Molecular Biophysics Training Program at Northwestern University

**Participating Pre-Doctoral Graduate Programs**


**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
- **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](http://www.molecularbiophysics.com) for more information and contact Abby Mattson with any questions.