**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 seventy 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.

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**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

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**Programs of Study (POSt)**

- Minor Program ERMIN0840 Biomedical Communications (Science)

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**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.

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**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**

**1ST YEAR**

- Enroll in BIO152 & BIO153.
- Choose a program of study (Subject POS) once you complete 4.0 credits. Use the Degree Explorer and the Academic Calendar to plan your degree.
- Develop foundational academic skills and strategies by enrolling in a uOttawa course. Build community and gain academic support through LAUNCH. Join a RGASC Peer Facilitated Study Group.

**2ND YEAR**

- Complete HSC200.
- Students who plan to complete HSC402/HSC403/HSC404/HSC405 should complete the 2nd year prerequisites. Students can also choose to complete courses from the 3rd year list that are offered in the winter term.
- Use the Degree Explorer and the Academic Calendar to ensure you complete your degree and program requirements.

**3RD YEAR**

- Complete 1.0 CR from the following: HSC300/HSC301/HSC302/HSC307.
- Students can also choose to complete 4th year courses this year if they have completed the prerequisites.
- Throughout your undergraduate degree:
  - see the Office of the Registrar about degree requirements and the Biology Undergraduate Advisor about program requirements.

**4TH OR FINAL YEAR**

- Complete 1.5 credits from the following: HSC401/HSC402/HSC403/HSC404/HSC405/HSC406.
- Conduct a research project under the supervision of a faculty member through BIO481Y5. Speak to the Biology Undergraduate Advisor for advice and details.

**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](http://www.utm.utoronto.ca/program-plans) to create your own plan using My Program Plan. Update your plan yearly.

**PLAN YOUR ACADEMICS**

**FUTURE SKILLS**

**FOR YOUR PLAN**

**BUILD A GLOBAL MINDSET**

**BUILD A NETWORK**

**BUILD SKILLS**

**PLAN FOR YOUR FUTURE**

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

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**1ST YEAR**

- Join a RGASC Peer Launch course. Build community and gain enrolling in a course.
- Develop foundational academic skills and strategies by enrolling in a uOttawa course. Build community and gain academic support through LAUNCH. Join a RGASC Peer Facilitated Study Group.

**2ND YEAR**

- Use the Co-Curricular Record (CCR). Search for opportunities beyond the class room, and keep track of your accomplishments.
- Attend the Get Experience Fair through the Career Centre (CC) to learn about on- and off-campus opportunities.

**3RD YEAR**

- Networking simply means talking to people and developing relationships with them. Start by joining the Erindale Biology Society (EBS). Follow them on Twitter and the Biology department’s Walk with your Professor. Visit the UTM Library Reference Desk.
- Attend events held by the International Education Centre (IEC), whether you are an international or domestic student. Explore your culture and other cultures through weekly/regular conversations, Language Conversation Circles, debates, and activities to enhance your global and intercultural mindset.
- Engage in programs like the Global and Intercultural Fluency Training Series (GIFTS) to strengthen and enhance your intercultural skill set, and learn about other cultures while sharing your own.

**4TH OR FINAL YEAR**

- Get a global experience through our Biology Seminar Series. Every Friday during the academic year, the Department of Biology hosts an exciting seminar given by a guest speaker. Guest speakers are from Ontario, across Canada, as well as International. Topics cover every aspect of biology. All Biology students are welcome to attend.
- Do you want to study dolphin and whale biology and conservation in tropical Asia, or the ecology of the Arctic? Enrol in BIO416H5 to choose from a variety of field courses offered through the Ontario Universities Program in Field Biology.

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**COMMENTS**

- Students who plan to complete HSC402/HSC403/HSC404/HSC405 should complete the 2nd year prerequisites. Students can also choose to complete courses from the 3rd year list that are offered in the winter term.
- Use the Degree Explorer and the Academic Calendar to ensure you complete your degree and program requirements.
- Learn techniques biologists use in the field! Use field ornithology techniques in BIO326H5, and observe and analyze animal behaviour in BIO318Y5. Speak to the Biology Undergraduate Advisor.
- Explore your interests. Become a Wellness Ambassador with the Health & Counselling Centre’s Physical Health team.
- Establish a professional presence on social media (e.g. LinkedIn).
- Curious about grad school? Connect with a grad student through the CSE’s Grad Connect program to get the inside scoop.
- Get a global experience through our Biology Seminar Series. Every Friday during the academic year, the Department of Biology hosts an exciting seminar given by a guest speaker. Guest speakers are from Ontario, across Canada, as well as International. Topics cover every aspect of biology. All Biology students are welcome to attend.
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**REVIEWED ON:** Revised on 3/17/2022

**Visit** [www.utm.utoronto.ca/program-plans](http://www.utm.utoronto.ca/program-plans) for the online version and links.
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.

Services that support you

- Accessibility Services (AS)
- Career Centre (CC)
- Centre for Student Engagement (CSE)
- 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)

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 listing of clubs on campus visit [www.utm.utoronto.ca/clubs](http://www.utm.utoronto.ca/clubs).

Department of Biology

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[www.utm.utoronto.ca/biology](http://www.utm.utoronto.ca/biology)

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](http://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

Innovation Complex, Room 1270
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3359 Mississauga Rd
Mississauga ON Canada L5L 1C6

905-828-5400
[www.utm.utoronto.ca/future-students](http://www.utm.utoronto.ca/future-students)