BIOMEDICAL INFORMATICS

Courses offered by the Program in Biomedical Informatics are listed under the subject code BIOMEDIN on the Stanford Bulletin's ExploreCourses web site.

The program in Biomedical Informatics emphasizes research to develop novel computational methods that can advance biomedicine. Students receive training in the investigation of new approaches to conceptual modeling and to development of new algorithms that address challenging problems in the biological sciences and clinical medicine. Students with a primary interest in developing new informatics methods and knowledge are best suited for this program. Students with a primary interest in the biological or medical application of existing informatics techniques may be better suited for training in the application areas themselves.

Graduate Programs in Biomedical Informatics

The Biomedical Informatics Program is interdepartmental and offers instruction and research opportunities leading to M.S. and Ph.D. degrees in Biomedical Informatics. All students are required to complete the core curriculum requirements, and also to complete additional course work to fulfill degree requirements and pursue their technical interests and goals as specified for each degree program.

The program can provide flexibility and can complement other opportunities in applied medical research at Stanford. Special arrangements may be made for those with unusual needs or those simultaneously enrolled in other degree programs within the University. Similarly, students with prior relevant training may have the curriculum adjusted to eliminate requirements met as part of prior training. The GRE is required for admission.

COVID-19-Related Degree Requirement Changes

For information on how Biomedical Informatics degree requirements have been affected by the pandemic, see the "COVID-19 Policies tab (p. 5)" in this section of this bulletin. For University-wide policy changes related to the pandemic, see the "COVID-19 and Academic Continuity (http://exploredegrees.stanford.edu/covid-19-policy-changes)" section of this bulletin.

Advising

Upon entering the program, each student is assigned an academic adviser to help with course selection and monitor progress towards program milestones and degree requirements. Each research-track (academic) M.S. and Ph.D. student conducts research under the primary mentorship of a faculty supervisor, who guides their scholarly and professional development. Further details about the adviser roles and responsibilities are found in the BMI Student Handbook (http://med.stanford.edu/bmi/biomedical-informatics-students/handbook.html) and on the Advising tab (p. 6) in this section of the Stanford Bulletin.

Master of Science in Biomedical Informatics (Academic)

This degree is designed for individuals who wish to undertake in-depth study of biomedical informatics with research on a full-time basis. Normally, a student spends two years in the program and implements a substantial project by the end of the second year. The first year involves acquiring the fundamental concepts and tools through course work and research project involvement. Academic M.S. students are expected to devote 50 percent or more of their time participating in research projects. Research rotations are not required, but can be done with approval of the academic adviser or training program director. Graduates of this program are prepared to contribute creatively to basic or applied projects in biomedical informatics. This degree requires a written research paper to be approved by two faculty members.

Master of Science in Biomedical Informatics (Professional/Honors Cooperative Program)

This degree is designed primarily for the working professional who already has advanced training in one discipline and wishes to acquire interdisciplinary skills. Although many classes necessary for the degree are available online, some requirements may be fulfilled through implementation of an alternative plan to be approved by the program. The professional M.S. is offered in conjunction with Stanford Center for Professional Development (SCPD), which establishes the rates of tuition and fees. The program uses the honors cooperative program (HCP) model, which assumes that the student is working full-time and is enrolled in the M.S. on a part-time basis. Students who live locally may attend their courses on campus. Students have up to five years to complete the program. Research projects are optional; if interested, the student must make arrangements with program faculty. Graduates of this program are prepared to contribute creatively to basic or applied projects in biomedical informatics.

Master of Science in Biomedical Informatics (Coterminal)

The coterminal degree program allows Stanford University undergraduates to study for a master's degree while completing their bachelor's degree(s) in the same or a different department. See the "Coterminal Degrees (http://exploredegrees.stanford.edu/cotermdegrees)" section of this bulletin for additional information. For University coterminal degree program rules and University application forms, see the Registrar's web site (https://registrar.stanford.edu/students/coterminal-degree-programs/applying-coterm).

The coterminal Master of Science program follows the same program requirements as the Master of Science (Professional), except for the requirement to be employed full-time. The coterminal degree is available only to current Stanford undergraduates. Coterminal students are enrolled full-time and courses are taken on campus. Research projects are optional; if interested, the student must make arrangements with program faculty. Graduates of this program are prepared to contribute creatively to basic or applied projects in biomedical informatics.

Application to the Coterminal Program

For complete information, see the program's Coterminal Master's Degree (http://bmi.stanford.edu/prospective-students/masters-degree-coterminal-biomedical-informatics.html) page.

