

# Bioinformatics and Computational Biology Program

2019-20 Program Orientation

# Administrative Contacts

Co-DGS

Yuk Sham

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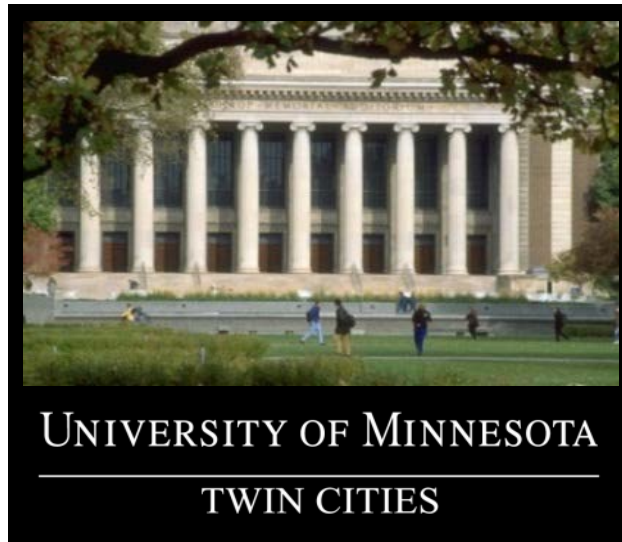
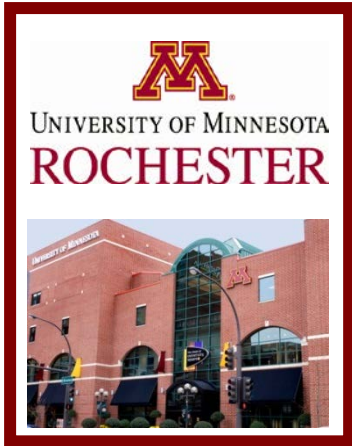
[chadm@umn.edu](mailto:chadm@umn.edu)

# University of Minnesota Rochester

- Established in 2007
  - RHEDC
- Focus on health sciences and biotechnology
- Programs
  - B.S. in Health Sciences (BSHS, Fall 09)
  - B.S. in Health Professions (BSHP, Fall 11)
  - M.S. and Ph.D. graduate programs in Biomedical Informatics and Computational Biology (BICB, Fall 08)
  - (Partnership programs)
- Center for Learning Innovation
  - Academic unit for faculty teaching in the BSHS



# Building Partnerships



# Overview: Bioinformatics and Computational Biology (BICB)

- Interdisciplinary, all-University graduate program
  - University of Minnesota Twin Cities
  - University of Minnesota Rochester (administrative home)
- Ph.D. and Master of Science (M.S. Plan A and Plan B) degrees and a Minor
- The program is suitable for full-time and part-time students.
- Graduate faculty are from
  - University of Minnesota Twin Cities
  - University of Minnesota Rochester
  - Hormel Institute
  - Mayo Clinic
  - IBM
  - National Marrow Donor Program
  - Brain Sciences Center (VA)
  - Medtronic
- Students are in residence on either the Rochester or Twin Cities campus.
- Research can be conducted on any of the participating sites.

# BICB by the Numbers

Faculty (Fall 2019)	
UMTC	67
UMN-Hormel	6
Mayo	33
NMDP	4
IBM	2
Medtronic	1
Others	6
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>119</b>

Total students in the program:

- 62 PhD
- 74 MS

## **New Students Fall 2019**

- 11 Ph.D.
- 14 M.S. (2 pending)

~33% of students  
work full-time

# Recent graduates

## PhD graduates:

- Charlie Seto (Post-doc at Texas Children's Hospital)
- Justin Nelson (Research Scientist, Yumanity Inc, biotech startup)
- Hu Huang (Data scientist at IBM Watson Health)
- Margaret Mahan (Research Scientist, Minneapolis Medical Research Foundation)
- Eric Gaasedelen (Software Engineer at Lyft)
- Scott Simpkins (Post-doc at Stanford)
- Gabriel Al-Ghalith (Post-doc at Janssen Pharmaceuticals)
- Jean-Michel Michno (Principal Data Scientist at C.H. Robinson)
- Tinen Iles (Assistant Professor, U. of M.)

## Master's graduates:

- Shengbing Huang (Mayo Clinic IT Analyst/Programmer, continuing on to BICB PhD)
- Todd Knutson (Minnesota Supercomputing Institute Research Analyst/Consultant)
- Xin Zhou (Mayo Clinic)
- Alex Deakyne (continuing on to BICB PhD)
- Dzianis Prakapenka (continuing on to BICB PhD)
- Vinod Kaggal (Technical Specialist, Mayo Clinic)
- Raphael Mwangi (Mayo Clinic, continuing on to BICB PhD)
- Noemi Vidal Folch (Development DLMP Technologist, Mayo Clinic)
- Seunghyun Lim (continuing on to BICB PhD)

# BICB LinkedIn Group

**Save time with online ads - Get help with advertising on LinkedIn, Facebook, Instagram, and Google.** Ad ...

**Yuk Sham** Owner  
Manage group

Recent

- Minnesota Bioinformatics an...
- Jobs in computational chemi...
- Computational Chemistry Me...
- Institute for Drug Resistance ...
- High Performance & Super C...

Groups

- Minnesota Bioinformatics an...
- Jobs in computational chemi...
- Computational Chemistry Me...

Show more

Events +

Followed Hashtags

Discover more

**BICB**

## Minnesota Bioinformatics and Computational Biology Group

Standard group

Start a conversation in this group

**Yuk Sham** Assistant Professor 6d

**Customer Data Analyst - Nestlé Health Science**  
Nestlé • Minneapolis, MN, US

Like Comment

**Yuk Sham** Assistant Professor 1w

**Associate Oat Breeder**  
PepsiCo • Greater Minneapolis-St. Paul Area

Like Comment

108 members [See all](#)

Invite members

About this group

Faculty, staff, students, alumni and affiliates of the University of Minnesota's Bioinformatics and Computational Biology Graduate Program are welcome to join this group. Our members are addressing data analytical challenges in the health sciences, biosciences, engineering and technology

[Show more](#)

Group admin

**Yuk Sham** • You Owner  
Assistant Professor

Promoted

- Save time with online ads**  
Get help with advertising on LinkedIn, Facebook, Instagram, and Google.
- Western Blot Imager Deal**  
Heat up your summer with this deal on a ProteinSimple FluorChem HD2 imager!
- Put the Pro in Professor**  
Engage your students with the electronic devices they love

About Help Center Privacy & Terms

<https://www.linkedin.com/groups/12234134/>




# How to find BICB...

MyU For Students, Faculty, and Staff One Stop Contact Us Maps Alumni Give Employment Search Twin Cities

