Handbook for PhD Students and Advisors

UNC Charlotte Ph.D. in Bioinformatics and Computational Biology

Welcome

UNC Charlotte's Department of Bioinformatics and Genomics is a unique research environment with a focus on high-impact research at the intersection of Biological and Computational Science. The department employs traditional faculty who are dedicated full-time to the Department and its programs, research faculty, full-time office and laboratory staff. Faculty research is diverse and includes both wet lab and computational components, and covers a diverse array of research interests. The Department has research programs in two locations – on the UNC Charlotte main campus, and an 18-mile drive away at the North Carolina Research Campus in Kannapolis. Opportunities for research rotations and assistantships are available in both locations. Classes and seminars primarily take place on main campus.

In addition to the Ph.D. in Bioinformatics and Computational Biology, the Department offers a Master of Science program in Bioinformatics, a graduate Certificate, and an undergraduate Computer Science, Bioinformatics Concentration B.S. or B.A. and a Bioinformatics Minor. At any given time there are approximately 100 graduate students, postdoctoral researchers, and undergraduate majors associated with the department, and growth is on the horizon.

Up-to-date information regarding departmental faculty, staff, seminars and research can be found on the departmental website at:

http://cci.charlotte.edu/departments/department-of-bioinformatics-and-genomics/

Your first task upon entering as a PhD student (besides doing well in your coursework) is to get to know the faculty and your fellow students. We do our best to facilitate that, with regularly scheduled seminars, social events, and an active student organization (The Bioinformatics Assembly of Students, BiAS).

Admissions

The Ph.D. in Bioinformatics and Computational Biology admits students on a competitive basis. You are welcome to contact individual faculty members prior to applying for admission, but all applicants will generally be considered by the Admissions Committee in two cycles. Applications for Fall semester must be received

by January 1 and are considered in January with offers made by mid-February. Applications for Spring semester must be received by September 1, and are considered in September, with offers made by mid-October. Applications received outside the normal application window may be considered once on-time applicants have been reviewed and decisioned, if there is a space available in the program. Review of late applications is not guaranteed.

Assistantships

When you are accepted to the program, you make a commitment to learning to be an independent researcher. In return, the Department commits to you. We accepted you because we believe you can succeed.

Funding for your program of study can be either a Teaching Assistantship (TA) or Research Assistantship (RA). First year students who are doing rotations will be paid as a TA and assigned to a course that aligns with your background. Two rotations are required unless the research advisor you choose has funds to move you to an RA. First year students who are recruited directly into a research lab will be paid as an RA and will not have to do rotations.

What are the expectations of Ph.D. research?

The Ph.D. in Bioinformatics and Computational Biology (BCB) is granted for *planning, execution, and defense of original research resulting in significant contributions to the discipline's body of knowledge*. The BCB Ph.D. program also requires didactic coursework to prepare the student for research success. Student progress is primarily assessed by: (a) satisfactory coursework performance, (b) continued progress in your research program (c) passing the written and oral Qualifying Examination, (d) the Dissertation Proposal, and (e) the Dissertation Defense.

What does this really mean? You won't be going it completely alone. The department will assign you an academic advisor who will monitor your progress throughout your time in the department. Your academic advisor is separate from your research advisor and you are required to meet with them each semester for course selection and to make sure you complete your milestones on time.

You should choose a research advisor whose research interests correspond well with yours, and someone you feel will be a good mentor. Then, within the scope of your advisor's research program, they will help you choose problems to focus on and gradually become more independent in your work.

Coursework Requirements

The BCB program requires 72 credits in 8000-level BINF courses, or prior approved substitutions.

All newly admitted students on TA funding must complete two Research Rotations in the first year of the program; each provides a semester of faculty supervised research

experience to supplement regular course offerings. Students must complete the Core Courses prior to taking the Qualifying Exam.