1. Submit the University Coterminal Online Application (https://applyweb.com/stanterm).
2. Submit your academic resume or curriculum vitae.
3. Submit a one-page Statement of Purpose describing how and why the BMI program is well matched to your interests.

Applicants to the coterminal M.S. programs are not required to submit GRE scores. GRE scores are recommended, especially if you have relatively little prior course work in quantitative and computational areas. The TOEFL is not required.
University Coterminal Requirements
Coterminal master’s degree candidates are expected to complete all master’s degree requirements as described in this bulletin. University requirements for the coterminal master’s degree are described in the “Coterminal Master’s Program (http://exploredegrees.stanford.edu/cotermdegrees)” section. University requirements for the master’s degree are described in the “Graduate Degrees (http://exploredegrees.stanford.edu/graduatedegrees/#masterstext)” section of this bulletin.

After accepting admission to this coterminal master’s degree program, students may request transfer of courses from the undergraduate to the graduate career to satisfy requirements for the master’s degree. Transfer of courses to the graduate career requires review and approval of both the undergraduate and graduate programs on a case by case basis.

In this master’s program, courses taken three quarters prior to the first graduate quarter, or later, are eligible for consideration for transfer to the graduate career. No courses taken prior to the first quarter of the graduate quarter, or later, are eligible for consideration for transfer to the graduate career. No courses prior to the first quarter of the sophomore year maybe used to meet master’s degree requirements.

Course transfers are not possible after the bachelor’s degree has been conferred.

The University requires that the graduate adviser be assigned in the student’s first graduate quarter even though the undergraduate career may still be open. The University also requires that the Master’s Degree Program Proposal be completed by the student and approved by the department by the end of the student’s first graduate quarter.

Core Curriculum and Program Requirements in Biomedical Informatics
Core Curriculum in Biomedical Informatics (37 units)

Students are expected to participate regularly in BIOMEDIN 201 Biomedical Informatics Student Seminar and a research colloquium. Regardless of whether they are enrolled, they should attend all meetings throughout their graduate training, and attend a research colloquium appropriate to their interests. All students are expected to fulfill the following requirements:

• Core Biomedical Informatics (15 or more units)
  Students are expected to complete the core offerings in biomedical informatics. These courses should be taken for a grade.
  a. BIOMEDIN 212 Introduction to Biomedical Informatics Research Methodology
  b. and four of the courses listed below. Additional core course requirements are listed under the M.S. degree program.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Units</th>
<th>Course</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>BIOMEDIN 210 Modeling Biomedical Systems: Ontology, Terminology, Problem Solving</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3-4</td>
<td>BIOMEDIN 214 Representations and Algorithms for Computational Molecular Biology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>BIOMEDIN 215 Data Driven Medicine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>BIOMEDIN 217 Translational Bioinformatics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3-4</td>
<td>BIOMEDIN 260 Computational Methods for Biomedical Image Analysis and Interpretation</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

• Computer Science, Statistics, Mathematics & Engineering (18 units)
  Students are expected to create a program of study with graduate-level courses in computer science, statistics and other technical informatics-related disciplines to achieve in-depth mastery. The program of study may focus on aspects of these disciplines including machine learning, statistical modeling, artificial intelligence, data mining, image analysis, human-computer interaction and data visualization. A complete list of courses accepted for this requirement is on the BMI website. The following are required:
  a. CS 161 Design and Analysis of Algorithms
  b. STATS 200 Introduction to Statistical Inference
  c. STATS 315A Modern Applied Statistics: Learning or CS 229 Machine Learning
  d. No more than 9 units in courses numbered 100-199, and the rest should be 200 or above.
  e. CS 106A Programming Methodology and CS 106B Programming Abstractions cannot be counted for this requirement.
  f. All courses should be formal classroom-based courses, not research units.
  g. Up to 6 units of this portion of the core curriculum may be taken on a Satisfactory/No credit basis.

• Social and Ethical Issues (4 units)
  Students are expected to be familiar with issues regarding responsible conduct of research, reproducibility of research, and ethical, legal, social, organizational and behavioral aspects of the impact of biomedical informatics technologies on society. Courses that fulfill this requirement can be found by entering “bmi::ethics” in the Explore Courses search box. PhD students and Academic M.S. students should take MED 255 The Responsible Conduct of Research in their first year. These courses may be taken on a Satisfactory/No credit basis.
Program Requirements for the Academic M.S., HCP Professional M.S., and Coterminal M.S. Degrees

Students enrolled in any of the M.S. degrees must complete the program requirements in order to graduate.

