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 2016: Cancer Biology (BIOL 1290)
Professors Jennifer Sanders & Patrycja Dubielecka

Course Description: The course is designed to provide a conceptual understanding of molecular events underlying development of human cancer. The main focus of the course will be on the genetic changes leading to the neoplastic transformation of cells. The course will cover several major areas of cancer biology such as cell cycle control, DNA damage, tumor microenvironment, chemotherapy and drug resistance.

Tuesdays 3:00 - 6:00 pm

Spring 2017: Molecular Genetics (BIOL 2540)
Professor Richard Freiman

Course Description: This course presents a set of techniques used by biologists to understand how cells and organisms work. Students will read and discuss examples of how this set of tools has been applied to make fundamental contributions to our understanding of biological function.

Date/Time: TBD

Fall 2017: Viral Immunology (BIOL 2640C)
Professor TBD

Course Description: This course offers an introduction to the experimental and theoretical foundations of immunology and the function of the mammalian immune system. Topics include innate and adaptive immunity; structure/function of antibody molecules and T cell receptors; and regulation of immune responses through cellular interactions. Application of concepts to medically significant issues (vaccines, autoimmunity, etc.) is discussed.

Date/Time: TBD

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