

Molecular Biophysics Training Program at Northwestern University

Participating Pre-Doctoral Graduate Programs

DGP, IBiS, Biomed Engg, Chemistry, Chem & Biol Engg, NUIN, Physics & Astronomy

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. Appointment will provide 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, a **mandatory** ethics course, a **mandatory** rigor & reproducibility course, a structural biology workshop, and an elective.

Core Courses:

1. Choose one of: IBiS Molecular Biophysics (IBiS 401; **Sp19**), DGP Macromolecular Structure and Function (DGP 465; **Sp19**), DGP Structural Basis of Signal Transduction (DGP 466; **W20**, max 6 seats),
2. Biophysical Methods (IBiS 409; **F19**)
3. Quantitative Biology (IBiS 410; **F18**)

Ethics Course:

Choose one of: Ethics in Biological Research (IBiS 423; **F18**), Colloquium on Integrity in Biomedical Research (DGP 494; **F18**), Responsible Conduct of Research Training (GEN ENG 519; **F18, W19, Sp19**)

Elective Courses:

Visit the website for the [list of approved elective courses](#).

Rigor & Reproducibility course (IBiS 421; **Su18**)

Structural Biology Workshop: 3-day summer workshop covering NMR, crystallography, & cryoEM (**Su19**)

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

Biophysics Trainee 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 Wednesdays in June, 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. Presently, **8 to 9** trainees are appointed each year.

Specific Expectations of Supported Trainees; Trainees must -

- Complete curricular requirements and remain in good academic standing
- Participate in the training program-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 Biophysics Trainee 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 our [website](#) for more information and [contact Abby Mattson](#) with any questions