- The core curriculum generally entails a minimum of 37 units of course work, but can require more or less depending upon the courses chosen and the previous training of the student.
- M.S. candidates should complete additional course work and program requirements as outlined below. No one is required to take courses in an area in which he or she has already been adequately trained; under such circumstances, students are permitted to skip courses or substitute more advanced work using a formal annual process administered by the BMI executive committee. Students design appropriate programs for their interests with the assistance and approval of their Biomedical Informatics academic adviser.
- At least 21 units of formal letter-graded coursework are expected for all MS and PhD candidates.

Programs of at least 45 Stanford units that meet the following guidelines are normally approved:

1. Completion of the core curriculum with an overall GPA of 3.0.
2. Unrestricted Electives needed to complete 45 units. Students may fulfill this requirement with any Stanford graduate courses, including courses taken to satisfy program prerequisites.
3. At least 23 units of courses must be at the level 200 or above.
4. Students are expected to participate regularly in BIOMEDIN 201 Biomedical Informatics Student Seminar and a research colloquium.
5. Academic M.S. students who are funded by the program are required to be a teaching assistant for one course; those students may register for 1-3 units of BIOMEDIN 290 Biomedical Informatics Teaching Methods.
6. HCP professional masters students who are local are encouraged to participate in on-campus coursework and seminars.
7. Masters students should sign up for BIOMEDIN 801 TGR Master’s Project for their project units after completing their 45-unit residency requirement.

COVID-19-Related Degree Requirement Changes

For information on how Biomedical Informatics degree requirements have been affected by the pandemic, see the "COVID-19 Policies tab (p. 5)" in this section of this bulletin. For University-wide policy changes related to the pandemic, see the "COVID-19 and Academic Continuity (http://exploredegrees.stanford.edu/covid-19-policy-changes)" section of this bulletin.

Doctor of Philosophy in Biomedical Informatics

Individuals wishing to prepare themselves for careers as independent researchers in biomedical informatics, with applications experience in bioinformatics, clinical informatics, or imaging informatics, should apply for admission to the doctoral program. The University’s basic requirements for the doctorate (residence, dissertation, examination, and so on) are discussed in the "Graduate Degrees (http://exploredegrees.stanford.edu/graduatedegrees)" section of this bulletin.

The Core Curriculum in Biomedical Informatics (37 units) is outlined below. The Ph.D. program requires an additional 15 units of coursework, to complete a total of 52 units.

Core Curriculum in Biomedical Informatics (37 units)

Students are expected to participate regularly in BIOMEDIN 201 Biomedical Informatics Student Seminar and a research colloquium. Regardless of whether they are enrolled, they should attend all meetings throughout their graduate training, and attend a research colloquium appropriate to their interests. All students are expected to fulfill the following requirements:

- Core Biomedical Informatics Courses (9 or more units)
  - Students are expected to complete the core offerings in biomedical informatics. These courses should be taken for a grade.
  - a. BIOMEDIN 212 Introduction to Biomedical Informatics Research Methodology
  - b. and two of the courses listed below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Units</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BIOMEDIN 210</td>
<td>Modeling Biomedical Systems: Ontology, Terminology, Problem Solving</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BIOMEDIN 214</td>
<td>Representations and Algorithms for Computational Molecular Biology</td>
<td>3-4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BIOMEDIN 215</td>
<td>Data Driven Medicine</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BIOMEDIN 217</td>
<td>Translational Bioinformatics</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BIOMEDIN 260</td>
<td>Computational Methods for Biomedical Image Analysis and Interpretation</td>
<td>3-4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Computer Science, Statistics, Mathematics & Engineering (24 units)
  - Ph.D. students are expected to create a program of study with graduate-level courses in computer science, statistics and other technical informatics-related disciplines to achieve in-depth mastery. The program of study may focus on aspects of these disciplines including machine learning, statistical modeling, artificial intelligence, data mining, image analysis, human-computer interaction and data visualization. A complete list of courses accepted for this requirement is on the BMI website. The following are required:
  - a. CS 161 Design and Analysis of Algorithms
  - b. STATS 200 Introduction to Statistical Inference
  - c. STATS 315A Modern Applied Statistics: Learning or CS 229 Machine Learning
  - d. No more than 9 units in courses numbered 100-199, and the rest should be 200 or above.
  - e. CS 106A Programming Methodology and CS 106B Programming Abstractions cannot be counted for this requirement.
  - f. All courses should be formal classroom-based courses, not research units.
  - g. Up to 6 units of this portion of the core curriculum may be taken on a Satisfactory/No credit basis.
• **Social and Ethical Issues (4 units)**

