Participating Pre-Doctoral Graduate Programs


Eligibility

Pre-doctoral students from participating graduate programs in their 2nd & 3rd years of graduate training at the time of appointment conducting biomedically-relevant biophysics research are eligible. The traineeship will provide a stipend, tuition, and some funds for yearly travel to a scientific meeting.

Curricular Requirements

In addition to completing the requirements of their parent graduate program, trainees must take three core courses in Biophysics, an ethics course, a rigor & reproducibility course, a structural biology workshop, and an elective. These requirements are mandatory; no exceptions will be made.

Core Courses:

1. Choose either IBiS Molecular Biophysics (IBiS 401; Sp22) or DGP Structural Basis of Signal Transduction (DGP 466; Su21)
2. Biophysical Methods (IBiS 409; F21)
3. Quantitative Biology (IBiS 410; F21)

Ethics Course:

Choose one of Ethics in Biological Research (IBiS 423; F21), Colloquium on Integrity in Biomedical Research (DGP 494; F20), Responsible Conduct of Research Training (GEN ENG 519/CHEM 519; F20, W21, Sp21)

Rigor & Reproducibility course (IBiS 421; Su21)

Structural Biology Workshop: 3-day summer workshop covering NMR, crystallography, & cryoEM (Su22)

Elective Courses:

Visit the website http://www.biophysics.northwestern.edu/ for the list of approved elective courses.

Program Activities

Molecular Biophysics Club – Monthly, Third Wednesdays, Noon, Cook 3118

Presentations by a graduate student or post-doc from participating preceptor labs

Evanston Molecular Biophysics Journal Club – Monthly, Fourth Tuesdays, Noon, Cook 3118A;

Chicago Incomplete Factorial Structure Function Journal Club – Monthly meetings

Student-run journal clubs with presentations by participating preceptor lab members

Molecular Biophysics Seminar Series – Monthly, First Thursdays, 12:30 PM, Pancoe Auditorium

Distinguished non-NU speakers hosted by preceptors followed by lunchtime meetings with speaker

Research-in-Progress Meetings – Monthly, Second Tuesdays, 12:30 PM, Pancoe 4103

Trainee meetings with the Steering Committee and Mentors describing their research progress

Annual Biophysics Symposium – Third Fridays of September, 9 AM-5 PM, Pancoe Auditorium

Trainee Nomination, Selection, & Expectations

Students are nominated by preceptors over the summer each year. Nominations are evaluated by an ad hoc committee comprising program preceptors. This year, 10 to 11 trainees will be appointed.

Specific Expectations of Supported Trainees; Trainees must:

- Complete MBTP curricular requirements and remain in good academic standing
- Participate in the MBTP-sponsored activities listed above, present poster at Biophysics Symposium every year and give a talk at least once at the Biophysics Club or the Biophysics Symposium during their tenure at Northwestern
- Present oral research updates (twice a year) at Research-in-Progress Meetings
- Provide yearly written research reports documenting progress
- Provide career plans or updates to career plans (aka Individual Development Plans or IDPs) every year

Please visit biophysics.northwestern.edu for more information