



ROWAN-VIRTUA
Graduate School
of Biomedical Sciences

**GRADUATE SCHOOL
OF BIOMEDICAL SCIENCES**

**Biomedical Sciences Program
STUDENT HANDBOOK**

2023-2024

FORWARD

Welcome to the Rowan-Virtua Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences (GSBS). We are located on the Stratford campus of Rowan University. We have all the benefits of a large University but with a small campus feel. The GSBS has assembled this Biomedical Sciences Program Student Handbook to assist you in understanding the operations, procedures, and rules of this program. The GSBS [General Information Student Handbook](#) contains useful information on the facilities available on the Stratford campus of Rowan University; specific student services available to you; and a summary of University and GSBS policies pertinent to graduate students.

The mission of the Rowan-Virtua Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences is to develop scientists who will contribute new knowledge in the biomedical disciplines through creative research and scholarship. This is accomplished through a curriculum of course work and research training that prepares our students to critically evaluate existing knowledge and to advance the frontiers of new knowledge in the biomedical sciences.

Biomedical Sciences Program: This document contains a summary description of the course work that must be completed to earn a:

1. Master of Biomedical Science degree (M.B.S.; non-thesis)
2. Certificate in the Biomedical Sciences Program

University-wide emergency information: <http://www.rowan.edu/emergency> or 856-256-4922

The GSBS reserves the right to change or modify the procedures and policies contained within this document. Please check the [GSBS website](#) on a regular basis for the most current information on programs, services, news and events.

"This handbook is informational only and does not constitute a contract between Rowan University and any student. It may be changed by Rowan University without prior notice to students. Any rules, regulations, policies, procedures or other representations made herein may be interpreted and applied by Rowan University to promote fairness and academic excellence, based on the circumstances of each individual situation.

This handbook represents a program of the current curricula, educational plans, offerings and requirements of the Rowan-Virtua Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences. The School reserves the right to change any provisions, offerings, tuition, fees, or requirements at any time within the student's period of study at Rowan University. In addition, Rowan University may at any time eliminate, modify or change the location of any School, Institute, Center, Program, Department, course or academic activity."

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ADMINISTRATION

GSBS ADMINISTRATION AND STAFF:

Senior Associate Dean, GSBS	Carl Hock, Ph.D.	hock@rowan.edu
Director	Diane Worrad, Ph.D.	worrad@rowan.edu
Program Support Coordinator	Krystal Murtha, M.B.A.	mcerlakl@rowan.edu
Program Coordinator	Amanda Powell	ellisa@rowan.edu
Program Assistant	Coleen Tenuto	tenuto@rowan.edu
Administrative Assistant		

Office Address: 42 East Laurel Road
Rowan Medicine Building, Suite 2200
Stratford, NJ, 08084

Phone: 856-566-6282
Email: gsbs-stratford@rowan.edu

GSBS DEPARTMENTS

The administration for the departments of Cell Biology & Neuroscience and Molecular Biology are located at 42 East Laurel Road, Rowan Medicine Building, Suite 2200 on the Stratford campus.

Cell Biology & Neuroscience Department

Chair	Barry Waterhouse, Ph.D.	566-6407
Business Administrator	Lynn Robbins	566-6417
Program Support Specialist	Lisa Stressman	566-6078
Budget Analyst	Alisa Corbitt	566-6067
Administrative Assistant	Marquishia Stringfield	566-6231

Molecular Biology Department

Chair	Salvatore Caradonna, Ph.D.	566-6056
Business Administrator	Karen Baines	566-7003
Program Assistant	Renee Fidler	566-6049
Administrative Assistant	Theresa Luscko	566-6077

REGISTRAR'S OFFICE

The Rowan University Registrar's Office is responsible for the registration of all GSBS students as well as preparation, maintenance and issuance of all official grades and records pertaining to GSBS students. The Registrar's office is located on the bottom floor of Savitz Hall in Glassboro. Contact them by email at registrar@rowan.edu or by

telephone (856) 256-4350.

STUDENT SUPPORT

PROGRAM DIRECTORS

Biomedical Sciences

Katharine Milani, Ph.D.

milani@rowan.edu

CENTER FOR STUDENT SUCCESS

Mary Sylvester-Pegues, Program Coordinator for GSBS Students

Academic Center, Suite 210

sylvesterpegues@rowan.edu

The Center for Student Success (CSS) was established to maximize the educational experiences of GSBS and SOM students. CSS staff provide a variety of supportive academic services, including: 1) individual consultation on study strategies and learning styles, 2) group workshops on topics related to academic success, 3) individual meetings to review curriculum requirements and create an individualized academic plan and 4) workshops and individual consultations on test-taking strategies.