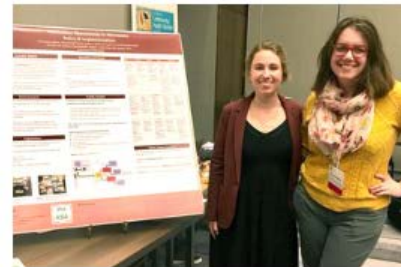
**UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA**  
Driven to Discover™  
Crookston Duluth Morris Rochester Twin Cities

About Us  
Academics  
Admissions and Aid  
Student Life

Research  
Health and Medicine  
Athletics  
News and Events



Raising their voices  
U of M researchers aim to improve learning by helping youth tell their stories. [Read more on Youth Story Squad](#)



<http://twin-cities.umn.edu/>

# Under Academics of the Web Page:

<http://r.umn.edu/>

The image shows a screenshot of the University of Minnesota Rochester website. The top navigation bar is dark red with the university logo and name on the left, and navigation links like 'One Stop' and 'MyU' on the right. Below this is a white navigation bar with links for 'Academics', 'Admissions & Aid', 'Student Life', 'Learning, Research & Innovation', 'About UMR', and 'News & Events'. The 'Academics' link is highlighted with a red underline, and a dropdown menu is open. The dropdown menu contains the following items: 'Academics & Research', 'Undergraduate Programs', 'Graduate Programs' (circled in green), 'Academic Resources', and 'Library & Information Commons'. A green arrow points from the 'Graduate Programs' link to the text 'Academics & Research' at the bottom of the page. The background of the page features a large image of a woman wearing safety goggles, with the text 'YOUR FUTURE IS POWERFUL' and 'Preparing you for careers in health care with the knowledge to change the world.' overlaid.

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA ROCHESTER  
Driven to Discover™  
Crookston Duluth Morris Rochester Twin Cities

One Stop MyU: For Students, Faculty, and Staff  
Search UMN Rochester...

Academics Admissions & Aid Student Life Learning, Research & Innovation About UMR News & Events

Academics & Research  
Undergraduate Programs  
Graduate Programs  
Academic Resources  
Library & Information Commons

YOUR FUTURE IS  
**POWERFUL**  
Preparing you for careers in health care with  
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Academics & Research



▲  
"The skills gained from our classes can be applied to many industries and do not limit a student in their future roles. The professors in the MBA program don't just teach. Instead, they leverage the strengths of our diverse student body to apply them to the material we are examining." - Benazir Nasimova, Property Manager with Regency Multifamily

## The University of Minnesota Rochester offers four graduate degrees

These programs are offered in conjunction with the University of Minnesota Twin Cities and University of Minnesota Duluth.

Master of Science in Bioinformatics and Computational Biology (BICB)

or

PhD in Bioinformatics and Computational Biology (BICB) - UMR's BICB program creates a one-of-a-kind opportunity for research and graduate education at the intersection of quantitative sciences, biology, medicine, food and agriculture.

Master of Business Administration - The Labovitz MBA offered in Rochester by the University of Minnesota Duluth is ranked second in Minnesota. Accredited by AACSB International, the program is designed to meet the needs of working professionals in a variety of industries.

Master of Occupational Therapy - The University of Minnesota's Master of Occupational Therapy program is offered on both the Twin Cities and Rochester campuses.

PHD OR MASTER OF  
SCIENCE IN  
BIOINFORMATICS AND  
COMPUTATIONAL  
BIOLOGY >

MASTER OF BUSINESS  
ADMINISTRATION >

MASTER OF  
OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY >

# Bioinformatics and Computational Biology

## About BICB

### Major Objectives

Establish world-class academic and research programs at the University of Minnesota Rochester

Leverage the University of Minnesota's academic and research capabilities in partnership with Mayo Clinic, Hormel Institute, IBM, National Marrow Donor Program (NMDP), the Brain Sciences Center and other industry leaders

Build academic and research programs that complement southeast Minnesota's existing leadership roles in health sciences, biosciences, engineering and technology

Create academic and research programs that provide applications to economic activities via innovation, translational research, and clinical experiences

### Program Vision

The vision of the Bioinformatics and Computational Biology (BICB) program is to conduct research and provide education through the establishment of academic and research programs. All BICB academic and research programs collaborate among the University of Minnesota Rochester (UMR), the University of Minnesota Twin Cities (UMTC), Mayo Clinic, the Hormel Institute, IBM, National Marrow Donor Program (NMDP), and the Brain Sciences Center to advance informatics and computation and to support a strong life science industry in Minnesota.

### Program Background

BICB was established in 2007 as a result of legislative funding and support driven by the recommendations of the Governor of Minnesota's appointed Rochester Higher Education Development Committee (RHEDC). The committee recommended the collaborative development of an institution that focuses on health science, bioscience, engineering, and technology. This institution is the University of Minnesota Rochester.

## Current News

### BICB Orientation

BICB students and faculty are invited to attend one of the upcoming, annual orientations:

Twin Cities Campus: Tuesday, August 27, 2019, 4:00-5:30,

Walter Library, Room 404

Rochester Campus: Wednesday, August 28, 2019, 4:00-5:30,

University Square, Room 415

Refreshments will be provided.

[PROGRAM DESCRIPTION >](#)

[DEGREE PROGRAMS >](#)

[PEOPLE & COMMITTEES >](#)

[STUDENT HANDBOOK >](#)

[BICB CONTACTS >](#)

# Degree Programs

The Bioinformatics and Computational Biology (BICB) graduate program is an interdisciplinary, all-University graduate program between the University of Minnesota Twin Cities and the University of Minnesota Rochester.

The program offers the **Ph.D.** and **Master of Science** (M.S. Plan A and Plan B) degrees and a **Minor**. The administrative home of the program is the University of Minnesota Rochester. The College of Science and Engineering is the partnering college on the Twin Cities campus.

Its graduate faculty include researchers from the University of Minnesota Twin Cities, the University of Minnesota Rochester, the Hormel Institute, the Mayo Clinic, IBM, National Marrow Donor Program (NMDP), and the Brain Sciences Center. Students are in residence on either the Rochester campus or the Twin Cities campus. The program is suitable for full-time and part-time students.

**PH.D. DEGREE PROGRAM >**

**MASTER'S DEGREE PROGRAM >**

**MINOR >**

# Ph.D. Degree Program

The [degree completion steps](#) detail the twelve administrative steps that must be completed. Before you contact the Graduate School for specific questions, contact the DGS or DGS Assistant of the program.

Every Ph.D. graduate student will have a temporary advisor assigned when entering the program. The student is expected to decide on a research area by the end of the first year and to choose a permanent advisor by the end of the first year. The time limit for earning a Ph.D degree is eight years. Students who are unable to complete the program within eight years may petition for an extension of up to 24 months.

