Temerty Medicine

Medical Biophysics MSc, PhD



The Department of Medical Biophysics offers interdisciplinary research-focused graduate studies at both the Masters (MSc) and PhD level. Focusing on basic and translational research, we offer students a diverse and highly integrated modular curriculum which reflects the increasing specialization in biomedical science. Our rotation system is a key feature of our training that allows newly admitted students to experience 3 different labs before deciding on a "best fit" thesis lab. This allows students to explore the breadth and depth of the research conducted and find the ideal learning environment to succeed.

Cancer research remains our principal focus, followed by cardiovascular disease and neuroscience. We bring together researchers from diverse scientific areas, who work on multidisciplinary projects. In our labs, you will find faculty and students with backgrounds in molecular and cell biology, physiology, biochemistry, chemistry, physics, mathematics, engineering, computer science and beyond. The department stresses an interdisciplinary approach to medical research, which is the hallmark of Medical Biophysics.





Master of Science (MSc)

In addition to completing a thesis, students take 2.5 FCE*: MBP 1015Y (Biomedical Seminar, 1.0 FCE), MBP 1200H (Scientific Exposition and Ethics, 0.25 FCE), MBP 1201H (Biostatistics, 0.25 FCE), 0.25 FCE in biology-related course and 0.75 FCE in electives. Students successfully finish this program in 2 years.



Doctor of Philosophy (PhD)

In addition to conducting independent and original research that will form their thesis, students take 3.5 FCE: MBP 1015Y (Biomedical Seminar, 1.0 FCE), MBP 1200H (Scientific Exposition and Ethics, 0.25 FCE), MBP 1201H (Biostatistics, 0.25 FCE), 0.25 FCE in a biology-related course and 1.75 FCE in electives. Typically, students successfully complete this program within 6 years.

^{*} Full course equivalent. A typical 0.5 FCE is over one term (13 weeks), meeting 1-2 times per week. A typical 1.0 FCE is over two terms (26 weeks), meeting 1-2 times per week.

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Potential career paths

In 2016, the School of Graduate Studies (SGS) tracked the career outcomes of 10,000 PhD students who graduated from the University of Toronto between 2000 to 2015. Below are some career trajectories of alumni from the PhD program in Medical Biophysics (n = 331).



Tenure Stream Faculty 9.9%



Postdoctoral Fellowship 12.7%



Biotechnology/ Pharmaceuticals 18.4%







Banking, Finance and Investment 3.3%

Application Deadlines

Prospective MSc and PhD students can apply to either application cycle (i.e., Round 1, 2 or 3) for Fall 2024 admissions.

ADMISSION DEADLINE

November 10, 2023 January 8, 2024 March 15, 2024

WHEN TO EXPECT DECISIONS

January 2024 March 2024 May 2024

By the numbers

230

130

11

number of MSc and PhD graduate students number of graduate faculty

number of research sites

How to Apply: medbio.utoronto.ca Email: medbio.info@utoronto.ca **Alumni profile**

Dr. Hui Guo, PhD Graduated 2022

My name is Hui Guo and I am a postdoctoral fellow at the Max Planck Institute of Biochemistry in Germany.

During my PhD, I developed an interest in research and decided to pursue a career as an independent researcher. In the PhD program, I received extensive training in designing, conducting and communicating my research. These skills allowed me to pursue further training as a postdoctoral fellow in my current institution and will remain useful in my career down the road.

For new graduate students, the most important thing in graduate school is to find a lab with a supportive supervisor and lab mates. Suggestions from your supervisor and peers are essential to help you stay on the right track and avoid pitfalls.

Additionally, as once suggested to me by my PhD supervisor: focus on doing good science and the rest will follow. Whatever your eventual goal might be, a solid MSc or PhD can be a plus. Try to be patient and enjoy the process!