**BIOENGINEERING, PHD**

for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy in Bioengineering

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director of graduate studies: Gregory Underhill (bodony@illinois.edu)
overview of admissions & requirements: [https://bioengineering.illinois.edu/admissions/graduate/](https://bioengineering.illinois.edu/admissions/graduate/)
overview of grad college admissions & requirements: [https://grad.illinois.edu/admissions/apply](https://grad.illinois.edu/admissions/apply/)
department website: [https://bioengineering.illinois.edu](https://bioengineering.illinois.edu)
program website: [https://bioengineering.illinois.edu/academics/graduate/phd/](https://bioengineering.illinois.edu/academics/graduate/phd/)
department faculty: [https://bioengineering.illinois.edu/directory/](https://bioengineering.illinois.edu/directory/)
college website: [https://grainger.illinois.edu](https://grainger.illinois.edu)
contact: Liezl Bowman (liezlb@illinois.edu)
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phone: (217) 300-8066
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The Department of Bioengineering offers both a traditional doctoral program (for students with a previous master's degree) and a direct doctoral program (for students with only a bachelor's degree).

Students in both programs are required to have a research advisor and applicants are encouraged to contact department faculty ([https://bioengineering.illinois.edu/directory/](https://bioengineering.illinois.edu/directory/)) in their areas of interest to inquire about possible research and funding opportunities.

Opportunity exists for specializing in i) biomechanics via the Biomechanics ([http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/engineering/concentration/biomechanics/](http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/engineering/concentration/biomechanics/)) optional graduate concentration, ii) cancer nanotechnology via the Cancer Nanotechnology ([http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/engineering/concentration/cancer-nanotechnology/](http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/engineering/concentration/cancer-nanotechnology/)) optional graduate concentration, and iii) computational science and engineering via the Computational Science & Engineering ([http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/engineering/concentration/computational-science-engineering/](http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/engineering/concentration/computational-science-engineering/)) optional graduate concentration.

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**Admission Requirements**

Applicants should have an undergraduate or graduate degree in a natural science, computer science, or engineering. A minimum grade point average of 3.00 (A = 4.00) for the last two years of undergraduate study is required. Applicants should show evidence of strong quantitative skills and of serious interest in the life sciences. All applicants must submit results from the Graduate Record Examination (GRE) ([http://www.ets.org/](http://www.ets.org/)) general test.

All applicants whose native language is not English are required to submit TOEFL ([http://www.toefl.org/](http://www.toefl.org/)) or International English Language Testing System (IELTS) ([http://www.ielts.org/](http://www.ielts.org/)) scores as evidence of English proficiency. Minimum admission requirements ([https://grad.illinois.edu/admissions/instructions/04c/](https://grad.illinois.edu/admissions/instructions/04c/)) are set by the Graduate College.

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**Financial Aid**

Qualified students may apply for financial aid in the form of fellowships, teaching and research assistantships, and waivers of tuition and service fees. Starting in Fall 2020, Grainger Engineering PhD students in their first five years of enrollment who meet the minimum eligibility requirements ([https://grainger.illinois.edu/academics/graduate/phd-funding-guarantee/](https://grainger.illinois.edu/academics/graduate/phd-funding-guarantee/)) are guaranteed a funded appointment for fall and spring that includes a full tuition waiver, a partial fee waiver, and a stipend.

All applicants, regardless of US citizenship, whose native language is not English and who wish to be considered for teaching assistantships must demonstrate spoken English language proficiency ([http://grad.illinois.edu/admissions/taengprof.htm](http://grad.illinois.edu/admissions/taengprof.htm)) by achieving a minimum score of 24 on the speaking subsection of the TOEFL iBT or 8 on the speaking subsection of the IELTS. For students who are unable to take the iBT or IELTS, a minimum score of 4CP is required on the EPI test ([http://cte.illinois.edu/testing/oral_eng/epi_overview.html](http://cte.illinois.edu/testing/oral_eng/epi_overview.html)), offered on campus. All new teaching assistants are required to participate in the Graduate Academy for College Teaching ([http://cte.illinois.edu/programs/ta_train.html](http://cte.illinois.edu/programs/ta_train.html)) conducted prior to the start of the semester.

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**Department Research**

Bioengineering faculty perform research in the areas of Bio-Imaging at Multi-Scale; Molecular, Cellular and Tissue Engineering; Bio-Micro and Nanotechnology; Computational and Systems Bioengineering; and Synthetic Bioengineering. In addition to Bioengineering faculty, the Department of Bioengineering has more than 50 affiliate faculty ([http://bioengineering.illinois.edu/directory/](http://bioengineering.illinois.edu/directory/)).

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**Other Graduate Programs in the Department of Bioengineering**

degrees:

- **Bioengineering, MEng** ([http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/engineering/bioengineering-meng/](http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/engineering/bioengineering-meng/))
  - optional concentrations:
    - Bioinstrumentation ([http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/engineering/bioengineering-meng/bioinstrumentation/](http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/engineering/bioengineering-meng/bioinstrumentation/))
    - Computational Genomics ([http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/engineering/bioengineering-meng/computational-genomics/](http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/engineering/bioengineering-meng/computational-genomics/))
    - General Bioengineering ([http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/engineering/bioengineering-meng/general-bioengineering/](http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/engineering/bioengineering-meng/general-bioengineering/))

- **Bioengineering, MS** ([http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/engineering/bioengineering-ms/](http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/engineering/bioengineering-ms/))
  - optional concentrations:
    - Biomechanics ([http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/engineering/concentration/biomechanics/](http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/engineering/concentration/biomechanics/))
    - Cancer Nanotechnology ([http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/engineering/concentration/cancer-nanotechnology/](http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/engineering/concentration/cancer-nanotechnology/))
BIOE 599 Thesis Research (min-max applied toward degree) 52

Elective courses 12
Total Hours 64

Other Requirements and Conditions

Minimum program GPA: 3.0
A Masters degree is required for admission to the Ph.D. program.

Qualifying exam
Preliminary exam
Final exam and dissertation defense
Dissertation deposit

1 Qualifying Examination information.

Entering with B.S. degree

Code Title Hours
BIOE 599 Thesis Research (min-max applied toward degree) 55

500-level BioE courses: See approved list 21
Elective courses: At least 12 hours must be engineering graduate-level courses. See website for more details.
Total hours 96

Other Requirements and Conditions

Minimum program GPA: 3.0
Qualifying exam 1
Preliminary exam
Final exam and dissertation defense
Dissertation deposit

1 Qualifying Examination information.

Information listed in this catalog is current as of 03/2021
Qualifying Examination information (http://bioengineering.illinois.edu/graduate-programs/current-graduate-students/qualifying-exam/)