You and your adviser will determine the course work you will need to take to gain competency in your specialty. The BICB program is designed to allow for maximum flexibility. There are a few courses and seminars, however, every Ph.D. student takes: four semesters of Journal Club (BICB 8930), two semesters of Colloquium (BICB 8920), two semesters of Computation and Biology (BICB 8510), one semester of Proposal Writing Seminar (BICB 8932), one semester or quarter seminar (1 credit) of Ethics, and one semester (1 credit) of Entrepreneurship and Leadership (e.g., BICB 8970). (The requirements for BICB 8510 and BICB 8932 may be waived upon request if the student is very advanced when entering the program.)

A degree program is a list of coursework that you submit to the Graduate School as the basis for your degree. It may not contain all courses and seminars you complete during the course of your degree but must contain all required courses and seminars. The [Degree Program Form](#) is available online. List only graduate level courses (one 4000 level course is permitted). Graduate Education policy requires that a minimum of 2/3 of the course credits included in the degree plan are taken A/F and that students should maintain an overall GPA of 3.000 for courses included on the degree plan at the time of degree clearance. You must file your degree program at least one semester prior to taking your preliminary oral exam. Assign members to the [preliminary oral exam committee](#) at least one month prior to submitting your preliminary written exam to the program (typically, two members of your preliminary oral exam committee will also review your preliminary written exam). Once the degree program is approved, any changes must be petitioned to the Graduate School by submitting a [Petition Form](#).

**Core Areas & Electives**



**Examinations and Committees**



**Internships**



# Master's Degree Program

The BICB graduate program offers the master's degrees under two different plans: Plan A, which requires a thesis; and Plan B, which substitutes additional coursework and a capstone experience. Each plan has a minimum of 30 credits. There are [degree completion steps](#) for each of the two plans.

Every M.S. graduate student will have a temporary advisor assigned when entering the program. The student is expected to decide on a research area by the end of the first year and to choose a permanent advisor by the end of the first year. The time limit for earning a Master's degree is five years. Students who are unable to complete the program within five years may petition for an extension of up to 12 months.

You and your adviser will determine the course work you will need to take to gain competency in your specialty. The BICB program is designed to allow for maximum flexibility. There are a few courses and seminars, however, every Master's student takes: two semesters of Journal Club (BICB 8930; 1 credit per semester), one semester of Colloquium (BICB 8920; 1 credit), one semester (or quarter) of Ethics (1 credit), and one semester of Entrepreneurship and Leadership (e.g., BICB 8970; 1 credit). These five required credits count toward the completion of the 30 required credits for the M.S. degree.

The examining committee for a M.S. graduate student should be chosen by the end of the first year to allow time for feedback on your thesis work or project. It consists of at least two members from the BICB graduate faculty and, if the student has a Minor, one member from the student's Minor. If the student does not have a Minor, all members of the examining committee may be from the BICB graduate faculty but must represent at least two different budgetary units. The advisor will be the chair of the examining committee. Initiate the [online form](#) for assigning members to the master's final exam committee at least one month prior to the final exam.

A degree program is a list of coursework that you submit to the Graduate School as the basis for your degree. It may not contain all courses and seminars you complete during the course of your degree but must contain all required courses and seminars. The [Degree Program Form](#) is available online. You should file the form with the Graduate School when you have completed about 10 credits and no later than one semester prior to anticipated graduation. List only graduate level courses (one 4000 level course is permitted). Graduate Education policy requires that a minimum of 2/3 of the course credits included in the degree plan are taken A/F and that students must have a 2.800 GPA for courses included on the degree plan at the time of degree clearance. The Graduate School requires that at least 60% of the coursework for the official degree programs (excluding thesis credits) are completed as registered University of Minnesota Graduate School students. Once the degree program is approved, any changes must be petitioned to the Graduate School by submitting a [Petition Form](#).

**Master's Plans A or B**



**Core Areas & Electives**



**Examination and Committee**



BICB

# **PROGRAM PROCEDURES**



# Degree Programs

- Ph.D.
  - Individualized
  - Research focus
  - Preliminary written and preliminary oral exam
  - Thesis defense
  - Time limit: 8 years
- M.S. (30 credits)
  - individualized
  - Plan A
    - Research thesis (10 credits)
  - Plan B
    - Synthesis paper or short project
  - Decision on plan after completion of about 10-15 credits
  - Final oral exam
  - Time limit: 5 years

# **GRADUATE STUDENT HANDBOOK**

# Bioinformatics and Computational Biology

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[PROGRAM DESCRIPTION >](#)

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[PEOPLE & COMMITTEES >](#)

[STUDENT HANDBOOK >](#)

[BICB CONTACTS >](#)

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Specific information about the BICB graduate program and the Student Handbook for this program can be found through the links on the right-hand side. General information about graduate programs at the University of Minnesota can be found at the web page of the [Graduate School](#). The Graduate School has also issued a [Graduate Student Handbook](#) with useful information about policies and procedures that are relevant to all University of Minnesota graduate students.

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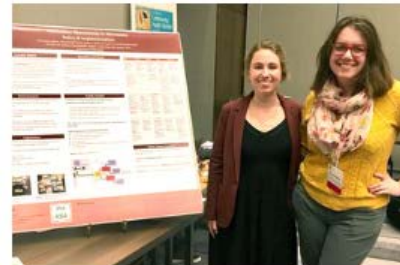
<b>Annual Review</b>	+
<b>Courses</b>	+
<b>Academic Dates and Deadlines</b>	+
<b>Permission Numbers</b>	+
<b>Registration Information</b>	+
<b>Registration Options</b>	+
<b>Your University Internet Account</b>	+

**REGISTRATION**

# MyU and One Stop...



- About Us
- Academics
- Admissions and Aid
- Student Life
- Research
- Health and Medicine
- Athletics
- News and Events

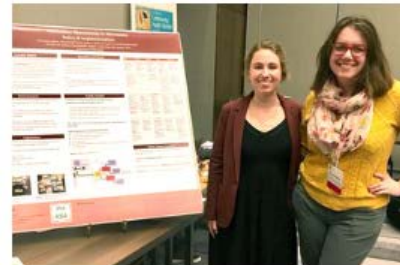


<http://twin-cities.umn.edu/>

# MyU and One Stop...



- About Us
- Academics
- Admissions and Aid
- Student Life
- Research
- Health and Medicine
- Athletics
- News and Events



# UMR MyU and One Stop

The image shows the top portion of the University of Minnesota Rochester website. The header is a dark red bar containing the university logo, name, and navigation links. Below the header is a white navigation bar with various menu items. The main content area features a large banner with a photograph of a student wearing safety goggles in a laboratory setting. The banner includes the text 'YOUR FUTURE IS POWERFUL' and a tagline about preparing for careers in health care.