Students are expected to be familiar with issues regarding responsible conduct of research, reproducibility of research, and ethical, legal, social, organizational and behavioral aspects of the impact of biomedical informatics technologies on society. Courses that fulfill this requirement can be found by entering “bmi:ethics” in the Explore Courses search box. PhD students should take MED 255 The Responsible Conduct of Research in their first year. These courses may be taken on a Satisfactory/No credit basis.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Units</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BIOE 122</td>
<td>Biosecurity and Bioterrorism Response</td>
<td>4-5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BIOE 131</td>
<td>Ethics in Bioengineering</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BIOE 450</td>
<td>Advances in Biotechnology</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BIOMEDIN 254</td>
<td>Quality &amp; Safety in U.S. Healthcare</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BIOMEDIN 256</td>
<td>Economics of Health and Medical Care</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BIOMEDIN 432</td>
<td>Analysis of Costs, Risks, and Benefits of Health Care</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BIOS 224</td>
<td>Big Topics in Stem Cell Ethics</td>
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<tr>
<td>BIOS 258</td>
<td>Ethics, Science, and Society</td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>CS 181</td>
<td>Computers, Ethics, and Public Policy</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CS 181W</td>
<td>Computers, Ethics, and Public Policy</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CSB 272</td>
<td>Responsible conduct, rigor, and reproducibility in research</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EMED 122</td>
<td>Biosecurity and Bioterrorism Response</td>
<td>4-5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EMED 222</td>
<td>Biosecurity and Bioterrorism Response</td>
<td>4-5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GENE 210</td>
<td>Genomics and Personalized Medicine</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HRP 209</td>
<td>Health Law: The FDA</td>
<td>2-3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HRP 211</td>
<td>Law and Biosciences: Neuroscience</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HRP 221</td>
<td>Law and the Biosciences: Genetics</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HRP 254</td>
<td>Quality &amp; Safety in U.S. Healthcare</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HRP 256</td>
<td>Economics of Health and Medical Care</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HRP 273</td>
<td>Essentials of Clinical Research at Stanford</td>
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<tr>
<td>HRP 392</td>
<td>Analysis of Costs, Risks, and Benefits of Health Care</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HUMBIO 174</td>
<td>Foundations of Bioethics</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>INDE 212</td>
<td>Medical Humanities and the Arts</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ME 208</td>
<td>Patent Law and Strategy for Innovators and Entrepreneurs</td>
<td>2-3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MED 228</td>
<td>Physicians and Social Responsibility</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MED 242</td>
<td>Physicians and Human Rights</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MED 255</td>
<td>The Responsible Conduct of Research</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MED 255C</td>
<td>The Responsible Conduct of Research for Clinical and Community Researchers</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MS&amp;E 256</td>
<td>Technology Assessment and Regulation of Medical Devices</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MS&amp;E 278</td>
<td>Patent Law and Strategy for Innovators and Entrepreneurs</td>
<td>2-3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NBIO 101</td>
<td>Social and Ethical Issues in the Neurosciences</td>
<td>2-4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PEDS 251A</td>
<td>Medical Ethics I</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PEDS 251B</td>
<td>Medical Ethics II</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PUBLPOL 122</td>
<td>Biosecurity and Bioterrorism Response</td>
<td>4-5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PUBLPOL 222</td>
<td>Biosecurity and Bioterrorism Response</td>
<td>4-5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Program Requirements for the Biomedical Informatics Ph.D.:**

