

BIOMEDICAL COMMUNICATIONS (HBSc)

Department of Biology

Biomedical Communications explores the visualization of bioscience knowledge for diverse audiences. The minor in Biomedical Communications is for students interested in interdisciplinary studies in health, science and visual communication. Enrolment and completion of the program requires concurrent enrolment in a science major plus an additional minor, or a science specialist program.

Most BMC minor courses emphasize visual or media-based communication of bioscience topics, and careful consideration of target audience characteristics and needs.

UTM Biology is a dynamic community. With nearly 40 active research scientists, more than one hundred graduate students and many post-doctoral fellows doing state-of-the-art research using the latest techniques, our students will have the opportunity to learn from the best. Our undergraduate research projects and summer student placements in research labs will give students valuable, first-hand experience working in a laboratory environment.

MAKE THE MOST OF YOUR TIME AT UTM!

We want to help you maximize your university experience, so we've pulled together information and interesting suggestions to get you started, although there are many more! As you review the chart on the inside pages, note that many of the suggestions need not be restricted to the year they are mentioned. In fact, activities such as joining an academic society, engaging with faculty and seeking opportunities to gain experience should occur in each year of your study at UTM. Read through the chart and create your own plan using **My Program Plan** found at www.utm.utoronto.ca/program-plans

Programs of Study (POSt)

- Minor Program ERMIN0840 Biomedical Communications (Science)

Check out...

Have you always wanted to try three-dimensional digital forensic facial reconstruction? Human facial anatomy, traditional reconstruction techniques, and the use of 3D animation software are the core areas of study in HSC405. Using this knowledge, students reconstruct the facial identity of an individual known only from cranial skeletal remains.

What can I do with my degree?

The career you choose will depend on your experience and interests. Visit the Career Centre to explore your career options.

Careers for graduates: Medical Illustrator, Technical writer; Art Administrator; Health Promotion and Wellness Coordinator; Medical Website Marketing Director; Health Care Administrator; Medical Imaging Technical; Consultant.

Workplaces: Media and animation companies; Hospital media departments; Pharmaceutical companies; Government agencies; Advertising agencies; Science centres, Museums



BIOMEDICAL COMMUNICATIONS

MINOR Program Plan

HOW TO USE THIS PROGRAM PLAN

Read through each year. Investigate what appeals to you here and in any other Program Plans that apply to you.

Visit www.utm.utoronto.ca/program-plans to create your own plan using [My Program Plan](#). Update your plan yearly.



	1 ST YEAR	2 ND YEAR
PLAN YOUR ACADEMICS*	<p>Enroll in BIO152H5 & BIO153H5.</p> <p>Choose a program of study (Subject POST) once you complete 4.0 credits. Use the Degree Explorer and the Academic Calendar to plan your degree. The Biomedical Communications Minor will be requested at the end of the second year, after completing HSC200H5.</p> <p>Develop foundational academic skills and strategies by enrolling in a utmONE course.</p>	<p>Complete HSC200.</p> <p>Use the Degree Explorer and the Academic Calendar to ensure you complete your degree and program requirements.</p> <p>Build community and gain academic support through LAUNCH. Join a RGASC Peer Facilitated Study Group (FSG).</p>
BUILD SKILLS	<p>Use the Co-Curricular Record (CCR). Search for opportunities beyond the class room, and keep track of your accomplishments.</p> <p>Attend the Get Hired Fair through the Career Centre (CC) to learn about on- and off-campus opportunities.</p> <p>Attend the Experiential Education Fair.</p>	<p>Apply for the Research Opportunity Program (ROP) courses BIO299Y and BIO399Y. Attend the RGASC's PART to enhance your research skills.</p> <p>Use the Career & Co-Curricular Learning Network (CLNx) to find postings for on- and off-campus work and volunteer opportunities as well as Work-Study.</p>
BUILD A NETWORK	<p>Networking simply means talking to people and developing relationships with them. Start by joining the Erindale Biology Society (EBS). Follow them @ utmEBS. Go to the EBS Meet the Prof Night, or the Biology department's Walk a Biologist or the Biology Seminar Series.</p> <p>Visit the UTM Library Reference Desk.</p>	<p>Do you have a professor you want to connect with? Ask them a question during office hours. Discuss an assignment. Go over lecture material. Don't be shy! Learn Tips On How to Approach a Professor available through the Experiential Education Unit (EEU).</p>
BUILD A GLOBAL MINDSET	<p>Engage with the many programs offered by the International Education Centre (IEC), whether you are an international or domestic student. Consider joining the Canada Eh? day trips or English Language Conversation Circles to deepen your global mindset.</p> <p>First-year international students can also take advantage of THRIVE'IN, a one-day conference dedicated to helping you start your UTM journey successfully.</p>	<p>Participate in International Education Week and engage in programs like Global and Intercultural Fluency Training Series (GIFTS) to build on your leadership and communication skills in global citizenship.</p> <p>Learn about and prepare for a future UTM Abroad Experience through the IEC to strengthen and enhance your intercultural skill set, and learn about other cultures while sharing your own!</p>
PLAN FOR YOUR FUTURE	<p>Speak to the Biology Undergraduate Advisor for biology program advice and details.</p> <p>Attend the Program Selection & Career Options workshop offered by the Office of the Registrar and the CC.</p> <p>Check out Careers by Major at the CC to see potential career options.</p>	<p>Explore careers through the CC's Job Shadow Program.</p> <p>Considering further education? Attend the CC's Graduate & Professional Schools Fair. Talk to professors – they are potential mentors and references for further education. Consider the Master of Biomedical Communication at UTM as a possible graduate program.</p>

*Consult the Academic Calendar for greater detail on course requirements, program notes and degree requirements.