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA ROCHESTER  
Driven to Discover™  
Crookston Duluth Morris Rochester Twin Cities

One Stop MyU For Students, Faculty, and Staff  
University of Minnesota Rochester

Academics Admissions & Aid Student Life Learning, Research & Innovation About UMR News & Events

YOUR FUTURE IS  
**POWERFUL**  
Preparing you for careers in health care with  
the knowledge to change the world.



# UMTC One Stop

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA ROCHESTER  
Driven to Discover™

MyU: For Students, Faculty, and Staff  
Custom Search

## ONE STOP STUDENT SERVICES - ROCHESTER

Menu

WELCOME TO  
**ONE STOP**

One Stop provides student information regarding registration, records, financial aid, billing, payment, and veterans benefits.

### IMPORTANT DATES

Sep. 1	September graduation application deadline for graduate and professional students (monthly clearances only)
Sep. 2	University closed (Labor Day)
Sep. 2	First billing statement for fall available (due date: 9/15/19)
Sep. 3	Fall first semester and first 7-week sessions begin
Sep. 3	\$50 late fee charged for initial registration during the first 14 days of term
Sep. 9	Last day to receive a 100% tuition refund for canceling full semester and first 7-week session classes

[View Full Calendar](#)

[1098-T tax](#) [Apply for financial](#) [View your financial](#)

<https://onestop.r.umn.edu/>

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<b>Annual Review</b>	+
<b>Courses</b>	+
<b>Academic Dates and Deadlines</b>	+
<b>Permission Numbers</b>	+
<b>Registration Information</b>	+
<b>Registration Options</b>	+
<b>Your University Internet Account</b>	+

# Full-time and Part-time

- Full-time students: 6 or more credits
  - Banded tuition: same tuition for 6-14 credits
  - Proof of health insurance required at registration
- Part-time students: 0-5 credits
  - Tuition: pay per credit
- Fees vary by credit
- Credits listed on class schedule
  - Auditing a course costs tuition
- All completion times in the Handbook are listed for full-time students
  - Adjust times if you are a part-time student

# Registration

- Students need to register every fall and spring
  - All registration through MyU
- Register **BEFORE** classes start to avoid late fees
- GRAD 999 (0 credits, no tuition)—not for students who need to be full time students, but especially for part-time students who need to take off a semester
- Advanced students (after completion of ALL requirements)
  - M.S. Students: BICB 8333 (1 credit, reduced tuition)
    - Special form; requires approval
  - Ph.D. Students: BICB 8444 (1 credit, reduced tuition)

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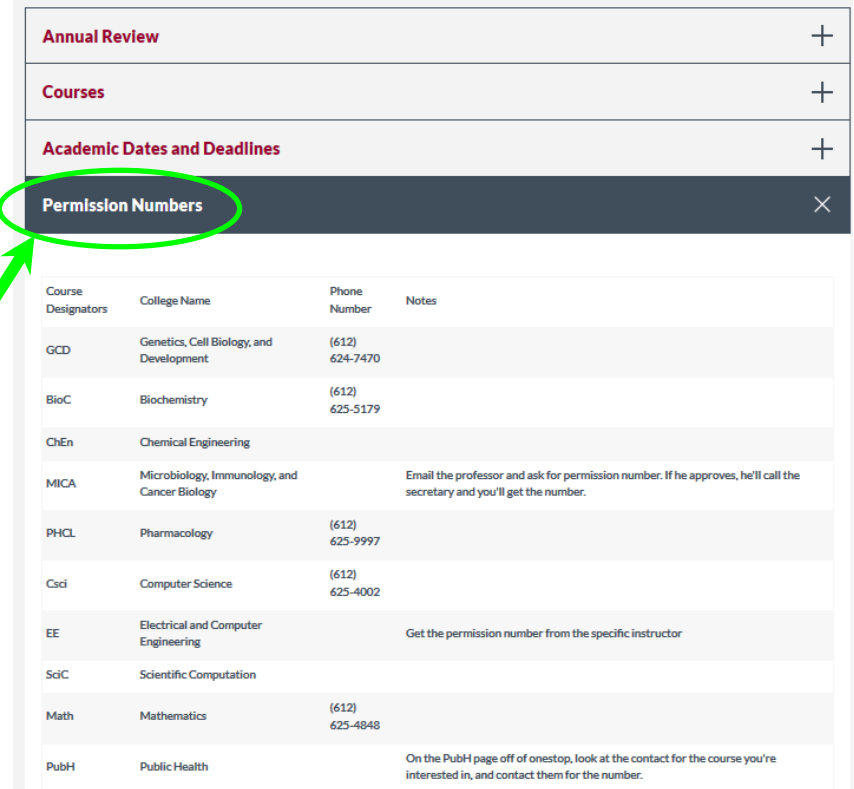
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<b>Your University Internet Account</b>	+

# Finding Courses

- BICB courses and other University of Minnesota courses are listed on the MyU website under Class Search
- Permission numbers are required for many graduate courses
  - BICB: DGS
  - Other courses



The screenshot shows a navigation menu with the following items:

- Annual Review (+)
- Courses (+)
- Academic Dates and Deadlines (+)
- Permission Numbers** (x)

The 'Permission Numbers' section is expanded, showing a table with the following data:

Course Designators	College Name	Phone Number	Notes
GCD	Genetics, Cell Biology, and Development	(612) 624-7470	
BioC	Biochemistry	(612) 625-5179	
ChEn	Chemical Engineering		
MICA	Microbiology, Immunology, and Cancer Biology		Email the professor and ask for permission number. If he approves, he'll call the secretary and you'll get the number.
PHCL	Pharmacology	(612) 625-9997	
Csci	Computer Science	(612) 625-4002	
EE	Electrical and Computer Engineering		Get the permission number from the specific instructor
SciC	Scientific Computation		
Math	Mathematics	(612) 625-4848	
PubH	Public Health		On the PubH page off of onestop, look at the contact for the course you're interested in, and contact them for the number.

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<b>Annual Review</b>	+
<b>Courses</b>	+
<b>Academic Dates and Deadlines</b>	+
<b>Permission Numbers</b>	+
<b>Registration Information</b>	+
<b>Registration Options</b>	+
<b>Your University Internet Account</b>	+

# Courses (not a complete list)

## Annual Review



## Courses



The BICB program is composed of courses that are mostly taught out of Twin Cities departments or Mayo Graduate School. These courses are divided into core and elective courses. Below is a list of courses. This list is not exhaustive. If you and your adviser identify a course that is not on the list but is essential for gaining competency in your area of specialty, contact the Director of Graduate Studies to find out which of the areas the course would fall under. Most BICB courses and seminars listed below are Pass/Fail (where applicable).