1. Completion of the Core Curriculum (37 or more units) described above.
2. Domain biology or medicine (6 units). Students should take classes relevant to their application area interests.
3. The core curriculum and domain biology/medicine requirements should be completed by the end of the second year of graduate study.
4. Unrestricted electives (9 units). Students may fulfill this requirement with any Stanford graduate courses, including courses taken to satisfy program prerequisites.
5. A cumulative GPA of 3.0 or greater to remain in good academic standing.
6. In the first year, at least two research rotations are required.
7. Each student is required to be a teaching assistant for two courses as assigned by the Biomedical Informatics Executive Committee; one should be completed in the first two years of study. Students may register for up to 3 units of BIOMEDIN 290 Biomedical Informatics Teaching Methods to obtain credit for each teaching assistantship.
8. Doctoral students are generally advanced to Ph.D. candidacy after passing the qualifying exam, which takes place by the end of the second year of training. A student's academic adviser has primary responsibility for the adequacy of the program, which is regularly reviewed by the Biomedical Informatics Executive Committee. The student must fulfill these requirements and apply for admission to candidacy for the Ph.D. by the beginning of the third year.
9. During the third year of training, each doctoral student is required to give a thesis pre-proposal seminar that describes evolving research plans.
10. The most important requirement for the Ph.D. degree is the dissertation. Each student must secure the agreement of a member of the BMI advising faculty to act as the doctoral dissertation adviser or co-adviser.
11. After application for Terminal Graduate Registration (TGR) status and completion of 135 units, the Ph.D. candidate should register each quarter for BIOMEDIN 802 TGR PhD Dissertation so that their research effort may be counted toward the degree.
12. Each student must present and defend their dissertation work before a University Oral Examination Committee that includes at least one member of the BMI Advising Faculty. The committee determines whether the student's general knowledge of the field and the details of their completed research are sufficient to be granted the doctoral degree. Further details about the Oral Examination, and the submission of the written dissertation are in the BMI Student Handbook, and in University policies cited therein.
13. The student is expected to demonstrate an ability to present scholarly material and research in a lecture at a formal seminar.
14. The student is expected to demonstrate an ability to present scholarly material in concise written form. Each student is required to write a paper suitable for publication, usually discussing his or her doctoral research project. This paper must be approved by the student’s adviser as suitable for submission to a refereed journal before the doctoral degree is conferred.
15. The dissertation must be accepted by a doctoral dissertation reading committee composed of the principal dissertation adviser and two other readers. A fourth reader may be added at the discretion of the student and the principal adviser.

**COVID-19-Related Degree Requirement Changes**

For information on how Biomedical Informatics degree requirements have been affected by the pandemic, see the "**COVID-19 Policies tab** (p. 5)" in this section of this bulletin. For University-wide policy changes related to the pandemic, see the "**COVID-19 and Academic Continuity** (http://
Ph.D. Minor in Biomedical Informatics

For a Ph.D. minor in Biomedical Informatics (BMI), a candidate must complete a minimum of 20 unduplicated units of biomedical informatics course work, including 12 units in BMI core courses from:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BIOMEDIN 210</td>
<td>Modeling Biomedical Systems: Ontology, Terminology, Problem Solving</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BIOMEDIN 212</td>
<td>Introduction to Biomedical Informatics Research Methodology</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BIOMEDIN 214</td>
<td>Representations and Algorithms for Computational Molecular Biology</td>
<td>3-4</td>
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<tr>
<td>BIOMEDIN 215</td>
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<td>BIOMEDIN 260</td>
<td>Computational Methods for Biomedical Image Analysis and Interpretation</td>
<td>3-4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The candidate must complete the one-unit MED 255 The Responsible Conduct of Research or an approved substitute.

The remaining units must be courses that would count towards the BMI master’s degree, taken from these areas:

- Computer Science, Probability, Statistics, Machine Learning, Mathematics, Engineering
- Biomedicine
- Other BMI courses from the list above

Students are expected to participate regularly in BIOMEDIN 201 (p. 1) Biomedical Informatics Student Seminar.

Courses used for the BMI Ph.D. minor may not be double-counted to meet the requirements of a master’s or Ph.D. degree.

All courses used for the BMI Ph.D. minor, except MED 255, must be taken for a letter grade and passed with an overall GPA of 3.0 or better.

This degree offering became effective in Autumn Quarter 2010-11. Courses taken at Stanford prior to that date may be counted towards the BMI Ph.D. minor degree.

Application Process

Stanford Ph.D. students apply using the Application for Ph.D. Minor (https://stanford.app.box.com/v/app-phd-minor) form and must provide an unofficial Stanford transcript as well as a statement of purpose for adding the Ph.D. minor degree. Submit the form and accompanying materials to the Biomedical Informatics program.

Advising

A minor program adviser is assigned from the Biomedical Informatics Executive Committee or advising faculty upon admission to the program.

COVID-19 Policy Changes to Degree Requirements

On this page: Winter Quarter (p. 5) • Spring Quarter (p. 5) • Doctoral Programs (p. 6) (if applicable)

For a complete overview of academic policy changes related to the COVID-19 pandemic, see the “COVID-19 and Academic Continuity (http://exploredegrees.stanford.edu/covid-19-policy-changes)” section of this bulletin.

