

Knight Campus Graduate Internship Program Student Handbook: Bioinformatics Track

Summer 2021

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Knight Campus Graduate Internship Program Overview

The Knight Campus Graduate Internship Program, herein referred to the *program*, is part of the Phil and Penny Knight Campus for Accelerating Scientific Impact, a \$1 billion initiative designed to fast-track scientific discoveries into innovations, products, or cures to improve the quality of life for people in Oregon and throughout the world.

Founded in 1998, the program trains students in the real-world knowledge and skills necessary to be successful in the industrial environment. We believe an advanced degree should not only provide rigorous academic training but also help students land a job and prepare for a successful career.

The program has five tracks focused in life science (*Bioinformatics & Genomics*) and materials science (*Photovoltaic & Semiconductor Device Processing, Polymer Science, Optical Materials & Devices, and Molecular Sensors*).

Statement of Inclusion

The program is committed to creating an inclusive environment where all individuals can excel. Students are encouraged to explore the resources available on campus through the Division of Equity and Inclusion: <https://inclusion.uoregon.edu/>. As stated in the UO Mission statement, the program is committed to “the principles of equality of opportunity and freedom from unfair discrimination for all members of the university community and an acceptance of true diversity as an affirmation of individual identity within a welcoming community.”

Inclusion Workshop Series and Inclusion Symposium

The program hosts optional weekly workshops during the summer term. The workshops empower students with the foundational knowledge necessary to be inclusive team members and future inclusive leaders, while concurrently promoting a sense of belonging for fellow students.

An inclusive environment is one in which individuals of all walks of life (of all genders, sexual orientations, races, ethnicities, cultures, age, abilities, economic status, religions and citizenships) are free to express who they are, feel respected, are treated fairly, can fully participate in work and social activities without fear of abuse, harassment, discrimination, or unfair criticism.

The workshop series typically culminates in the Inclusion Symposium in Portland in August which features senior industry and alumni panels. Students may attend if they meet the weekly workshop attendance requirement.

Safety

The program strives to provide an exceptional educational experience, which includes exposure to laboratory practices, interdisciplinary methods, and safety practices. If a student feels uncomfortable or inadequately trained to handle an environmental hazard or lab task, the

student should immediately consult with an instructor and/or TA. Safety should be thought of in relation to the self, colleagues, lab mates, and equipment. A large part of the training in this program is how to be an effective scientist while preventing avoidable problems. Making technical mistakes is part of the learning process; however, students will be taught basic and advanced best practices over the course of the program to minimize mistakes.

Advising

General course requirements, academic, and professional advising are provided by program staff. Staff will initiate meetings throughout a student's time in the program. Students are highly encouraged to make appointments with staff to take full advantage of their professional and technical expertise.

Professional Development

The program offers several activities to promote the professional development and corporate visibility of its students. These activities are available to students enrolled in Professional Communication in Science. This course is P/NP. Examples of activities that are accessible to those enrolled in the Professional Communication in Science course include guest seminars, one-on-one professional development mentoring, inclusion meetings, mock interviews, networking events and virtual in-person introductions to partners.

Partner-facing events (i.e. in-person and virtual introductions) have 4 additional requirements:

- Good academic standing (≥ 3.00 GPA)
- No infractions of the UO Student Conduct Code:
<https://studentlife.uoregon.edu/conduct>
- Permission for program staff to serve as reference via UO's Student Reference Request Form: <https://registrar.uoregon.edu/files/pdf/StudentReferenceRequestForm.pdf>
- Satisfactory performance in the Professional Communication in Science course

If a student fails to meet any of these requirements but would like to be considered for future professional development activities, a plan detailing necessary remediation actions and timeline to meet professional conduct standards may be created with the program director Stacey Wagner (Bioinformatics Track) and, when necessary, additional staff or faculty. Upon successful completion of the remediation plan, a student may be eligible to participate in extracurricular professional development activities.

Internships

In alignment with the program's goal to provide hands-on, experiential training, students complete 30 internship credits as part of their degree requirements. Historically, the program has a 98% graduation rate, which indicates the high level of success in which students have completed internships. While the program provides support in identification of an internship through the professional development coursework, it is ultimately the responsibility of the student to secure an internship that fulfills degree requirements.