In consultation with their Academic Advisor, students should take an appropriate selection of the Gateway Courses in order to be prepared for the Core Courses. For example, an incoming student with a Computer Science background would be expected to take 8100 and 8101, but not 8111. Graduate Research Seminar is taken every semester until the semester following advancement to candidacy. Finally, many additional Elective Courses are available, but are not explicitly required.

Gateway Courses (as needed based on background)

- BINF 8100 Biological Basis of Bioinformatics (3)
- BINF 8101 Energy and Interaction in Biological Modeling (3)
- BINF 8111 Bioinformatics Programming I (3)

Core Courses

- BINF 8112 Bioinformatics Programming II (3)
- BINF 8200 Statistics for Bioinformatics (3)
- BINF 8201 Molecular Sequence Analysis (3)
- BINF 8202 Computational Structural Biology (3) or BINF 8203 Genomics (3)

Research Rotations and/or Predissertation Research)

- BINF 8911 Research Rotation I (2)
- BINF 8912 Research Rotation II (2)
- BINF 8990 Predissertation Research (1-9)

Graduate Research Seminar

- BINF 8600 Bioinformatics Seminar (1) *(Must be taken every semester until the semester following advancement to candidacy)*

Research Hours

- BINF 8991 Doctoral Dissertation Research (1-9) *(Must take a minimum of 18 hours)*

Responsible Conduct of Research

- GRAD 8302, GRAD 8240 or PHIL 8240
- GRAD 8990 Academic Integrity (online and zero credit, but required)
  UNC Charlotte is committed to ensuring that doctoral students understand their obligations as researchers. All first-year doctoral students are required to enroll in one of the Responsible Conduct of Research courses. This course requirement prepares students for a range of research related issues.

Electives

Any graduate level BINF prefix course may be taken as a pre-approved elective. Other courses may be taken with department approval.

Note about registering for GASP award students: 5th year students will need to enroll in GRAD 9800. GRAD 9800 is 3 credits, but allows student to maintain the required full-time status. The following degree milestones must be completed: Qualifying

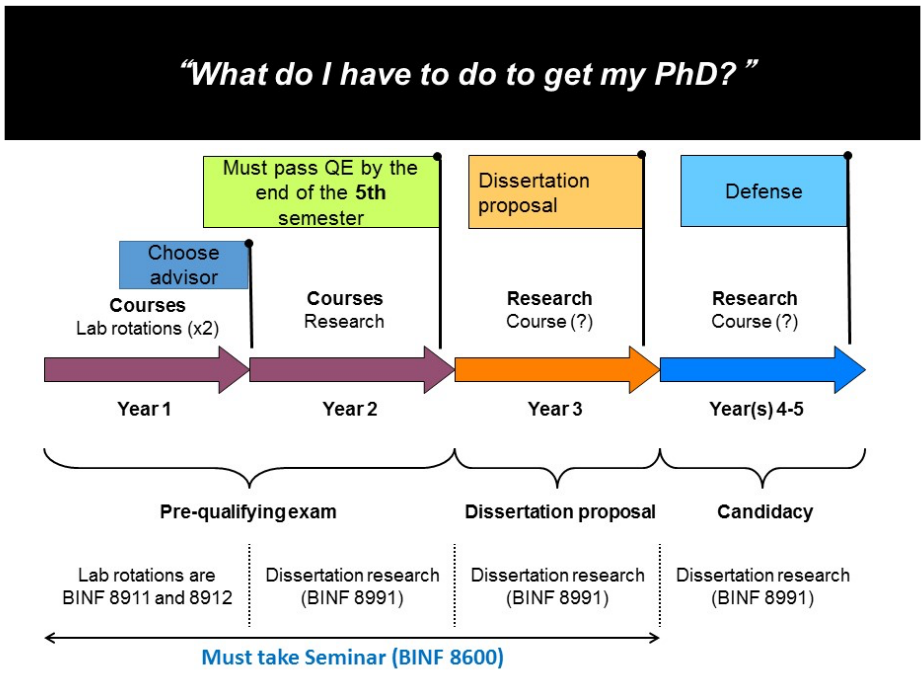
Exam, Dissertation Committee and Proposal Defense. You will need to file a graduate petition to enroll in GRAD 9800.