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020, Stanford University made a number of emergency changes to policies and procedures that impacted Winter and Spring quarters 2019-20. Those changes, as they relate to degree programs, are compiled on this page. These changes reflect the disruption that students and instructors experienced when the University transitioned to online learning on March 9, 2020, in addition to the disruption to the Stanford community caused by the pandemic itself.

Winter Quarter 2019-20

- University-wide Winter Quarter Academic Changes (http://exploredegrees.stanford.edu/covid-19-policy-changes/#winterquarteracademicchangestext)

The Committee on Undergraduate Standards and Policy (C-USP) and the Committee on Graduate Studies (C-GS) approved an exception for Winter Quarter 2019-20 to permit students to request late class withdrawals and/or changes to class grading basis to CR/NC (for those classes that had CR/NC as an option).

Graduate Degree Requirements

Grading Requirements

The Biomedical Informatics Program counts any Winter Quarter 2019-20 class in which the student received a final grade of ‘CR’ towards graduate degree requirements that otherwise require a letter grade.

Other Requirements

If a student has difficulty completing a graduate degree requirement due to the COVID-19 pandemic, (e.g., a study abroad requirement, a laboratory research requirement), the student should consult with the Student Services Officer to identify academic options to fulfill degree requirements.

Spring Quarter 2019-20

- University-wide Spring Quarter Academic Changes (http://exploredegrees.stanford.edu/covid-19-policy-changes/#winterquarteracademicchangestext)

The Faculty Senate approved a policy requiring that all undergraduate and graduate classes in Spring Quarter 2019-20 be offered only on the ‘S/NC’ (Satisfactory/No Credit) grading basis.

Graduate Degree Requirements

Grading Requirements

The Biomedical Informatics Program counts any Spring Quarter 2019-20 class in which the student received a final grade of ‘S’ towards graduate degree requirements that otherwise require a letter grade.

In the CS/Stats/Math/Engineering portion of the core curriculum, units taken during Spring 2020 do not count towards the 6 unit maximum of units allowed to be taken on an ‘S/NC’ basis.

Students who, due to the extraordinary circumstances, need to make significant changes to their flowsheets or course plans may propose such changes, with the approval of their advisor, to BMI Student Services and the Executive Director (similar to an expedited waiver process), including the proposed changes and reasons for them.

Courses taken during Spring 2020 will not be taken into account in cumulative GPA calculations.
Other Requirements
If a student has difficulty completing a graduate degree requirement due to the COVID-19 pandemic (e.g., a lab rotation or a required course), the student should consult with the Executive Director to identify academic options to fulfill degree requirements.

Doctoral Programs
The Faculty Senate confirmed that doctoral programs have discretion to delay candidacy decisions through the end of Autumn Quarter 2020-21. It also confirmed that students have the option to defer the candidacy process (e.g., qualifying exams) to Autumn Quarter 2020-21 without penalty.

Biomedical Informatics has approved the following exception: candidacy requirements are extended by one quarter.

Graduate Advising Expectations
The Program in Biomedical Informatics is committed to providing academic and research advising in support of graduate student scholarly and professional development. When most effective, this advising relationship entails collaborative and sustained engagement by both the adviser and the advisee. As a best practice, advising expectations should be periodically discussed and reviewed to ensure mutual understanding. Both the adviser and the advisee are expected to maintain professionalism and integrity.

Graduate students are active contributors to the advising relationship, proactively seeking academic and professional guidance and taking responsibility for informing themselves of policies and degree requirements for their graduate program. The program’s student services staff is also an important part of the student’s advising team. They inform students and advisers about University and department requirements, procedures, and opportunities, and they maintain the official records of advising assignments and approvals.

**Academic Adviser**—Each new student in the Program in Biomedical Informatics is assigned an academic adviser (a member of the core or advising faculty or Executive Committee of the program). Academic advisers guide students in key areas such as selecting courses, discussing research rotations, developing of teaching pedagogy, navigating policies and degree requirements, and exploring academic opportunities and professional pathways. Usually, the academic adviser serves for the duration of the student’s study; the BMI Student Handbook (http://med.stanford.edu/bmi/biomedical-informatics-students/handbook.html) describes a process for formal adviser changes. In addition, the program director is available during the academic year by email and during office hours.

