Bachelors of Science in Health Informatics (BSHI)

Mission

The 2+2+1 concept allows students to begin coursework at the Associate level at a participating community college, transfer that coursework into a Bachelor's in Health Informatics to GSU, and then ultimately apply that coursework toward a Master's in Health Informatics. The 2+2+1 Master of Science in Health Informatics (MSHI) program seeks to provide students at Governors State University (GSU) with a complete education in understanding the role of informatics (i.e. the application of technological devices, resources, methods/techniques) in transforming the healthcare delivery field. This program is designed to assist students in developing their academic and professional skills through their general education experiences at GSU or the local Community Colleges; through upper-division and graduate courses at GSU; and through opportunities to participate in civic engagement.

The [College of Health and Human Services](#) undergraduate major in Health Informatics is a program devoted to understanding how information technology (IT) can be used to transform the way that healthcare is delivered. It influences patients, providers, payers, policy-makers, and technology vendors. The health informatics program's central academic objectives are:

- Academic Objective 1: To enable students to understand the inter-relationships between information technology and healthcare services delivery, and the ways in which they mutually influence and transform each other.
- Academic Objective 2: To provide students with technical skills necessary to succeed in an entry-level health informatics role.

The curriculum is structured as follows:

Year 1 is heavily centered on the GSU themes related to the cohorts of civic engagement, global citizenship and sustainability. Students will choose appropriate courses based on their interests and input from their academic advisors. From the standpoint of the BSHI degree, during the first year students will take the healthcare vocabularies course.

Year 2 entails more courses centered on the GSU themes and several health informatics courses including an introduction to health informatics, healthcare organization and administration, statistics, introduction to computer literacy and a finance course. These courses chiefly address Academic Objectives 1 and 2.

Year 3 contains courses in healthcare operations management, health information technology / systems analysis and design, economics, clinical foundations, health IT

standards, project management, healthcare ethics, statistics and healthcare information systems. These courses address Academic Objectives 1 and 2.

Year 4 contains courses in human computer interaction, networks and database technology, health IT leadership, concepts of research methods, knowledge management, IT security, legal issues in technology and a capstone course. These courses address Academic Objectives 1 and 2.

In the GSU design a student can earn: 1) a Bachelor of Science in Health Informatics at the end of year 4, and then complete 2) a Master of Health Informatics at the end of year 5. A total of 123 credit hours are required for the BS in Health Informatics degree. For completion of the MS in Health Informatics degree a total of 155 credit hours are required (123 BS + 32 MS).

Admission Requirements

Persons may be eligible for admissions as undergraduate degree seeking first year students if they meet all Governos State University's undergraduate admissions criteria, in additional the following must be met:

1. Have earned a high school diploma or equivalent.
2. Have a minimum 2.75 GPA on a 4.0 scale.
3. Provide an official score report of a minimum ACT composite score of 18 or SAT equivalent.
4. Submit a personal letter of application articulating their interest in pursuing the health informatics degree.
5. Have satisfied any collegial and/or major criteria, if applicable, for undergraduate study in a specific major.
6. Conditional admission will be determined on a case-by-case basis. Conditions may include, but are not limited to, successful completion of Early Start sessions.

Undergraduate transfer students may be entered into the program if they meet the requirements in the university's standard admission policy. Students will be able to transfer credits up to the equivalent of the first 2 years of the program. Students with an AAS degree wishing to enter the BSHI program in year 3 will need to have completed the following courses (or equivalent) for a minimum of 33 credit hours prior to entry into the BSHI program:

- Healthcare Organization
- Healthcare Vocabularies
- Introduction to Computer Literacy
- Healthcare Operations Management
- Healthcare Information Technology and Systems Analysis & Design
- College mathematics (including algebra)

- Economics
- Basic Finance
- College level written communications
- College level oral communications
- Statistics I

Program Outcomes

Upon completion of the program students are expected to:

1. Have knowledge to access health data, use it to describe current performance and apply it to healthcare organizations to forecast trends and patterns to improve operations.
2. Develop leadership and change management skills.
3. Explain the conceptual models of healthcare informatics and how they are used in healthcare organizations to transform care.
4. Demonstrate the capacity to make sound and ethical decisions related to healthcare informatics.
5. Gain insight into the resources needed to optimize the use of information technology in areas of healthcare research and clinical services delivery.
6. Be eligible for entry-level administrative / coordinator positions in healthcare delivery systems, consulting firms, governmental organizations and research organizations.

General Education Requirements (37-38 Hours)

The GE requirements are completed during Year 1 and 2 of college - either at Governors State University or a partnering Community College. At GSU the General Education Coursework is taken as part of a themed cohort. The General Education requirements include completing the following courses distribution with a grade of "C" or better in each course and a total of 37-38 semester hours:

- Communication: three courses including two courses in written communications (6 semester hours) and one course in oral communications(3 semester hours);
- Mathematics: one course (3 semester hours);
- Physical and Life Science three to four courses (7 to 8 semester hours) with one course selected from the life sciences, one course from the physical sciences, and at least one laboratory course;
- Humanities and Fine Arts: First Year Seminar (3 semester hours), one additional course in the humanities (3 semester hours), and one course in the fine arts (3 semester hours); and

- Social and Behavioral Sciences: Three courses (9 semester hours) from at least two disciplines.

Completed during Year 3 and 4 within the major 6 semester hours:

- A Junior Seminar course within the major (HLAD - 3099 Ethics in Healthcare Admin (3))
- A Senior Capstone/Internship course (HLAD-5099 Health Informatics Capstone - 3 semester hours)

Health Informatics Core Courses (67 Hours)

- HLAD - 3102 Principles of Healthcare Microeconomics (3)
- HLAD - 3103 Basics of Healthcare Informatics (3)
- HLAD - 3104 Healthcare Statistics (3)
- HLAD - 3099 Ethis in Healthcare Administration (3)
- HLAD - 3201 Healthcare Vocabularies (3)
- HLAD - 3202 Healthcare Operations Management (3)
- CPSC - 2005 Introduction to Computer Technology (3)
- HLAD - 7110 Healthcare Financial Management (3)
- HLAD - 3203 Health Information Technology and Systems Analysis and Design (3)
- HLAD - 5103 Introduction to Managed Care (3)
- HLAD - 4110 Health IT Standards (3)
- IT - 3310 Information Technology Project Management (3)
- HLAD - 4111 Healthcare Information Systems (3)
- HLAD - 4112 Healthcare Statistics II (3)
- HLAD - 5105 Human Computer Interaction (3)
- CPSC - 6712 IT Networks (1)
- HLAD - 7106 Database Design and Administration of Healthcare System (3)
- *Or* MIS - 7401 Database Development and Application (3)
- HLAD - 7105 Applied Research Methods for Health Administration (3)
- HLAD - 5104 Health IT Leadership (3)
- CPSC - 6790 Data Mining and Business Intelligence (3)
- CPSC - 6581 Information Security Policy and Management (3)
- *Or* MIS - 6801 Information Security Policy and Management (3)
- HLAD - 6101 Legal Issues in Health Technology (3)
- HLAD - 6102 Issues in Health IT Seminar (3)

Electives (12 Hours)

One elective must include a 3 semester hour Basic Finance course; additional 9 hours of elective credit may come from HLAD or CPSC courses.

Total - 123 Hours