### DESCRIPTION OF BICB COURSES

#### Core Courses

1. BICB 8510 Computation and Biology (2 crs; up to 2 repetitions totaling up to 4.0 crs)  
This course will be taught in modular form and will provide first-year graduate students with an overview of topics in molecular biology and genetics; mathematics, statistics and biostatistics; programming in FORTRAN and C/C++; programming in Perl; data management; and data mining. The modules will be offered based on the needs of each incoming class of BICB graduate students.
2. BICB 8990 Seminar on Current Topics (1 crs; up to 4 repetitions totaling up to 4.0 crs)  
Sections in this seminar will vary depending on instructor.
3. BICB 8991 Independent Study (1-2 crs; up to 2 repetitions totaling up to 4.0 crs)  
This course may be used by graduate students for reading courses with appropriate faculty or to conduct other independent studies. Ph.D. graduate students may only register for this course prior to passing the preliminary oral exam. M.S. graduate students may register for this course at any time.

#### Elective Courses

1. BICB 8940 Education and Pedagogy Seminar (1 crs; up to 4 repetitions totaling up to 4.0 crs)  
This seminar will meet weekly in the fall semester. It will give students and faculty the opportunity to discuss effective teaching methods, advising methods, etc., with an emphasis on interdisciplinary training and training across multiple institutions.
2. BICB 8970 Leadership Seminar (1 cr; 2 repeats allowed)  
This leadership seminar will focus on clinical and translational research and entrepreneurship. It will meet every other year and will feature invited speakers who are involved in clinical and translational research.

#### Mayo Clinic Courses and UMTC MOT Courses

1. BICB 5620 Topics in Biomedical Informatics and Computational Biology (0.5-4 crs; up to 6 repetitions totaling up to 24.0 crs) Each section of this course corresponds to a Mayo Clinic 5xxx or 6xxx course. Contact DGS before enrolling.
2. BICB 8620 Topics in Biomedical Informatics and Computational Biology (0.5-4 crs; up to 6 repetitions totaling up to 24.0 crs)  
Each section of this course corresponds to a Mayo Clinic 8xxx course. Contact DGS before enrolling.
3. BICB 8670 Topics in Management of Technology (0.5-4.0 crs; up to 6 repetitions totaling up to 24.0 crs)  
Each section of this course corresponds to a MOT course. Contact DGS before enrolling.

Link to non-BICB courses frequently taken by BICB students:

<https://drive.google.com/open?id=1g2OZizUdGJroxUJ8IXctxGMKw6AXeJjV>



# Courses

- Core Areas

1. Biochemistry, molecular and cell biology
2. Database, data mining, and computing
3. Informatics, analysis, and machine learning
4. Mathematics, biostatistics, and statistics
5. Computational and systems biology

- Elective Courses

1. Biochemistry, molecular and cell biology
2. Informatics, database, data mining, and computing
3. Mathematics, biostatistics, statistics
4. Chemistry, chemical engineering, and physics
5. Biophysics and structural biology
6. Imaging, information theory, and signal processing
7. Computational chemistry, medicinal chemistry, and drug design
8. Clinical and translational sciences

# Courses

- BICB Courses
  - Offered via Zoom on both campuses
- UMTC courses
  - All are offered at UMTC
  - Some are offered through UNITE
    - INFORM DGS BEFORE YOU SIGN UP FOR A UNITE COURSE-- WE WILL COVER THE FEE FOR FULL-TIME STUDENTS
- Mayo Clinic Courses
  - Inform DGS which ones you'd like to take
  - DGS will help you register at Mayo Clinic
  - You register for appropriate section in BICB 5620 or 8620
  - If you work at Mayo, enroll as a non-degree student at Mayo (saves tuition)

# Career Development

- Ethics

- BICB 8401: Ethical Issues in Bioinformatics (Fall Semester)

- Public Health courses

- PUBH 6741

- PUBH 6742

- BIOC 8401

(Ethics requirement waived students taking ethics courses through other degree programs)

- Leadership and management

- BICB 8970 (Spring semester)

- PA 4190 Topics in Public and Nonprofit Leadership and Management (Fall semester)

# Master's Degree (Plan A and B)

- 30 credits
- Core 1 and one of Cores 2-5: at least 9 credits
- Electives: at least 5 credits
- Journal Club (BICB 8930, 2 sem), Colloquium (BICB 8920, 1 sem), Ethics (1 credit), Leadership (1 credit)
- Limit of one 4xxx level course
- Degree plan submitted prior to decision about Plan
  - Adviser required for submission
  - Plan A: 10 thesis credits (BICB 8777)
  - Plan B: additional courses, capstone
- Examining committee
  - One semester prior to intended graduation
  - Student initiates workflow
  - Approval by program

- Plan A:
  - Start research during first year
  - Pre-thesis seminar during second year
  - Finish thesis by the end of second year or middle of third year
  - Take final oral examination
- Plan B:
  - Write one to three synthesis papers or do small project with project report
  - Finish coursework and reports by end of second year
  - Take final oral examination

# Ph.D. Degree

- 1<sup>st</sup> year students: Meet with DGS and temporary advisor before first term starts to determine coursework (prerequisites and graduate courses)
- Degree advisor by end of first year
- Regular meetings with examining committee
- Degree program submitted prior to preliminary written exam
  - Adviser
  - 24 course credits
  - **24 thesis credits: can be taken prior to preliminary oral exam with permission of adviser**
  - Other requirements
- Form examining committee prior to preliminary written exam

- **Course Credits: 24 credits**
  - 12 credits in Core (Core Area 1 and at least two of the Core Areas 2-5); BICB is Core
  - Core courses are also elective courses
  - Limit of one 4xxx level course
  - We are open to suggestions of additional courses
- **24 thesis credits**
- **Minor in another field is possible**
- **BICB 8510**
  - Two semesters
- **BICB 8920 BICB Colloquium**
  - Two semesters
  - Do not count as Core or Elective courses
- **BICB 8930 Journal Club**
  - Four semesters
  - Do not count as Core or Elective courses

- Proposal Writing Seminar (1 cr)
  - 4<sup>th</sup> semester
  - Proposal (preliminary written examination) due by the end of 4<sup>th</sup> semester
  - Does not count as Core or Elective course
- Ethics (1 cr) and Leadership/Management (1 cr)
  - Count as Elective courses
- Internship/Lab rotation
  - Completed within the first 2-3 years
  - Equivalent to about 120 hours of industrial or clinical internships or lab rotations
  - Prior experience can be applied
- Pre-thesis seminar before preliminary oral examination
- Preliminary Oral Examination by the end of 5<sup>th</sup> semester