Academic progress and student completion of program requirements and milestones are monitored by the program director and student services staff, and are discussed by faculty during periodic meetings devoted to assessing student progress. A detailed description of the program’s requirements, milestones, and advising expectations are listed in the Biomedical Informatics Training Program Student Handbook, found on the program website (http://med.stanford.edu/bmi/biomedical-informatics.html), as well as in the section on the Biomedical Informatics Program in ExploreDegrees (p. 1).

**Research Adviser**—Each student in the academic M.S. and Ph.D. degree programs must also have a research adviser, chosen by mutual agreement at the end of their research rotations (typically by the end of their first year in the program). This research adviser is an active member of the core or advising faculty for the BMI program. The research adviser may not be the same person as the academic adviser. Research advisers and the students should have a clear, shared understanding of the scientific objectives of the student’s work, and how it fits into a research program that will lead to an M.S. degree or Ph.D. degree. They should focus on the development of methods that are novel, generally applicable, and well-grounded in the informatics literature. In select cases, the research adviser may be a member of the collaborating faculty, in which case the student must have a co-adviser from the BMI core or advising faculty. When there is a secondary or co-adviser, the primary adviser and co-adviser should have a clear understanding of their mentorship roles.

Each Ph.D. student is required to fill out an annual Individual Developmental Plan (IDP), usually in the Summer. The IDP is then discussed with the research adviser, as a way to facilitate: advising the student, both during and beyond the Ph.D.; establishing clear expectations on both sides with respect to degree progress and timely graduation; and emphasizing the importance of wellness in graduate school, together with access to University wellness resources.

Each Ph.D. candidate is required to establish a reading committee for the doctoral dissertation by late third year or early fourth year. Students should consult frequently with all members of the committee about the direction and progress of the dissertation research and are required to meet annually with their whole committee. The detailed process, including Stanford and BMI policies such as composition of the committee, process toward dissertation defense, submission of the final dissertation, and readiness to graduate, are described in the BMI Student Handbook (http://med.stanford.edu/bmi/biomedical-informatics-students/handbook.html).

Additionally, the program adheres to the University policies, guidelines, and responsibilities that apply to all faculty-student advising relationships. For a statement of University policy on graduate advising, see the “Graduate Advising” section of this bulletin.

**Program Director and Chair:** Sylvia Plevritis

**Director of Graduate Studies:** Sylvia Plevritis

**BMI Executive Committee:** Sylvia Plevritis (Program Director and Chair), Jaap Suermondt (Executive Director), Russ B. Altman, Manisha Desai, Ying Lu, Stephen Montgomery, Mark A. Musen, Daniel L. Rubin, Nigam Shah, Lu Tian, Robert Tibshirani, Dennis P. Wall

**Participating Faculty and Staff by Department**

**Anesthesiology:** Nima Aghaeepour (Assistant Professor)

**Biochemistry:** Douglas Brutlag (Professor Emeritus), Rhiju Das (Associate Professor), Ronald Davis (Professor), James Ferrell (Professor), Julia Salzman (Assistant Professor), Julie Theriot (Professor)

**Bioengineering:** Russ B. Altman (Professor), Kwabena Boahen (Professor), Markus Covert (Associate Professor), Scott Delp (Professor), Ingmar Riedel-Kruse (Consulting Assistant Professor), Vijay Pande (Adjunct Professor)

**Biology:** Hunter Fraser (Associate Professor), Dmitri Petrov (Professor), Jonathan Pritchard (Professor)

**Biomedical Data Science:** Russ B. Altman (Professor), Euan Ashley (Professor), Gill Bejerano (Associate Professor), Manisha Desai (Professor), Bradley Efron (Professor), Andrew Gentles (Assistant Professor), Olivier Gevaert (Assistant Professor), Trevor Hastie (Professor), Tina Hernandez-Boussard (Associate Professor), Iain Johnstone (Professor), Purvesh Khatri (Associate Professor), Teri Klein (Professor), Ying Lu (Professor), Mark A. Musen (Professor), Aaron Newman (Assistant Professor), Richard Olshen (Professor Emeritus), Julia Palacios (Associate Professor), Sylvia Plevritis (Professor), Manuel Rivas (Assistant Professor), Daniel L. Rubin (Associate Professor), Chiara
Sabatti (Professor), Julia Salzman (Assistant Professor), Nigam Shah (Associate Professor), Lu Tian (Professor), Robert Tibshirani (Professor), Dennis P. Wall (Associate Professor), Wing H Wong (Professor), James Zou (Assistant Professor)