https://academicpetition.charlotte.edu/

All your academic course information, milestones and grades can be found in DegreeWorks. It is your responsibility as a PhD student to be aware of your progress in DegreeWorks and to review your progress prior to meeting with your academic advisor.

https://degreeworks.charlotte.edu/

"The big picture": Research Timeline



Students are expected to meet the milestones as outlined above. The Graduate School policies and Requirements are outlined in the Graduate Catalog available at:

https://catalog.charlotte.edu/index.php?catoid=37

And the PhD Degree Requirements.

https://catalog.charlotte.edu/content.php?catoid=37&navoid=4300

The Graduate School website itself is full of valuable information about the academic process, forms, requirements, resources and support available to graduate students

at UNC Charlotte. Students are encouraged to seek out information on this website as needed.

https://graduateschool.charlotte.edu/

Rotations and Selection of Research Advisor

Newly admitted first year students should register for one Research Rotation course (BINF 8911 or 8912) each semester. The research rotation is a student's opportunity to get to know two different research groups/advisors in-depth before choosing a lab for their dissertation research. The rotation advisor and student will decide on a project. Students will be advised as to which labs are accepting new students for rotations. The Department has an agreement with some faculty in CIPHER and Physics that are affiliated with our department that that allows these faculty to advise our PhD students. A list of these faculty is provided at the end of this document. You can rotate in these labs as well, but funding past the first year must be provided by the CIPHER or Physics faculty home department or research program.

At the beginning of the semester, the student is expected to submit a research rotation project description through Canvas. At the end of the semester, the student will present a poster about the research conducted to their peers in the department and submit a written report describing their project and outcomes via canvas, which the research rotation advisor should review and approve.

After two semesters of Research Rotation, by the start of their third semester in the program, each Ph.D. student must select a research advisor. The research advisor is the primary supervisor of the student's research progress, and this step is crucial for all future research activities. Students need to meet with their rotation advisors and discuss future projects and mutually agree to the student staying in the lab. Failure to identify and select a research advisor in a timely fashion will result in probationary status.

Qualifying Examination

The next milestone is passing the written and oral Qualifying Examination. This exam will demonstrate proficiency in bioinformatics and computational biology, as well as competence in fundamentals common to the field and related to the student's research project. The Qualifying Examination must be attempted for the first time before the student's 5th semester of residence.

Within one term after they have completed their research rotations and chosen their research advisor, each student will name a Qualifying Exam Committee. The committee should be constituted from Bioinformatics Department graduate faculty, and should consist of: 1) the student's research advisor, 2) one faculty member whose teaching focus is computational methods (e.g. programming, machine learning, statistics), 3) one faculty member whose teaching focus is computational applications (e.g. molecular sequence analysis, structural bioinformatics, genomics), and 4) one other faculty member of the student's choice. This committee need not be identical to

the student's final Dissertation Committee. The required forms for forming the qualifying exam committee and to report the outcome of the qualifying exam to the graduate school can be found at:

https://cci.charlotte.edu/academics/bioinformatics/bcb-phd-program/phd-forms/

The student will provide their qualifying exam committee with a one-page description of their current research focus. The Qualifying Exam Committee will prepare a written exam for the student. This exam will consist of questions that require the student to synthesize knowledge from the core courses, the literature relevant to their research in the program to date, and other elective coursework they may have completed. Students will have 24 hours to complete the written examination and may use relevant library materials, if properly cited. The exam will be administered via Canvas. The Qualifying Exam Committee will determine if they student passes or fails the written exam.

After passing the written Qualifying Exam, students will schedule their oral exam. Students need to schedule a 1-2 hour period to meet with their committee to answer additional questions related to their coursework and research. Students are expected to present a few slides about their current research during the qualifying exam.