Employment Classification

For simplicity, the program uses the term “internship” to describe the employment classification of students fulfilling the 30-credit hands-on, experiential learning portion of the program. However, students may fulfill their degree requirements through a variety of employment classifications (intern, co-op, contractor, temporary employee, full-time employee, etc.). The classification describes how an organization views the terms of employment (e.g. duration, benefits) with the employee. The majority of students who fulfill their degree requirements through program-facilitated introductions are hired as interns or contractors.

Students may be converted to a full-time employee before completion of their degree. This does not impact the student’s standing in the program.

Program-facilitated Internship Identification

The majority of students identify an internship through program-facilitated introductions which occur through a variety of means including guest seminars, workshops, networking events, and conferences. When an on-campus, large scale event is not possible, alternative methods for providing partner introductions will be arranged. The Bioinformatics & Genomics track students participate in the program’s *Genomics in Action Conference and Interview Event* in late January/early February. Requirements and expectations for participation in this event, as well as other partner-facing events, are detailed in the Professional Development (BI 610) syllabus.

Student-identified Internships

Students may independently identify and accept an employment opportunity that fulfills the internship credit requirements. To ensure the internship meets the program’s requirements, students must consult with their program director before accepting a position.

Credit Load (or Duration)

While interning, students typically enroll in 10 internship credits per term. If an internship starts midway through a term, or the student is employed less than 35 hours per week, the student should consult with a program staff member for guidance on the proper number of internship credits to enroll in. Internship credits cannot be taken in advance of core coursework.

Term Papers

In order to document successful progression of technical knowledge, either a research paper summarizing internship projects or a technical literature review relevant to the internship is submitted each term a student is registered for internship credit. Term paper requirements are provided by the instructor of record (typically the track lead) for internship credits. Internship credits are taken P/NP. Failure to meet term paper requirements may lead to a “No Pass” for the term. Papers that describe work conducted during an internship may have to be approved by the company’s legal department prior to submission. Students should be proactive in understanding the timeline for employer approval and proactively work with the instructor if an issue arises.

Evaluation

Students will have an opportunity to provide formal internship feedback to the program about halfway through their internship. The program will also formally evaluate the student intern with their supervisor(s) during a separate meeting. Evaluations serve to facilitate a successful internship experience and troubleshoot potential issues. These evaluations may occur in person, or by video/phone call. Status changes that affect student interns (e.g. supervisor changes) should be communicated to the program. Students are encouraged to maintain communication with the program during their internship.

Level of work/responsibility

Student interns should be expected to work at the MS level and comparable to that of a regular employee with similar technical skills and experience.

Tuition & Fees

Tuition

For students enrolling in Summer 2021, tuition for core courses and internship credits will be offered at a rate of \$575/credit for the 2021/22 academic year. Tuition and fees are subject to change each academic year. Credits offered through the Graduate Internship Program are the same rate for Oregon resident and non-resident students.

Tuition must be paid in full before a student can register for the following term. *Students must be registered by the "Last Day to add a class/process initial registration" to be in good standing with the program.* For a full list of registration and drop/add dates, refer to the academic calendars found at: <https://registrar.uoregon.edu/calendars/academic/five-year>.

Students who have financial aid awards will not receive their awards until their registration forms are processed.

Fees

Students pay the standard student fees for terms in which they are enrolled in any on-campus classes. Students pay reduced fees for terms in which they are exclusively enrolled in off-campus courses (i.e. internship credits). *Accurate fee assessment requires students to inform in graduate internship program staff of their official internship start date.* Fees are subject to change annually (reset each academic year at the start of fall term).

Matriculation Fee: All new students must pay a one-time matriculation fee the term they enter the UO (currently \$449.35 - this is subject to change).

For specific fee amounts, visit the registrar at <https://registrar.uoregon.edu/costs/tuition-fees/>
For information about financial aid, please contact the aid office at <http://financialaid.uoregon.edu> or 1-800-760-6953 / 541-346-3221.

Coursework

GPA Requirements

Students must have a cumulative GPA of 3.00 or above and complete 60 credits (Bioinformatics track) (see table 1). Transfer credits do not affect overall GPA at the UO.

Table 1: Summary of different credit scenarios by track. For Scenario 2, “Research” denotes on-campus research with a UO faculty member. This option is possible but uncommon. Number of credits in parenthesis.