# Preliminary Written Examination

- BICB 8932 Proposal Writing Seminar (unless submitted earlier)
- Due by the end of 2<sup>nd</sup> year
- Written as a thesis proposal (about 12 pages)
- Significant step in formulating student's research questions and developing methods
- Early deadline will ensure feedback
- Evaluated by at least 3 BICB Grad Faculty, approved by BICB Grad Faculty
  - 2 examiners are from the examining committee

# Joint PhD/MS Degree

- Biomedical PhD program
- MS in BICB
  - Biology courses transfer
  - BICB seminars (2xBICB 8930, BICB 8920, BICB 8970; ethics from PhD program)
  - Computational courses as appropriate to do research
  - Typically Plan B



UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

## DEGREE COMPLETION STEPS

Doctor of Philosophy  
Doctor of Education

In order to receive your degree, the following procedures must be completed. You must maintain active student status by registering every fall and spring semester until your degree is awarded. All forms must be submitted to the Graduate Student Services and Progress (GSSP) office unless otherwise noted. Contact your graduate program office for program-specific requirements and deadlines.

### 1 Complete Graduate Degree Plan

Submit at least one semester prior to your preliminary oral exam

### 2 Assign members to preliminary oral exam committee

Complete at least one month prior to exam via [www.grad.umn.edu/students/forms/doctoral/index.html](http://www.grad.umn.edu/students/forms/doctoral/index.html)

### 3 Complete Preliminary Written Exam Report

Must be on file to be authorized to take preliminary oral exam

### 4 Schedule preliminary oral exam

Notify GSSP of scheduled exam at least one week in advance

### 5 Submit Preliminary Oral Report

Submit for your record to reflect doctoral candidacy

### 6 Assign members to doctoral final exam committee

Complete at least one month prior to exam via [www.grad.umn.edu/students/forms/doctoral/index.html](http://www.grad.umn.edu/students/forms/doctoral/index.html)

### 7 Request Graduation Packet

Packet will include the Graduate Application for Degree form and Reviewers' Report form. You can request it in person or online up to one semester before your doctoral final exam.

### 8 Schedule doctoral final exam

Notify GSSP of scheduled exam at least one week in advance

### 9 Submit Graduate Application for Degree

Submit to One Stop by the first business day of anticipated month of graduation

### 10 Submit Reviewers' Report

Submit prior to your defense

### 11 Submit Doctoral Final Exam Report

Submit no later than the last business day of anticipated month of graduation

### 12 Submit dissertation/project

Submit by the last business day of anticipated month of graduation. Consult Graduation Packet for formatting guidelines.

## DEGREE COMPLETION STEPS

Master's Plan A

In order to receive your degree, the following procedures must be completed. You must maintain active student status by registering every fall and spring semester until your degree is awarded. All forms must be submitted to the Graduate Student Services and Progress (GSSP) office unless otherwise noted. Contact your graduate program office for program-specific requirements and deadlines.

### 1 Complete Graduate Degree Plan

Submit at least one semester prior to anticipated graduation

### 2 Assign members to master's final exam committee

Complete at least one month prior to exam via [www.grad.umn.edu/students/forms/masters/index.html](http://www.grad.umn.edu/students/forms/masters/index.html)

### 3 Request Graduation Packet

Request the Graduate Application for Degree form, Reviewers' Report form. You can request it in person or online up to one semester before your master's final exam.

### 4 Submit Graduate Application for Degree

Submit to One Stop by the first business day of anticipated month of graduation

### 5 Submit Reviewers' Report

Submit prior to master's final exam to obtain the Final Examination Report form.

### 6 Submit Final Examination Report

Must be submitted no later than the last business day of anticipated month of graduation.

### 7 Submit Thesis

Submit by the last business day of anticipated month of graduation. Consult your Graduation Packet for formatting guidelines.

## DEGREE COMPLETION STEPS

Master's Plan B  
Master's Plan C

In order to receive your degree, the following procedures must be completed. You must maintain active student status by registering every fall and spring semester until your degree is awarded. All forms must be submitted to the Graduate Student Services and Progress (GSSP) office unless otherwise noted. Contact your graduate program office for program-specific requirements, deadlines, and to determine if your

### 1 Complete Graduate Degree Plan

Submit at least one semester prior to anticipated graduation

### 2 Assign members to master's final exam committee

Complete at least one month prior to exam via [www.grad.umn.edu/students/forms/masters/index.html](http://www.grad.umn.edu/students/forms/masters/index.html)

### 3 Request Graduation Packet

Request the Graduate Application for Degree form and the Final Examination Report form. You can request it in person or online up to one semester before your master's final exam.

### 4 Submit Graduate Application for Degree

Submit to One Stop by the first business day of anticipated month of graduation

### 5 Submit Final Examination Report/Final Report

Submit by the last business day of anticipated month of graduation

### Questions?

Contact the Graduate Student Services and Progress office (160 Williamson Hall)  
<http://www.grad.umn.edu/students/doctoral/index.html>

Stacia Madsen  
Degree Progress & Final Exams  
[gdoc@umn.edu](mailto:gdoc@umn.edu)  
Prelim Exams  
[gradssp@umn.edu](mailto:gradssp@umn.edu)  
612-625-0168

### Questions?

Contact Graduate Student Services and Progress office (316 Johnston Hall).  
[www.grad.umn.edu/students/masters/index.html](http://www.grad.umn.edu/students/masters/index.html)

Renaë Faunce  
Graduate Degree Plans & Committee Assignments  
[gscmte@umn.edu](mailto:gscmte@umn.edu)  
612-625-5833

Amber Cellotti  
Degree Progress & Completion  
[gsmast@umn.edu](mailto:gsmast@umn.edu)  
612-625-4019

### Questions?

Contact Student Services and Progress office (316 Johnston Hall).  
[www.grad.umn.edu/students/masters/index.html](http://www.grad.umn.edu/students/masters/index.html)

Renaë Faunce  
Graduate Degree Plans & Committee Assignments  
[gscmte@umn.edu](mailto:gscmte@umn.edu)  
612-625-5833

Amber Cellotti  
Degree Progress & Completion  
[gsmast@umn.edu](mailto:gsmast@umn.edu)  
612-625-4019

# The First Steps

- Program assigns adviser
- Students prepare degree plan with input from DGS
  - DGS approves/submits degree plan to graduate school
- Once approved, you assign committee members online
  - Adviser and program approval

# Graduate Student Services and Progress Office (GSSP)

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Academics ▾ Finances ▾ Personal information ▾ Dates and deadlines Forms How-to guides ▾ Contact us For faculty/staff

## Graduate Student Services and Progress (GSSP)

- [Degree completion steps](#)
- [GPAS](#)
- [Examination committees](#)
- [Doctoral oral exam scheduling](#)
- [Thesis/dissertation submission and formatting](#)
- [Contact GSSP](#)

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## Graduate Degree Plan (GDP) students

All students follow the Graduate Degree Plan degree completion steps, unless you fall into the GPAS categories above. You must submit your [Graduate Degree Plan form](#) at least one semester prior to your anticipated graduation. To update your degree plan, please complete the [graduate student petition form](#).