Students are allowed two attempts to pass written and oral sections of the Qualifying Exam. It is the committee's prevue to grant a conditional pass with requirements that the student must meet to pass; for example, a second oral exam meeting to cover a specific piece of material that the student struggled to answer or request that the student write a review document on a topic that the committee felt the student needed to know.

Students entering from a Master's or other graduate program, where transfer of credit results in early completion of Core Courses, will be directed by their Academic Advisor or the Program Director to take the Qualifying Exam at an earlier date.

Any disputes or questions regarding the qualifying exam structure, outcomes or expectations need to be addressed in writing to the Ph.D. Program Director and will be reviewed by the Ph.D. Steering Committee.

Dissertation Committee

Following successful completion of the qualifying exam, students need to form their Dissertation Committee. Doctoral committees require four members. There must be three Bioinformatics faculty and one Graduate School representative. The Graduate School Representative must be a tenured faculty member from an outside department and can either be requested or assigned by the Graduate School. If you need to have a committee member, such as an off-campus collaborator, given a courtesy appointment in the department so they can serve on your committee, this can be arranged by your advisor. Make sure this is done well in advance of forming your committee as it takes time for approvals. After passing the Dissertation Proposal,

students must meet with their committee each year to review their progress. Failure to do so can result in having an Academic Hold on your account and prohibit you from registering.

The form for your committee MUST be filled out and approved by the Graduate School well in advance of the Dissertation Proposal defense being scheduled.

https://cci.charlotte.edu/academics/bioinformatics/bcb-phd-program/phd-forms/

Dissertation Proposal

Each student must present and successfully defend a Ph.D. Dissertation Research Proposal within two semesters after passing the Qualifying Examination. The Dissertation Proposal defense will be conducted by the student's Dissertation Committee. The presentation will be open to faculty and students, but defense questions will be closed to the public. The proposal must address a significant, original and substantive piece of research. The proposal must include sufficient preliminary data and a timeline such that the Dissertation Committee can assess its feasibility. Please note that students cannot apply for graduation the same term they complete their dissertation proposal.

The written proposal must be entirely the student's own work. However, the problem and approaches may be developed, clarified and refined by discussions with the Research Advisor, other faculty members, and other students. The student's Advisor and Committee can provide guidance through this process, but the proposal must reflect the student's individual ideas and abilities in scientific reasoning, experimental design, and scientific writing. A written proposal must be submitted to the student's Committee no less than two weeks before the presentation and defense.

Written Proposal: The student must develop a full proposal modeled after an appropriate federal agency research grant submission (NSF/NIH style). The proposal will typically not exceed 10-15 pages single-spaced, excluding title page, figures and references. Preliminary data should be incorporated if available. The written proposal should contain the following sections:

A. Specific Aims: A no more than one-page summary that states the central hypothesis, objectives, and goals of the research project towards testing the hypothesis.

B. Background and Significance: Briefly outline background material relevant to evaluate the proposal and describe how this research will provide new scientific information building upon the background material presented. It is important to describe the current literature in the field and the broad impact of the proposal in the context of current research.

C. Preliminary Data: If applicable

D. Experimental Design and Methods: Describe the research design and methods used to test the specific aims of the project. Include information on the goal for each aim, data collection, analysis and expected results. Describe potential pitfalls and alternative approaches to achieve the aims.

E. Project Timeline: Include project milestones and estimate of anticipated completion dates (students may find it useful to use a Gantt chart, although they are not required to do so).

F. References: Include complete references (authors, titles, journal, inclusive pages) for all references.

Proposal Defense: The Committee will assess the scope, quality, and feasibility of the proposed work, and provide appropriate suggestions and guidance to the student on both their written and oral proposal defense. Once approved by the committee, the written proposal does not represent a binding contract. It is understood that during the research process a student's plans or interests may change based on new results, and the chapters of their final dissertation may differ from the original proposed aims. These changes are expected, and can be discussed with the dissertation Committee during yearly meetings that occur between the time of the proposal defense and the final dissertation defense.

