-art anatomical laboratory. Students have the invaluable opportunity to study and work with cadaveric dissections. Bodies willed to BU come from truly selfless individuals that decide in their living years they want to give the ultimate gift to humanity: their own bodies. To learn more about the Anatomical Gift Program and the amazing work being done in our lab head over to our website.