Term	Bioinformatics Track	
	Scenario 1	Scenario 2
Summer	Core Courses (12)	
Fall	Core Courses (9) Optional Elective (4)	
Winter	Core Courses (9) Optional Elective (4)	
Spring	Internship (10)	Research (10)
Summer 2	Internship (10)	
Fall 2	Internship (10)	

Number of Required Credits: 60

Grades below a C- do not count for graduate credit but are used to calculate overall GPA. If a student’s GPA drops below a 3.0 at any time during graduate study, or if a student accumulates more than 5 credits of NP or F grades (regardless of GPA), it is considered unsatisfactory and the student may be disqualified from the program and the graduate school, terminating the student’s degree program. Note that some internship opportunities require students to have a higher GPA.

Removal of Incompletes

Graduate School policy requires that graduate students must convert a graduate course grade of Incomplete (“I”) into a passing grade within one calendar year of the term the course was taken. After one year, the student must petition the Graduate School for removal.

To be eligible for Graduate school approval on a [Petition to Remove an Incomplete](#), all of the following criteria must be met:

1. The incomplete must be no more than seven years old.
2. The student must have the approval of the instructor to complete the outstanding course requirement.
3. The student must not have completed a terminal advanced degree since the term of enrollment in the course. Incompletes that remain on the academic record after a degree has been awarded may not be removed. All coursework documented on the transcript at the time of the awarding of a degree stands as a permanent record and it is not permissible to revise the record.

Consult the grad school website for a full overview of graduate grade requirements:

<https://gradschool.uoregon.edu/academics/policies/general/grades-incompletes>

Bioinformatics Coursework

Required Courses

There are 60 total credits: 30 coursework credits and 30 internship credits (see Table 4). The curriculum is sequential and interconnected. Students are required to demonstrate satisfactory academic progress in all course work (*see GPA requirements*).

Table 4. Core Bioinformatics Coursework

Term	Number	Name	Credits
Summer	Bi 621	Computational Methods in Genomic Analysis	4 graded
	Bi 622	Genomics Techniques	4 graded
	Bi 623	Topics in Genomic Analysis	4 graded
Fall	Bi 624	Genomics Research Lab	4 graded
	Bi 610	Advanced Biological Statistics I	4 graded
	Bi 610	Professional Communication in Science I	1 P/NP
Winter	Bi 625	Advanced Genomic Analysis	4 graded
	Bi 610	Advanced Biological Statistics II	4 graded
	Bi 610	Professional Communication in Science II	1 P/NP
Internship (3 terms)	Bi 601	Research Internship	10 P/NP
	Bi 601	Research Internship	10 P/NP
	Bi 601	Research Internship	10 P/NP
Total required credits			60

Elective Courses

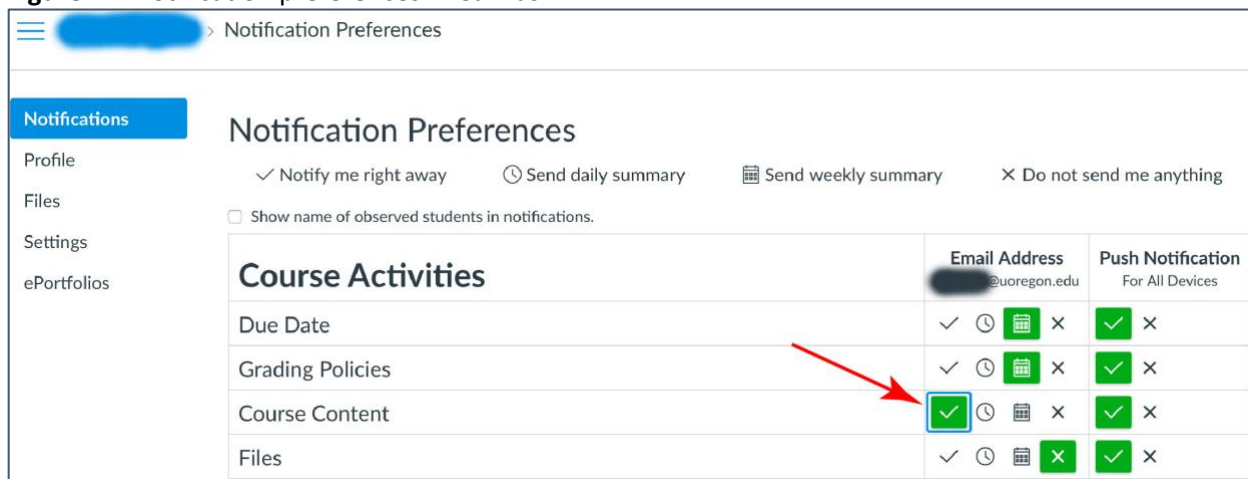
In addition to the core courses, students may choose to complete elective course credits, outside of summer term. Electives do not need to be within the major or at the graduate level. Courses within CIS, Biology, Chemistry, or Math may be of interest. Program staff may advise students on which courses to take based on academic and career interests and goals.

