



BIOS DUAL BSPH –MS DEGREE

This dual BSPH/MS program identifies a coherent course of study for students to complete some of the MS degree requirements in Biostatistics while pursuing a BSPH Biostatistics degree in accordance with University guidelines. Thus some students may complete the MS degree in a shorter time than the usual two years.

- **Students must complete all degree requirement for both degrees**, including 36 hours of coursework as an MS.
- Students in the Dual Degree program can transfer in up to 12 hours of approved credit from courses taken while an undergraduate (compare to the usual 30% of 36= 10 hours for students not in the Dual Degree program)
- Coursework taken in the BSPH Biostatistics program exempts students from needing to retake those courses during the MS program regardless of whether the hours transfer in (for any student including Dual Degree students).
- Students in the Dual Degree (as well as any BSPH Biostatistics student) have increased flexibility to fulfill the 36 hours since they have taken required courses while still an undergraduate.
- Students formally apply about nine months before entry into MS degree but should seek guidance in their sophomore year for course planning and advising.

Who may be a good fit for this program?

Students who:

- are sure early (by their sophomore year) they want a terminal MS in biostatistics at UNC-CH
- prefer to devote much of their undergraduate career to a single discipline (biostatistics)
- have a great deal of AP credit entering UNC-CH

Who may not be a good fit?

Students who:

- plan to double major or do a senior honors project
- who want to explore other disciplines or concentrate on another discipline more depth (like math) in preparation for a PhD
- students who plan to apply straight to a PhD program after undergrad
- value a graduate degree from a different university from their own undergrad school

Sample BSPH/MS Program with BSPH Graduation after 4 Years

YEAR 1-2	<p><u>Years 1 and 2</u> Prereq courses:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Complete or receive by exam credit for the majority of General College requirements in Freshman and Sophomore year. Complete three semester calculus sequence (MATH 231, 232, 233) in Freshman and Sophomore year. Complete BIOL 101 and 101L, CHEM 101 (recommended), COMP 110 or 116 <p>AND BSPH required courses:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Complete MATH 381 (Discrete Math) AND MATH 347 (3) Complete BIOL 201 (or 202) <p><i>[Apply to BSPH in Biostatistics Program]</i></p>	
YEAR 3	<p><u>Fall 3</u> BIOS 511 (4) BIOS 500H (3) BIOS 650 (4) SPHG 351 (3)</p>	<p><u>Spring 3</u> BIOS 645 (3) SPHG 352 (3) MATH 521 (3) EPI 600 (3)</p> <p><i>[Apply to Dual Degree Program preferably here or Fall 4 at that latest. If accepted receive "permission to plan"]</i></p>
YEAR 4	<p><u>Fall 4</u> <i>BIOS 660 (3)</i> <i>BIOS 662 (4)</i> BIOS 691 (1) Other courses (3+)</p>	<p><u>Spring 4</u> MAY BSPH Graduation <i>BIOS 661 (3)</i> <i>BIOS 663 (4)</i> BIOS 664 (4) BIOS 668 (3)</p> <p>(prepare for qualifying exams in late summer of 4th year)</p>
YEAR 5	<p><u>Fall 5</u> Enter MS Program Designation <i>BIOS 667 (3)</i> Electives (6) not necessarily biostat (<i>BIOS 665</i> recommended) <i>BIOS 843 (1)</i></p> <p>TOTAL HRS: 10</p>	<p><u>Spring 5</u> <i>BIOS 680 (3)</i> <i>BIOS 992 (3)</i> <i>BIOS 841 (3)</i> <i>BIOS 843 (1)</i></p> <p>TOTAL HRS: 10</p>
YEAR 6	<p><u>Fall 6</u> Electives (6) not necessarily in biostat (Can optionally take more coursework to maintain full time status)</p> <p>TOTAL HRS: 6</p>	

- Recommended before Fall 4, to prepare for BIOS 660/661: Math 521, MATH 383 (Diff Eqns), MATH 535 (crosslisted as STOR 435), MATH 548.
 - BSPH Requirements remain unchanged including the requirement to complete 120 hours exclusive to the degree. So no coursework being transferred into the MS program (such as *BIOS 660/661/663*) would count toward the 120 hour undergraduate requirement.
 - Courses in purple italics above (*BIOS 660/661/663*) are not required for BSPH degree and thus hours from these courses can be transferred to MS degree.
 - Bold Courses** are courses that fulfill a MS requirement and/or "count towards" the MS degree.
 - All sample plans have one thing in common: MS Core Courses (**Bios 660/661/662/663**) in fourth year
- Hours in MS: 26 hours (Total Hrs while in MS designation)
+ 10 hours (transferred taken while in undergrad program (BIOS 660, 661, and 663) but not required for BSPH)

= 36 Hours towards MS

<More details and sample plans are available from the Biostatistics Director of Undergraduate Studies>