Brown-Pfizer Master of Arts Program in Biology

A Professional Development Opportunity Offered to Pfizer Employees

Brown University offers graduate-level education in Biology on-site at the Pfizer Center for Discovery and Development Sciences in Groton, CT and available via WebEx to colleagues at remote sites. This program is a unique benefit for Pfizer colleagues and contractors who wish to extend their knowledge within the biological sciences and potentially gain the MA. The only prerequisite is a bachelor’s degree in any field.

A Master of Arts in Biology – Closer Than You Think

Courses are taught on-site at the Pfizer Center for Discovery and Development Sciences in Groton, CT and available via WebEx to colleagues at remote sites and usually meet 3 hours/week. Students take 1 graduate biology course per semester (fall, spring). After the successful completion of 2 such courses, students may apply to the Brown Graduate School for admittance. The Brown-Pfizer MA Program requires 8 courses – 2 being “core” subjects such as Cell Biology, Biochemistry, Genetics, or Pharmacology. Additionally, a final research paper on a pre-approved topic is required for graduation.

Tuition Reimbursement

Upon the successful completion of each course, Brown-Pfizer Program students are eligible for tuition reimbursement from Pfizer.

(For complete information, visit the HRSource web site.)

About the Program

Over 170 Pfizer colleagues have graduated with a MA degree in Biology from Brown University since the start of the program. The earned degrees enabled the Pfizer colleagues to go onto other positions within the company. Some Pfizer colleagues went on to earn a Ph.D. from Brown University.

Fall 2014: Histology (BIOL 1890)

Professor Marjorie Thompson

Course Description: This course will provide an in-depth treatment of the “stuff we are made of” and the wonderful logic of its organization. This course focuses first on the biology of the four basic tissues (epithelium, connective tissue, muscle and nerve) and second, how they contribute to the functional anatomy of all organs and systems.

Wednesdays 3:30-6:30pm

Spring 2015: Human Physiology (BIOL 2117)

Professor John Stein

Course Description: This course provides an introduction to basic human physiological concepts along with more advanced coverage of selected systems. Topics to be discussed are diffusion, cell physiology and the basis of cell membrane potential, and the nervous, endocrine, musculoskeletal, cardiovascular, respiratory, renal and gastrointestinal systems.

There will be focus on normal human physiology, as well as discussions of exercise physiology, pathophysiology, and specific physiologic scenarios to build toward the goal of understanding complex integration of function between cells, tissues and organ systems.

Date/ Time: TBD

Fall 2015: Physiological Pharmacology (BIOL 1260)

Professor John Marshall

Course Description: This course presents drugs in the context of the diseases they treat. A group of the most commonly prescribed drugs is discussed in terms of their fundamental modes of action and clinical importance.

Date/ Time: TBD

For additional Information, visit: www.brown.edu/pfizer

(Accredited by Connecticut Dept of Education)