Communication during internships

Students are expected to maintain contact with Bioinformatics staff during their internship using UO email, Canvas, and Slack. If a student is not regularly checking UO email, they need to forward it to an email that is checked regularly (instructions here: <https://service.uoregon.edu/TDClient/KB/ArticleDet?ID=30799>).

Students may continue forwarding UO email after graduation: (<https://service.uoregon.edu/TDClient/KB/ArticleDet?ID=52976>). To avoid missing assignment deadlines, students should turn on their Canvas Notification Preferences for Course Content (see Figure 1).

Figure 1 – Notification preferences in Canvas



Important Information for all Tracks

Registration

To register for core coursework on DuckWeb, students will need course registration numbers (CRNs). CRNs for summer courses and internship credits will be provided by the program via students' UO email addresses each term. They are *not* listed in the general course list for the university and thus **cannot be found by searching the class list online**. Once a student has the CRNs, they can input them into the class list on DuckWeb. Students should register by the end of the first week of classes each term to remain in good program standing.

To register for variable credit courses (internships) a student must register for 1 credit and then *change* to 10 (see instructions below), or the desired number of credits as discussed with program staff.

Students who register or change their number of credits after the deadline *will be assessed a fee and require an approval from the department and program to register*. For a full list of registration and drop/add dates, refer to the academic calendars found at: <https://registrar.uoregon.edu/calendars/academic>. It is the student's responsibility to check and adhere to these deadlines.

Remote Learning Resources

The University of Oregon wants to make sure students feel supported during this time. We have compiled a list of resources that students can access while we are online learning. Available within is link are guides to student support services, technology resources, remote classes, student Health Center, and a campus directory: <https://remote.uoregon.edu/>

Course content will not be shared outside of class including Zoom Recordings of lectures and discussions, Panopto Sessions, etc.).

Recording Restrictions

In an effort to protect privacy and freedom of expression, students may not record classes, meetings, or events without advance written consent of the instructor, staff, or classmate leading the class, meeting, or event. If permissible, recordings may only be used by the student for study purposes and may not be distributed. If a student has received permission, other students in the session will be notified in advance. Failure to comply with this policy is considered a violation of the student conduct code and may result in disciplinary action.

Books

Books are loaned to students. Program staff will coordinate the expected return date before the student departs for their internship. If a book is lost or damaged, it should be immediately reported to the course instructor. Students are responsible for replacing damaged or lost books.

Other Information

ID Cards

Once a student arrives on campus, a Student ID card must be requested through the UO Card Office (typically during a scavenger hunt orientation week). A photo may be provided in advance if preferred: <http://uocard.uoregon.edu/>

UO Student Conduct Code

The UO student conduct code applies to all students in the program. Students will be asked to confirm they have read and understood the student conduct code before the first week of coursework. The full conduct code may be found at: <https://studentlife.uoregon.edu/conduct>.

During Orientation/PD week the program will provide supplemental training on paraphrasing and attributing work, which is intended to help students avoid plagiarism. Specifically, students should be familiar with correct citations and attribution of published work, including how to provide appropriate information for websites, figures and images. Students will be able to identify patchwork plagiarism, when and how to use quotes in scientific writing and how to cite sources. Students may refer to the slides provided from Orientation/PD week for examples and are encouraged to ask if they have questions.

While students are encouraged to work together on assignments and coding projects, submitted code must be their own work. Instructors may check for code similarities between students and may check against common code sources.

Accessibility

The UO is working to create inclusive learning environments. Please notify the program if there are aspects of the program design that result in disability related barriers to participation. For more information, please contact the Accessible Education Center in 360 Oregon Hall, (541)346-1155 or uoaec@uoregon.edu.

