Molecular Biophysics Training Program at Northwestern University

Participating Pre-Doctoral Graduate Programs
DGP, IBiS, Chemistry, Chemical & Biological Engineering, 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 structural biology workshop, and an elective.

Core Courses:
1. Choose one of: IBiS Molecular Biophysics (IBiS 401; Sp16), DGP Structural Basis of Signal Transduction (DGP 466; W16, max 6 seats), DGP Macromolecular Structure and Function (DGP 465; Sp17)
2. Biophysical Methods (IBiS 409; W16)
3. Quantitative Biology (IBiS 410; F15)

Ethics Course:
Choose one of: Ethics in Biological Research (IBiS 423; Sp16), Colloquium on Integrity in Biomedical Research (DGP 494; F15), Responsible Conduct of Research Training (GEN ENG 519; F15, W16, Sp16)

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

Structural Biology Workshop: 3-day summer workshop covering NMR, crystallography, & cryoEM (Su15, Su17)

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 Tuesday, 12:30 PM, Pancoe 4103
Trainee meetings with the Steering Committee and Mentors describing their research progress

Annual Biophysics Symposium – Third Wednesday 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: http://www.biophysics.northwestern.edu/ for more information