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Alejandra Pena-Brunet MSHI student

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Healthcare is growing, technology is advancing, and government is funding incentives resulting in the need for health informatics professionals. Timeless informatics skills are increasingly valued in careers across healthcare, with consulting firms, health and technology vendors, government agencies, associations, and universities.

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2012

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■ MASTER OF SCIENCE IN HEALTH INFORMATICS ⌐

Faculty Advisor: Linda Travis Macomber; lmacomber@nu.edu; (858) 309-3495

As healthcare makes dramatic strides to adopt new information and communication technologies, there is a growing demand for health informatics professionals. This rapidly-developing field is only beginning to unlock the vast promise of using electronic-based information to advance healthcare and ultimately improve the health of individuals and populations. The MS in Health Informatics is a graduate professional degree designed to enhance the practice of health informatics by preparing students for career growth to mid-level and leadership positions within healthcare organizations, technology, and consulting firms. This program is intended for students interested in the effective use of information technologies and systems to improve the quality, safety, efficiency, and affordability of healthcare.

The MS Health Informatics program leverages the rich collective strengths, synergies, faculty, and resources of National University Center for Technology and Health Sciences and the Schools of Health and Human Services, Engineering and Technology, and Business and Management. Program study includes coursework related to:

1) Information Systems - leadership and management of healthcare applications; including analysis, design, adoption, and optimization
2) Information Technology - effective use of database and systems administration, computer networks, security, programming, and wireless devices
3) Informatics - the structured language of healthcare, standards, data structures, health information exchange, decision support, care coordination, consumer health, socio-technical aspects of health computing, human-computer interaction, and evidenced-based practice

Along with a broad understanding of health and human services, technology, information systems, leadership, and the culture of healthcare, students apply health informatics knowledge through experiential learning opportunities with case studies, research, simulations, and a capstone project. Graduates are prepared for various roles related to leveraging technology to enhance the collection, communication, exchange, aggregation, analysis, and use of information across the healthcare ecosystem.

Program Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this program, students will be able to:
- Evaluate the healthcare delivery system in the US and the impact of social, cultural, political, economic, and environmental factors affecting the management and operation of healthcare organizations.
- Evaluate health data management standards, technologies and methods to improve the quality, efficiency, equity and safety of healthcare practice and organization.
- Develop policies and technologies to protect data integrity and validity, including information privacy and security policies and procedures.
- Develop strategies for improving healthcare delivery and achieving institutional strategic initiatives using information systems and technologies.
- Evaluate leadership principles and practices in health information technology staff development, technology adoption and change management in a healthcare organization.
- Evaluate a healthcare organization's processes and systems to ensure compliance with ethical, legal and regulatory mandates and professional standards of health information technology.
- Apply statistical and research methodologies to implement evidence-based health information technology management practice and healthcare quality improvement.
- Communicate knowledge of health information systems and technology to stakeholders of the healthcare ecosystem.

Degree Requirements
(12 courses; 54 quarter units)

To receive a MS in Health Informatics degree; students must complete at least 54 quarter units of graduate work. A total of 13.5 quarter units of graduate credit may be granted for equivalent graduate work completed at another institution, as it applies to this degree and provided the units were not used in earning another advanced degree. Refer to the section on graduate admissions requirements for specific information regarding application and evaluation.

Core Requirements
(11 courses; 49.5 quarter units)

HCA 600	U.S. Healthcare System
HCA 626	Healthcare Information Systems
HTM 520	Health Information Exchange
HTM 552	EHR Meaningful Use
CIS 601	Information Systems Strategies
COH 602	Biostatistics
HCA 622	Quality Appraisal & Evaluation
HTM 660	System Management and Planning
COH 611	Public Health Research Methods
	Prerequisite: COH 606
HTM 680	Health Informatics Case Study
	Prerequisite: HCA 600, HTM 660, CIS 601, HTM 520, HTM 552, COH 611, HCA 622, HCA 626
HTM 692	Health Informatics Capstone
	Prerequisite: HTM 680, HCA 600, HTM 520, HTM 660, HCA 622, COH 611, HCA 626, HTM 552, CIS 601

Program Elective
(1 course 4.5 quarter units)

LED 604	Leading Change and Adaptation
COH 613	Public Health Informatics
	Prerequisite: COH 606
HCA 663	Healthcare Accounting/Finance
CIS 604	Management and Security
	Prerequisite: CIS 601
CIS 606	End User Information Systems
	Prerequisite: CIS 601