If you have questions about your degree completion steps or are unsure if you are a GPAS or GDP student, please [contact GSSP](#).

[Master's students](#) >

[Doctoral students](#) >

[Post-Baccalaureate and Specialist Certificate in Education students](#) >

## Years to degree completion

- For master's students, you have five calendar years to complete your degree according to the [master's degree: performance standards and progress policy](#) 
- For doctoral students, you have eight calendar years to complete your degree according to the [doctoral degree: performance standards and progress policy](#) 

Students admitted prior to spring 2013 adhere to a different set of policies. Please contact your graduate program or [GSSP](#) for more information.

If you need additional time for your degree, please complete the Doctoral or Master's [Request for Extension to the Maximum Time Limit form](#).

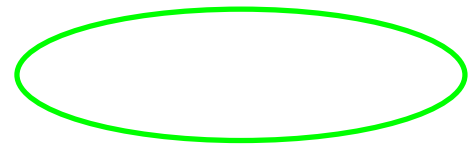
# Your Advisor(s) and Examining Committee

- Temporary advisor at arrival (DGS is default for M.S.)
- Degree advisor by the end of first year
  - Co-advising is encouraged for Ph.D. and M.S. (Plan A)
- Examining Committee
  - **Ph.D.**
    - Adviser and three additional members
      - At least three members, including the adviser, from the BICB program
    - Find committee members one semester prior to taking preliminary written exam
    - Meet regularly
  - **M.S.**
    - Adviser and two additional members
      - At least two members, including the adviser, from the BICB program
    - Plan A: Find committee members by the end of second semester
    - Plan B: Find committee members one semester prior to graduation
    - Meet regularly
  - One external member permitted

# Graduate Faculty

- To identify advisors and committee members go to [Graduate Faculty](#) on the Graduate Program Home Page
- <https://r.umn.edu/academics-research/graduate/bicb/people-and-committees/graduate-faculty>





# Bioinformatics and Computational Biology

## About BICB

### Major Objectives

Establish world-class academic and research programs at the University of Minnesota Rochester

Leverage the University of Minnesota's academic and research capabilities in partnership with Mayo Clinic, Hormel Institute, IBM, National Marrow Donor Program (NMDP), the Brain Sciences Center and other industry leaders

Build academic and research programs that complement southeast Minnesota's existing leadership roles in health sciences, biosciences, engineering and technology

Create academic and research programs that provide applications to economic activities via innovation, translational research, and clinical experiences

### Program Vision

The vision of the Bioinformatics and Computational Biology (BICB) program is to conduct research and provide education through the establishment of academic and research programs. All BICB academic and research programs collaborate among the University of Minnesota Rochester (UMR), the University of Minnesota Twin Cities (UMTC), Mayo Clinic, the Hormel Institute, IBM, National Marrow Donor Program (NMDP), and the Brain Sciences Center to advance informatics and computation and to support a strong life science industry in Minnesota.

### Program Background

BICB was established in 2007 as a result of legislative funding and support driven by the recommendations of the Governor of Minnesota's appointed Rochester Higher Education Development Committee (RHEDC). The committee recommended the collaborative development of an institution that focuses on health science, bioscience, engineering, and technology. This institution is the University of Minnesota Rochester.

## Current News

### BICB Orientation

BICB students and faculty are invited to attend one of the upcoming, annual orientations:

Twin Cities Campus: Tuesday, August 27, 2019, 4:00-5:30,

Walter Library, Room 404

Rochester Campus: Wednesday, August 28, 2019, 4:00-5:30,

University Square, Room 415

Refreshments will be provided.

[PROGRAM DESCRIPTION >](#)

[DEGREE PROGRAMS >](#)

[PEOPLE & COMMITTEES >](#)

[STUDENT HANDBOOK >](#)

[BICB CONTACTS >](#)

# People & Committees

The University of Minnesota Rochester Bioinformatics and Computational Biology (BICB) graduate program is a collaborative academic and research program drawing upon the unique strength of southeast Minnesota and the University of Minnesota in health sciences, biosciences, engineering, and technology. The administrative home is located on the Rochester campus of the University of Minnesota.

Currently, the following institutions and departments are actively participating in the BICB graduate program and research initiatives:

- Cray Inc.
- Hormel Institute
- IBM
- Mayo Clinic
- National Marrow Donor Program (NMDP)
- University of Minnesota Rochester
- University of Minnesota Twin Cities Participating Departments and Divisions
  - Animal Science
  - Biochemistry, Molecular Biology and Biophysics
  - Biostatistics
  - Chemistry
  - Chemical Engineering and Materials Science
  - Computer Science and Engineering
  - Dentistry
  - Electrical and Computer Engineering
  - Genetics, Cell Biology and Development
  - Linguistics
  - Mathematics
  - Nursing
  - Pathology
  - Pharmacy
  - Plant Biological Sciences
  - Psychiatry
  - Psychology
  - Supercomputing Institute

**FACULTY AND ADVISORY  
COMMITTEE**



**GRADUATE PROGRAM  
STEERING COMMITTEE**



**GRADUATE FACULTY**



# Graduate Faculty

The graduate faculty of the BICB graduate program comes from eight institutions (University of Minnesota including Hormel Institute; Cray Inc.; IBM; Mayo Clinic; National Marrow Donor Program; Brain Sciences Center).

- University of Minnesota Faculty
- Mayo Clinic Faculty
- IBM Faculty
- National Marrow Donor Program (NMDP) Faculty
- Brain Sciences Center
- Other Affiliated Faculty

**FACULTY RESPONSIBILITIES >**

<b>University of Minnesota Faculty</b>	+
<b>Mayo Clinic</b>	+
<b>IBM</b>	+
<b>National Marrow Donor Program (NMDP)</b>	+
<b>Brain Sciences Center</b>	+
<b>Other Affiliated Faculty</b>	+

# Roles and Responsibilities of Graduate Faculty

## Graduate Faculty

The graduate faculty of the BICB graduate program comes from eight institutions (University of Minnesota including Hormel Institute; Cray Inc.; IBM; Mayo Clinic; National Marrow Donor Program; Brain Sciences Center).