Richard Olshen (Professor), Chiara Sabatti (Associate Professor), Robert Tibshirani (Professor), Dennis P. Wall (Associate Professor)

Chemical and Systems Biology: Joshua Elias (Assistant Professor), James Ferrell (Professor)

Chemistry: Vijay Pande (Professor)

Computer Science: Gill Bejerano (Associate Professor), David Dill (Professor Emeritus), Ronald Dror (Associate Professor), Leonidas Guibas (Professor), Anshul Kundaje (Assistant Professor), Terry Winograd (Professor Emeritus)

Dermatology: Paul Khavari (Professor)

Developmental Biology: Gill Bejerano (Associate Professor)

Electrical Engineering: Kwabena Boahen (Professor)

Energy Resources Engineering: Margot Gerritsen (Professor)

Genetics: Russ B. Altman (Professor), Euan Ashley (Professor), Michael Bassik (Assistant Professor), Ami Bhatt (Assistant Professor), J. Michael Cherry (Professor, Research), Stanley N. Cohen (Professor), Christina Curtis (Assistant Professor), Ronald Davis (Professor), William Greenleaf (Associate Professor), Karla Kirkegaard (Professor), Teri E. Klein (Senior Research Scientist), Anshul Kundaje (Assistant Professor), Jin Billy Li (Associate Professor), Stephen B. Montgomery (Assistant Professor), Jonathan Pritchard (Professor), Gavin Sherlock (Associate Professor), Arend Sidow (Professor), Michael P. Snyder (Professor), Hua Tang (Professor)

Health Research and Policy: Trevor Hastie (Professor), Mark Hlatky (Professor)

Management Science and Engineering: Margaret Brandeau (Professor), Ross D. Shachter (Associate Professor)

Mechanical Engineering: Scott Delp (Professor)

Medicine: Russ B. Altman (Professor), Euan Ashley (Professor), Mike Baiocchi (Assistant Professor), Sanjay Basu (Assistant Professor), Ami Bhatt (Assistant Professor), Jayanta Bhattacharya (Professor), Catherine Blish (Associate Professor), Carol Cain (Adjunct Assistant Professor), Jonathan Chen (Assistant Professor), Stanley Cohen (Professor), Christina Curtis (Assistant Professor), Manisha Desai (Professor), Michel Dumontier (Associate Professor), Andrew Gentles (Assistant Professor), Olivier Gevaert (Assistant Professor), Mary Goldstein (Professor), Summer Han (Assistant Professor), Tina Hernandez-Boussard (Associate Professor), Michael Higgins (Adjunct Associate Professor), Mark Hlatky (Professor), Hanlee P. Ji (Associate Professor), Purvesh Khatri (Associate Professor), Teri Klein (Professor), Lianne Kurina (Associate Professor, Teaching), Curtis Langlotz (Professor), Henry Lowe (Associate Professor), Mark A. Musen (Professor), Douglas K. Owens (Professor), Natalie Pageler (Clinical Associate Professor), David Relman (Professor), Daniel L. Rubin (Professor), Ruijiang Li (Assistant Professor), Lei Xing (Professor)

Pathology: Stephen B. Montgomery (Associate Professor), Arend Sidow (Professor)

Pediatrics: Gill Bejerano (Associate Professor), Natalie Pageler (Clinical Associate Professor), Jonathan Palma (Clinical Associate Professor), Dennis P. Wall (Associate Professor)

Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences: Vinod Menon (Professor, Research), Manish Saggar (Assistant Professor)

Psychology: Russell Poldrack (Professor)

Radiation Oncology: Ruijiang Li (Assistant Professor), Lei Xing (Professor)

Radiology: Sam (Sanjiv) Gambhir (Professor), Curtis Langlotz (Professor), Matt Lungren (Assistant Professor), Parag Mallick (Associate Professor, Research), Sandy A. Napel (Professor), David Paik (Adjunct Assistant Professor), Sylvia Plevritis (Professor/ Program Director), Daniel L. Rubin (Professor), Greg Zaharchuk (Professor)

Statistics: Bradley Efron (Professor), Trevor J. Hastie (Professor), Susan Holmes (Professor), Iain Johnstone (Professor, Art Owen (Professor), Julia Palacios (Assistant Professor), Chiara Sabatti (Professor), Robert Tibshirani (Professor), Wing H Wong (Professor)

Structural Biology: Michael Levitt (Professor)

Surgery: Tina Hernandez-Boussard (Associate Professor), Thomas Krumel (Professor)

* Research opportunities are not limited to faculty and departments listed.