Dissertation

Each student must complete a well-designed original research contribution, as agreed upon by the student and Dissertation Committee at the Dissertation Proposal. The Ph.D. Dissertation is a written document describing the research and its results, and their context in the sub-discipline. The Dissertation Defense is a public presentation of the findings of the research, with any novel methods that may have been developed to support the conclusions. The student must present the Dissertation and defend its findings publicly, and in a private session with the Dissertation Committee immediately thereafter. Students who plan to defend their PhD Dissertation must apply to graduate in the term they plan to defend.

There are two formats available for a PhD dissertation; a more traditional format and a three-article dissertation. The Graduate School governs the formatting requirements for the PhD dissertation and all information and guidelines can be found on the Graduate School website:

https://graduateschool.charlotte.edu/current-students/thesis-and-dissertation.

The Graduate School deadlines are non-negotiable and students need to plan well in advance to ensure that they meet the graduation deadlines. Details about the requirements from the Graduate School can be found on their website:

https://graduateschool.charlotte.edu/current-students/thesis-and-dissertation/required-forms-and-fees

Follow these guidelines carefully to ensure that you have met all the requirements in a timely matter for submission and reporting of your final defense.

Teaching Assistantship Requirement

Each student is required to hold a Teaching Assistant position for a minimum of one semester. This is an opportunity for students to get hands on experience in the classroom. The TA experience gives students who are interested in pursuing academia an opportunity to have classroom instruction practice. Most students will fulfil this requirement during their research rotations. For students who are placed directly on RA funding it is the responsibility of the student, Research Advisor and PhD Program Director to determine when the TA requirement will be fulfilled. Students must be funded by a TA when serving as a TA.

Graduate Assistantship Employment Policies and Tuition Support

The department commits to fund PhD students for up to 5 years (10 semesters) through a combination of departmental assistantship funding and grant-funded research assistantships. Additional semesters beyond the initial 5 years are contingent on the availability of research or fellowship funds awarded to the student or to their research advisor.

The BCB program is a full-time PhD program, and to be eligible for department-funded assistantships, students must be in residence at the UNCC or NCRC campus, and must be available to perform teaching assistant duties as assigned by the Program Director. Research assistantship requirements may vary by arrangement with your research advisor, and some remote work may be allowed, but in order for the PI to certify to their funding agency that students performed work as specified, the majority of the work should be performed at a location on either the UNCC or NCRC campus.

The academic stipend (9 months) is $22,100 and the base summer rate for 20 hours per week is $7,367 (3 months). It is at the prevue of your research advisor to pay you an additional $7,367 during the summer for 40 hours per week. The graduate compensation packages are updated annually and can be found at:

https://graduateschool.charlotte.edu/faculty-and-staff-resources/student-support/standard-graduate-student-compensation-packages.

Students will receive prior to the start of each term (Fall, Spring, Summer 1 and Summer 2) an eGA to accept. Students must be registered for the upcoming semester (Fall or Spring) to receive their assistantship. New students will receive additional emails regarding I9 verification and any other work requirements.

The pay schedule for students on assistantships is twice a month, generally on the 1st and the 15th. Students will receive their first paycheck covering the prior work period (for first year students this will be Sept. 1 for the period of Aug 15 – 31).

The Graduate School offers tuition support for each Ph.D. student for up to five years (10 semesters) as GASP support. Health insurance is also provided for GASP eligible students. If you are on a RA funded by your research advisor, their funding will provide tuition and insurance support as allowed by the funding source. Students must pay their own fees. The PhD program director will ensure that you are nominated for GASP and health insurance support. Additional information can be found on the graduate school website at:

https://graduateschool.charlotte.edu/faculty-and-staff-resources/student-support/gasp-policies

Students are responsible for checking their student accounts WELL IN ADVANCE of the payment deadline for any discrepancies or questions. There is no guarantee that issues raised within a few days of the payment deadline will be resolved before the deadline.

