

# GENETIC COUNSELING (MS)

The Institute for Systems Genomics under the authority of The Graduate School at the University of Connecticut offers a Master's Degree in Genetic Counseling. The mission of the Genetic Counseling Professional Science Master's degree program is to prepare the next generation of diverse genetic counseling professionals who can foster innovation, advocacy, and leadership in a technologically dynamic discipline for improved health care outcomes and lifelong learning. The program is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Genetic Counseling, not offered on a part-time basis, and includes required summer components. The program is delivered in a hybrid model wherein the didactic classes are offered in an asynchronous online format and the fieldwork/practical training requires travel to external affiliated hospitals, centers, and clinics. The Genetic Counseling curriculum meets the Accreditation Council for Genetic Counseling (ACGC) requirements in that student training supports the 22 practice-based competencies within four domains:

- Genetics Expertise and Analysis;
- Interpersonal, Psychosocial and Counseling Skills;
- Education; and
- Professional Development and Practice

Programmatic student learning outcomes are designed to meet the genetic counseling Professional Based Competencies and the American Board of Genetic Counseling National Certification Examination.

The Genetic Counseling Program is an Affiliate of the National Professional Science Master's (PSM) Association. PSM programs are those which provide interdisciplinary scientific learning, with an emphasis on professional development training and supervised internships, in addition to other standards. Graduates of the Genetic Counseling Professional Science Master's Degree Program will receive a Master's Degree in Genetic Counseling and a National Professional Science Master's Association Certificate of completion.

## Program Requirements

Except in special cases, genetic counseling students will complete 43 credits of required didactic coursework and clinical rotations within 24 months. In addition, the student will complete three pre-approved courses; statistics, research methods, and an elective. The successful graduate student under the supervision of a three-faculty member Advisory Committee will complete the requisite number of academic credits inclusive of course work, professional development, clinical rotations, comprehensive examinations, and a capstone project as outlined in an approved plan of study.

Course	Title	Credits
<b>Didactic Coursework</b>		
ISG 5100	Foundations of Genetic and Genomic Medicine	3
ISG 5102	Clinical Applications of Genetic and Genomic Technologies	3
ISG 5103	Theories and Methods of Clinical Genetics	3
ISG 5140	Systems Medical Genetics	3
ISG 5141	Metabolic and Cardiovascular Genomics	3
ISG 5142	Clinical Cancer Genetics	3
ISG 5200	Communication and Counseling Skills for Effective Health Care Conversations	3

ISG 5203	Death, Dying, Grief, and Coping	3
ISG 5601	Interpreting Clinical Genomic Data	3
ISG 5715	Journal Club	1
ISG 5730	Professional Skills and Competencies (three credits)	3
Statistics course (pre-approved by the Program Director)		3
Research Methods course (pre-approved by the Program Director)		3
Elective course (pre-approved by the Program Director)		3
<b>Clinical Rotations</b>		
ISG 5091	Internship (five credits)	5
<b>Capstone</b>		
ISG 5099	Independent Study (three credits)	3
<b>Total Credits</b>		<b>48</b>