3 RD YEAR	4 TH OR FINAL YEAR
<p>Complete 2.5 CR from the following: HSC300H5/ HSC301H5/ HSC302H5/HSC307H5/HSC401H5/HSC402H5/HSC404H5/ HSC405H5/HSC406H5.</p> <p>Students can also choose to complete 4th year courses this year if they have completed the prerequisites.</p> <p>See the Office of the Registrar about degree requirements and the Biology Undergraduate Advisor about program requirements.</p>	<p>Continue to work on your 2.5 CR requirement for this program. Ensure you have completed at least 1.0 HSC at the 400 level.</p> <p>Complete 1.0 credits from the following: HSC401H5/ HSC402H5/ HSC403H5/ HSC404H5/ HSC405H5/ HSC406H5.</p> <p>Log on to ACORN and request graduation.</p>
<p>Learn basic graphic and multimedia design theory, and skills required to create effective scientific posters and oral-visual presentations in HSC307H5.</p> <p>Explore your interest. Apply to become a Wellness Ambassador at the Health & Counselling Centre.</p>	<p>Consider volunteering in your community through the Community Leadership Development Program and gain CCR credit.</p> <p>Learn to think critically about health and science research, interpret complex or contentious evidence from the medical literature, and produce in-depth health information documents in a range of formats in HSC406H5.</p>
<p>Establish a professional presence on social media (e.g. LinkedIn).</p> <p>Curious about grad school? Connect with a grad student through the CSE's Grad Connect program to get the inside scoop.</p>	<p>Join a professional association. Check out the BioCommunications Association (BCA), Association of Medical Illustrators (AMI) and Canadian Association of Professional Image Creators.</p>
<p>Consider completing a BIO399Y5 project with a Faculty member in Biology.</p> <p>Earn credits overseas! Apply to study for a summer term, or year at one of 170+ universities. Speak to the IEC for details about Course Based Exchange, funding and travel safety. Attend Global Learning Week to learn about the various opportunities available to you!</p>	<p>Engage in programs like ISTEP and THRIVE to support your transition out of the University!</p>
<p>What's your next step after undergrad?</p> <p>Entering the workforce? Evaluate your career options through a CC Career Counselling appointment. Create a job search strategy — book a CC Employment Strategiest appointment.</p> <p>Considering further education? Research application requirements, prepare for admission tests (LSAT, MCAT), and research funding options (OGS, NSERC, CIHR)</p>	<p>Market your skills to employers. Get your resume critiqued at the CC. Attend the CC workshop Now That I'm Graduating What's Next?</p> <p>Write a strong application for further education. Attend the CC's Mastering the Personal Statement workshop.</p> <p>Ready to transition from the classroom to the workplace? Check out the Recent Graduate Opportunities Program (RGOP).</p>

Revised on: 10/05/2023

Visit www.utm.utoronto.ca/program-plans for the online version and links.

BIOMEDICAL COMMUNICATIONS

Skills developed in Biomedical Communications

To be competitive in the job market, it is essential that you can explain your skills to an employer. Visit the Career Centre to learn how to articulate and market the following skills:

Communication & interpersonal: write scientific reports; present research findings; interact professionally with a multidisciplinary team of researchers, technicians, students and professors; and literacy writing.

Research: collect and preserve field organisms; dissect preserved or euthanized specimen; inspect specimens; and analyze and evaluate information.

Technical: use specialized computer programs; perform laboratory procedures; maintain laboratory equipment and instrumentation; and comply with quality control procedures.

Quantitative: analyze data for trends and apply statistical tests to data.

Critical thinking & problem-solving: logically interpret trends and results.

Get involved

Check out the 100+ student organizations on campus. Here are a few:

- Erindale Biology Society (EBS)
- UTM Student Union (UTMSU)
- UTM Athletics Council (UTMAC)

For a full listing of clubs on campus visit the **Student Groups and Societies Directory**

Services that support you

- **Accessibility Centre (AS)**
- **Career Centre (CC)**
- **Centre for Student Engagement (CSE)**
- **Equity, Diversity & Inclusion Office (EDIO)**
- **Experiential Education Unit (EEU)**
- **Health & Counselling Centre (HCC)**
- **Indigenous Centre (IC)**
- **International Education Centre (IEC)**
- **Office of the Registrar (OR)**
- **Recreation, Athletics and Wellness Centre (RAWC)**
- **Robert Gillespie Academic Skills Centre (RGASC)**
- **UTM Library, Hazel McCallion Academic Learning Centre (HMALC)**

Department of Biology

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FUTURE STUDENTS

Admission to UTM

All program areas require an Ontario Secondary School Diploma, or equivalent, with six Grade 12 U/M courses, or equivalent, including English. The admission average is calculated with English plus the next best five courses. The Grade 12 prerequisites for this program are Advanced Functions, Biology and Chemistry. The approximate average required for admission is low- to mid-80s. More information is available at utm.utoronto.ca/viewbook.

NOTE: During the application process, applicants will select the Life Sciences admissions category, but will not officially be admitted to a formal program of study (Specialist, Major, and/or Minor) until after first year.

Sneak Peek

Have you wondered about the visual representation of forensic demonstrative evidence in Canadian courtrooms? HSC403 explores Forensic anthropology, biology and visual communication theory in new media which develops visual problem solving skills and critical analysis of visualizations.

How are digital learning environments evaluated? HSC402 focuses on the design, development and evaluation of biology and health sciences education through learning management systems, simulations, tutorials, games and more. HSC402 looks into the theory behind emerging communications technologies and its application through prototype design.

Student Recruitment & Admissions

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Mississauga ON Canada L5L 1C6

905-828-5400

www.utm.utoronto.ca/future-students