- University of Minnesota Faculty
- Mayo Clinic Faculty
- IBM Faculty
- National Marrow Donor Program (NMDP) Faculty
- Brain Sciences Center
- Other Affiliated Faculty

**FACULTY RESPONSIBILITIES >**



- To read about roles and responsibilities of graduate faculty, go to Roles and Responsibilities of Graduate Faculty

# Graduate Student Services and Progress Office (GSSP)

The screenshot shows the University of Minnesota One Stop Student Services website. The header includes the University of Minnesota logo and name, the slogan "Driven to Discover™", and a search bar. The main navigation bar lists various services: Academics, Finances, Personal information, Dates and deadlines, Forms, How-to guides, Contact us, and For faculty/staff. The main content area is titled "Graduate Student Services and Progress (GSSP)" and features six blue rectangular buttons arranged in a 2x3 grid. The buttons are labeled: "Degree completion steps", "GPAS", "Examination committees" (highlighted with a green oval), "Doctoral oral exam scheduling", "Thesis/dissertation submission and formatting", and "Contact GSSP".

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## Graduate Degree Plan (GDP) students

All students follow the Graduate Degree Plan degree completion steps, unless you fall into the GPAS categories above. You must submit your [Graduate Degree Plan form](#) at least one semester prior to your anticipated graduation. To update your degree plan, please complete the [graduate student petition form](#).

If you have questions about your degree completion steps or are unsure if you are a GPAS or GDP student, please [contact GSSP](#).

[Master's students](#) >

[Doctoral students](#) >

[Post-Baccalaureate and Specialist Certificate in Education students](#) >

## Years to degree completion

- For master's students, you have five calendar years to complete your degree according to the [master's degree: performance standards and progress policy](#) [↗](#).
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Students admitted prior to spring 2013 adhere to a different set of policies. Please contact your graduate program or [GSSP](#) for more information.

If you need additional time for your degree, please complete the Doctoral or Master's [Request for Extension to the Maximum Time Limit form](#).

## Committee policies

[Master's final examination committee](#) >

[Doctoral prelim and final oral examination committees](#) >

[Specialist examination committee](#) >

[Post-baccalaureate certificate students](#) >

## External committee members

Occasionally, there is not sufficient expertise among the faculty to examine your work with a very narrow or specific research focus. In these instances, the college may consider a request for an expert outside the University of Minnesota to serve as a member of your examining committee. If interested, discuss the possibility of including an external committee member on your examining committee with your advisor or Director of Graduate Studies (DGS).

The college or graduate program provides you with the ID number for approved external committee members. This ID number is entered when you complete the committee assignment form.

## Update an advisor

Updates to an advisor should be submitted at least one month prior to any examination to allow time for processing and changes to the record.

- To request an update to your advisor (or co-advisor) of record, contact your graduate program staff.
  - You will be sent a confirmation email upon approval.
  - After receiving confirmation of your advisor change, please be sure to update any examination committees on record using the appropriate link from **step 4** in the instructions above.



**LIBRARY**


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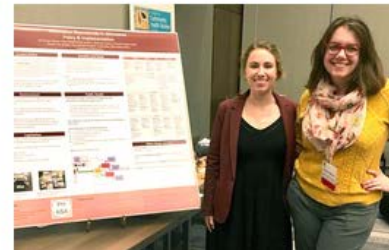
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Raising their voices  
U of M researchers aim to improve learning by helping youth tell their stories. [Read more on Youth Story Squad](#)





# Search UMN Twin Cities

libraries

**Web** People Directory

Campus: Twin Cities

About 228,000 results (0.25 seconds)

Sort by: Relevance

## University of Minnesota **Libraries**

<https://www.lib.umn.edu/>

The University of Minnesota **Libraries** is the **library** system of the University of Minnesota Twin Cities campus, operating at 13 facilities in and around ...

## Research Data Services · University of Minnesota **Libraries**

<https://www.lib.umn.edu/datamanagement>

Find and access data. We can help you find and access **library** purchased datasets and databases. Image of instructor in computer lab ...

## Minnesota Institute for Early Career Librarians

<https://www.lib.umn.edu/sed/institute>

The Institute focuses on the development of **library** leaders from diverse backgrounds. Participants will develop specific leadership abilities proven to be ...

## Publishing Services · University of Minnesota **Libraries**

<https://www.lib.umn.edu/publishing>

## People Search Results

### Libraries Instruction (Friend)

Library Data & Technology  
instr012@umn.edu

### Digital Library Services (Department)

Department  
dls@umn.edu

### Libraries LRC Electronic Reference Service

(Department)  
Department

### Libraries LRC Tape Copying Service (Department)

Department

### Libraries Staff Development and Training (Department)

Department



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**Wilson Library**

 West Bank  
 Today: 8:00 a.m.–8:00 p.m.  
[more Wilson hours](#)



**Bio-Medical Library**

 East Bank  
 Today: 7:00 a.m.–9:00 p.m.  
[more Bio-Medical hours](#)

## All libraries & locations

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Databases A-Z

E-Journal titles

### Highly-used databases

Academic Search Premier

Google Scholar

JSTOR

PsycINFO

PubMed

Web of Science

### Services for...

Undergraduate students

Graduate students

Faculty & instructors

University staff

Friends of the Library

Public visitors & alumni



### Study spaces

Reserve spaces for group study.



### My Account

View your account activity & Library Course Pages.



### Interlibrary Loan

Request materials from non U of M Libraries.



### Course reserves

Access articles & books for classes.



### Resources by subject

Get started with these recommendations.



### Tutoring

Peer help with research, writing, & media projects.

# General tips for BICB students

- Be sure to register early for classes each semester as they can fill up!
- Register Fall and Spring semester to remain an active student (GRAD999 if you've completed course requirements)
- Complete your annual evaluation each year
- Set clear timelines for academic milestones-- hold yourself to them
- Reach out to us early if you have any issues during your graduate career-- we are here to help!

# Transition from an Undergraduate to a Graduate Student

- Still a lot of coursework, but we will not tell you everything you need to know - study materials that are not assigned
- Become an independent learner (read, read and read!!!)
- Project management and time management
- Attend seminars, workshops, symposiums, conferences
- Establish a social and professional network with your colleagues
- Get help with writing: Center for Writing, writing seminars and workshops - Use them! (write, write and write)

# Working Professionals/Full-time Parent or Caregiver

- Finances (tuition reimbursement program / Regents scholarship etc.)
  - Flat tuition rate for 6 - 14 credits (full-time student)
- Establish achievable goals
- Time management – schedule study times on weekends and evenings
- Develop a timeline to complete “your” milestones
- Rusty study skills - a myth



# 10 ways to fail graduate school

- Focus on grades or coursework
- Learn too much
- Expect perfection
- Procrastinate
- Go rogue too soon/too late
- Treat graduate school like school *or* work
- Aim too low
- Aim too high
- Ignore the committee
- Miss the real milestones

# Administrative Contacts

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