Biomedical Informatics, PhD

Program Description

Degree Awarded: PHD Biomedical Informatics

The PhD program in biomedical informatics allows students to develop expertise in areas such as bioinformatics, clinical informatics, population health management and imaging. The BMI program fosters collaborations among academic researchers, clinical practitioners and regional health care providers to apply new developments in informatics theory to clinical practice.

Additional specialization coursework in an area of focus and emphasis on independent research are intended to place students at the leading edge of the field. Strong collaborative relationships with a variety of health care organizations, the bioscience industry and governmental agencies provide an unparalleled opportunity for doctoral students to explore and contribute to advances in bioinformatics and informatics related to imaging, clinical medicine and population health. Students may explore special foci on cross-cutting areas such as data science and knowledge representation.

At a Glance

- College/School: College of Health Solutions
- Location: Tempe campus

Degree Requirements

84 credit hours, a written comprehensive exam, an oral comprehensive exam, a prospectus and a dissertation

Required Core (22 credit hours)
BMI 502 Foundations of Biomedical Informatics Methods I (3)
BMI 504 Introduction to Clinical Environments (3)
BMI 505 Foundations of Biomedical Informatics Methods II (3)
BMI 515 Applied Biostatistics in Medicine and Informatics (3)
BMI 540 Problem Solving in Biomedical Informatics (3)
BMI 560 Teaching in Biomedical Informatics (2)
BMI 570 Symposium (2)
BMI 601 Fundamentals of Health Informatics (3)

**Electives (38 credit hours)**

**Research (12 credit hours)**
BMI 792 Research (12)

**Culminating Experience (12 credit hours)**
BMI 799 Dissertation (12)

**Additional Curriculum Information**
Due to the diverse academic backgrounds of students requesting admission into this program, many will find it necessary to take some coursework in preparation. However, all students will take 84 credit hours of approved graduate-level coursework.

**Admission Requirements**

Applicants must fulfill the requirements of both the Graduate College and the College of Health Solutions.

Applicants are eligible to apply to the program if they have earned a bachelor's or master's degree from a regionally accredited institution.

Applicants must have a minimum of a 3.00 cumulative GPA (scale is 4.00 = "A") in the last 60 hours of a student's first bachelor's degree program, or applicants must have a minimum of a 3.00 cumulative GPA (scale is 4.00 = "A") in an applicable master's degree program.

All applicants must submit:

1. graduate admission application and application fee
2. official transcripts
3. statement of purpose
4. 3 letters of recommendation
5. GRE scores
6. proof of English proficiency

**Additional Application Information**
An applicant whose native language is not English (regardless of current residency) must provide proof of English proficiency. Scores for the TOEFL for applicants whose native language is not English is required.
An applicant should have earned a bachelor's degree in biology, computer science, engineering or statistics, or be trained as a postbaccalaureate health professional in medicine, nursing or pharmacy. Those who have earned degrees in other unrelated fields with appropriate academic backgrounds will also be considered. However, all applicants must have basic competencies in anatomy and physiology, college calculus, computer programming, general biology and statistics.

The applicant's undergraduate GPA, statement of purpose and depth of preparation in their field are the primary factors affecting admission. Scores for the GRE (verbal, quantitative and analytical are required; the subject test is optional) or any other graduate-level entry examination.

**Application Deadlines**

Fall

**Contact Information**

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