DISABILITY SERVICES

Jacqueline Giacobbe, Assistant Dean

Academic Center, Suite 210

giacobja@rowan.edu

Rowan-Virtua School of Osteopathic Medicine or GSBS does not discriminate in admission or access to its programs and activities on the basis of race/color, ethnicity, national origin, religion/creed, disability, age, marital status, sexual orientation or veteran's status. The University will provide, if requested, reasonable accommodations to otherwise-qualified enrolled students and candidates with disabilities. Further information about accommodations can be obtained from SOM/GSBS Disability Services at 856-566-6980.

STUDY SKILLS FOR GRADUATE SCHOOL AND BEYOND

The "Study Skills for Graduate School and Beyond" book is available [online](#) to every student. It provides many helpful strategies to tackle: 1) Time Management and Organization, 2) Learning the Material, 3) Test-Taking, and 4) Mental and Physical Health and assist students in designing a plan to establish and maintain Good Academic Standing. This is a great companion to meeting with your program director and your individual course directors.

OTHER RELEVANT DEPARTMENTS can be found in the [GSBS General Information Student Handbook](#).

BIOMEDICAL SCIENCES PROGRAMS OF STUDY

Goal: Intensive curriculum to prepare for medical school and other health-related professions.

This program is designed as an evening program targeting those students who seek an advanced interdisciplinary Master's degree or Certificate in the Biomedical Sciences.

In the Fall and Spring terms, full-time matriculated students are expected to carry a minimum course load of 9 credits per semester while part-time students must carry a minimum of 5 credits per semester. In the Summer term, full-time matriculated students are expected to carry a minimum course load of 4 credits per semester while part-time students must carry a minimum of 2 credits per semester.

MASTER OF BIOMEDICAL SCIENCES DEGREE PROGRAM

Required courses (24 credits). Students must pass each of these 8 courses, which are all 3 credits each:

- Fall term: Biochemistry & Molecular Biology, Cell Biology, Human Genetics, Microbiology.
- Spring term: Systems Physiology*, Immunology*, Biomedical Data Analysis, Biomedical Anatomy.

*Enrollment requires a letter grade of "C" (2.00) or better in both Biochemistry & Molecular Biology and Cell Biology courses.

Electives course (6 credits).

- Fall term: Essential Neuroscience, Mechanism of Disease, Pathophysiology of the Cardiovascular System
- Spring term: Antimicrobial Drugs: Mechanisms of Action and Resistance, Principles of Pharmacology
- Summer term: Exercise Physiology
- All terms: Independent Study, Laboratory Research A, Laboratory Research B

All MBS program students are required to pass 24 credits of required courses and 6 credits of electives to complete the 30-credit degree program and earn a cumulative 3.00 or higher grade point average (GPA).

The Master's program has a requirement of 30 credits. Students who would benefit from additional coursework may apply for up to 6 additional credits. Tuition for the additional coursework will be charged per credit and the grades will be counted in the cumulative GPA. The tuition charge is applicable to all coursework over the required 30 credits -- regardless of whether the course(s) was taken to improve the student's GPA.

The Biomedical Sciences Curriculum, the current course listings and course descriptions can be found here <https://gsbs.rowan.edu/student-resources/registrar/registration.html> on the GSBS website. Please see the current course listings and course descriptions on the GSBS website for information on all courses, including electives.

CERTIFICATE IN THE BIOMEDICAL SCIENCES PROGRAM

The Certificate in the Biomedical Sciences Program is designed as a part-time evening program that provides a graduate level didactic program in the biomedical sciences leading to a certificate to prepare the student to enter various career possibilities in these fields or to continue their education for a more advanced degree in the biomedical sciences. Please note that if a student is interested in matriculating into the Master of Biomedical Science program, the required course policies within the Master of Biomedical Science program will apply upon matriculation.

1. Must earn a minimum of 18 credits. At least 12 credits must be from the required courses. The remaining 6 credits can be required or elective courses. See the Master's degree section above for both required and elective courses.
2. Must have a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher.
3. No transfer credits accepted.
4. Must submit "Application for Completion of Certificate", available by contacting the GSBS office.

GSBS students in all programs of study are required to maintain Good Academic Standing. Please see your program-specific policy for details: [Academic Standing-Biomedical Sciences program](#)

The Biomedical Sciences Curriculum, the current course listings and course descriptions can be found here <https://gsbs.rowan.edu/student-resources/registrar/registration.html> on the GSBS website.

GRADUATION, DIPLOMAS AND COMMENCEMENT

Graduation Information may be found on the bottom of the [GSBS Student Resources page](#). This includes:

1. Graduation Process and Important Deadlines
2. Graduation Application Instructions
3. Graduation vs Commencement
4. Commencement Information

All students must apply to graduate in Self-Service Banner. Rowan University confers degrees on the 30th day of December (Fall), January (Winter), May (Spring), and August (Summer).

The Commencement Ceremony is held in May. Please note that **NO** student will receive their diploma at Commencement. The student will receive their diploma approximately 8-12 weeks after the degree conferral term.

STAY CONNECTED

- Complete the [Alumni Registration Form](#)
- Enroll in LinkedIn, a professional networking site. It's free: <https://www.linkedin.com>