The Biomedical Sciences department focuses on investigating the biological bases of public health issues, including the molecular basis of disease and implications for public health interventions. Students acquire a foundation of knowledge and skills in the core areas of biomedical sciences that allows them to uncover the mechanisms of disease formation, assess the strengths and limitations of laboratory methodologies and develop innovative approaches to emerging public health issues. They develop the skills and independence required of post-genomic era biomedical scientists by performing pioneering basic and translational research applicable to the detection, treatment and prevention of genetic, infectious and chronic human diseases.

The graduate program in Biomedical Sciences is individualized with students having the ability to take coursework in immunology, infectious disease, molecular genetics, neuroscience, and structural and cell biology. We have a strong public health and disease focus with an NIH-funded training program in Biodefense and Emerging Infectious Diseases, and a New York State Gen*NY*Sis initiative in Cancer Research. In addition to formal coursework, the emphasis is on intensive laboratory research that culminates in successful completion of a master’s thesis or doctoral dissertation. The “Breakfast Club”, “Friday POITS at Cancer Center”, the Annual Departmental Retreat and the Annual Student Poster Day provide excellent opportunities for students to present their research and obtain helpful suggestions from the faculty, postdoctoral fellows and their fellow students. Additionally, many senior students present their work at national scientific meetings.