Program Probationary Warnings and Dismissal

Students who fail to meet department, program, or university requirements, or students who are not making satisfactory progress towards their MS degree, are subject to probationary warnings and/or dismissal.

Prior to dismissal, a program staff member and the Faculty Advisory Committee (FAC) will establish whether a probationary warning will be provided or if immediate dismissal is warranted. While the former is recommended, serious infractions may lead to immediate dismissal. The FAC is a group composed of UO faculty who ensure program alignment with broader departmental and university goals and initiatives.

If a warning is issued, the student will be placed on probation and the FAC will establish the necessary actions required for the student to be reinstated to good standing. Failure to meet the necessary actions provided by the FAC within the established time frame will result in dismissal from the program.

Drug Use Warning

While marijuana is legal in the state of Oregon, it is not legal federally. Many of our partners conduct mandatory drug screening for all of their employees. Students who plan on participating in partner-facing activities that could lead to employment should be able to pass drug screening. Drug screening/tests are standard across industry and national labs, occurring *at the time of offer* and sometimes repeated upon start of employment.

Graduation Requirements

To graduate, students must *APPLY to the Graduate School in the first two weeks of the term in which all required credits are completed*. The application and deadlines can be found on the graduate school website: <http://gradschool.uoregon.edu/>.

To ensure eligibility to graduate, please review the following graduate school requirements:

1. Continuous Enrollment Requirement.

Graduate students are required to be continuously enrolled for a minimum of 3 graduate credits until all requirements have been completed (excluding summer term).

Any term in which a student is not enrolled for **UO credit**, a leave of absence request is required by the grad school and will need to be approved by the department:

<https://gradschool.uoregon.edu/policies-procedures/leave>. For example, if a student

enrolls at another university while not enrolled for internship credit the student must fill out the leave of absence request form and submit it to the grad school.

A leave of absence request should be sent to:

Bioinformatics Track: Stacey Wagner, sdwagner@uoregon.edu

2. Waiver of Enrollment in Term of Completion.

The UO requires registration in the term a degree is awarded. There is an exception for students in the program who are completing elective courses at another institution in the term they will graduate.

If a student is not enrolled at the UO in the term of completion for any *other* reason than that stated above, students should submit a *General Petition* with the grad school requesting a “waiver of enrollment in the term of completion,” and explain why they are not enrolled at the UO. There is a \$15 fee for the general petition (subject to change).

<https://gradschool.uoregon.edu/academics/forms>

3. Beware of the 7-year time-to-completion limit.

The graduate school requires graduate students to complete their degree within seven years, beginning with the term of admission. This date is adjusted back in time if a student transfers graduate credits that were earned before the date of admission.

4. Degree Requirements

Degree requirements are based on the program, departmental and university requirements for the year the student enrolled in the Internship Program.

Bioinformatics track: Notify Leslie Coonrod that you have applied to graduate.

Graduation Ceremonies

To participate in **graduation ceremonies**, notify:

Biology: Ingrid Newman, 541-346-6052, ingridk@uoregon.edu

Students are advised to consult the graduate school website for a complete description of university requirements for the master’s degree: gradschool.uoregon.edu

Emergency Resources

UO Emergency Numbers

Student Crisis Line (eve./wknd.)	541-346-3227
University Health Center	541-346-2770
Emergency (Campus Only)	541-346-6666
University Police	911

SAFE Hotline 541-346-7233

Community Emergency Numbers

Eugene Police Department 911

White Bird Clinic (24 Hour crisis) 541-687-4000

CAHOOTS 541-682-5111

Sexual Assault Support Crisis Line 541-484-9791

Womenspace Help Line 541-485-6513

UO Student Safety Numbers

Safe Ride 541-346-7433

UOPD Safety Escorts 541-346-2919

UO Police Non-Emergency 541-346-2919

Sign Up for the UO Alert System:

<https://safety.uoregon.edu/uo-alerts>

If you have information that a student is at risk for suicide, has attempted suicide, or has been hospitalized for an attempt, please file a Suicide Report Immediately.

The UO Suicide Assessment Team reviews and acts upon all Suicide Report forms that are filed:

https://cm.maxient.com/reportingform.php?UnivofOregon&layout_id=1