

# Biostatistics

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## Research

Master's students have multiple opportunities to engage in biomedical research. After completing the first semester, students in the MSIBS and MSBDS program are eligible to work as part-time research assistants. These positions are frequently available, both within the I<sup>2</sup>DB as well as in other departments and research labs on the School of Medicine campus. In addition, depending on the degree program, students will intern and/or work on an independent mentored research project to hone their research skills, including study design, data analysis, and interpretation. GEMS students will work on a mentored research project to explore and characterize the interplay between genes and the environment that affects the biological processes underlying disease.

## Mentored Research

All students enrolled in the Mentored Research course will complete a master's thesis, which may involve conducting and reporting on comprehensive data analysis or conducting research and reporting on a focused methodological problem; the latter may include a computer simulation approach to solve a problem, an in-depth review of available methods in a certain topical area, or the development of new methods. Each student will work closely with a mentor who has expertise in biostatistics or a related quantitative field. The grade for each student will be determined in consultation with the mentor.

## Internship

The primary goal of the Internship program is for all students enrolled in the Internship to acquire critical professional experience so that they will be well-prepared to enter the job market upon graduation. This provides an opportunity for students to test-drive the job market, develop contacts, build marketable skills, and figure out likes and dislikes in the chosen field.