Further information about the Health Insurance offered to students can be found at:

https://studenthealth.charlotte.edu/insurance

Graduate Work Commitment

A graduate assistantship (TA or RA) is paid employment for 20 hours per week. As a student, you are also enrolled in research credit hours (rotation credits, pre-dissertation research or dissertation research). These credit hours are to be spent working on your research project.

If you have a full-time or half-time job outside of the university, you are not assistantship-eligible (and therefore also not eligible for GASP).

If you are receiving a Teaching Assistantship and enrolled in research credits, then you are expected to devote 20 hours to your teaching commitment and the rest of your full time commitment to courses and research credit hours as a full-time student.

If you are receiving a Research Assistantship and enrolled in research credits, then you are expected to devote your time both paid and academic into work on your research as a full-time student.

A summary of university policies on Graduate Student Compensation is available at:

https://graduateschool.charlotte.edu/faculty-and-staff-resources/student-support/student-funding-assistantships

TA's and RA's do not accumulate sick or vacation leave. There is not an existing university policy that governs students with 12-month appointments. Generally,

when the University has a holiday, students receive this holiday. Students are expected to limit personal travel to academic breaks (when classes are not in session) and to be in attendance from the first day of each semester. Time-off in the summer is at the prevue of the research advisor. As the standard summer appointment is for 20-hours per week of work, students should coordinate with their research advisor to ensure that time off is accounted for in the total hours expected to work in the summer.

Students who are ill need to coordinate with their advisor for time off to recover. If students will need extended time off (more than 2 weeks) the research advisor needs to inform the PhD Program Director as well as medical documentation. Additional information regarding student employees can be found at:

https://hr.charlotte.edu/employees/student-employees

If students need to take an extended leave of absence (care for a family member, extended illness, etc) additional information regarding the University policies can be found at:

https://provost.charlotte.edu/policies-procedures/academic-policies-and-procedures/continuous-registration-and-leave-absence

Students requesting parental leave should meet with their Research Advisor and the PhD Director as soon as possible to plan for the parental leave. Additional information about the paid 6-week parental leave policy can be found at:

https://provost.charlotte.edu/policies-procedures/academic-policies-and-procedures/parental-leave-accommodations

Expectations for Work Performance

Students funded on departmental TA lines are required to be in residence at the UNC Charlotte main campus or at NCRC. TAs must be in regular attendance at the courses they are assigned to, except in cases of illness or emergency, or for research-related travel as arranged in advance with the faculty instructor of record.

Students funded on fellowships or graduate research assistantships (RA's) must meet standards of regular attendance determined by their research advisor. When not involved actively in taking or teaching courses, PhD students must remain in regular contact with their research advisor, and attend regularly scheduled activities such as research group meetings and individual meetings.

Academic and Research Integrity

UNC Charlotte and the Department of Bioinformatics and Genomics takes academic and research integrity very seriously and expects students to adhere to the requirements set forth by the university. As PhD students you are required to enroll in GRAD 8990, Academic Integrity and a 3 credit hour Responsible Conduct in Research course. Each course should include information about academic integrity and plagiarism in their syllabus.

University Policy 407 Code of Student Academic Integrity covers the standards that students are expect to uphold as well as the penalties and procedures for violations of the code.

https://legal.charlotte.edu/policies/up-407

University Policy 309 Research and Misconduct Policy covers the standards and expectations as well as the process for reporting research misconduct.

https://research.charlotte.edu/departments/office-research-protections-and-integrity-orpi/research-misconduct

When an issue arises……

At some point you may experience a challenge or have a conflict arise during your graduate education. There are several resources available should this happen.

Your PhD Graduate Director and the Graduate Program Coordinator are always available for you to discuss any challenges or issues. You are encouraged to schedule an in-person or zoom meeting with either for guidance and support.

Conflicts that arise between students and faculty will first be handled informally by the PhD Graduate Director with guidance from the Department Chair and potentially input from the Graduate Steering Committee. If your conflict is with the PhD Graduate Director, you should first meet with the Department Chair. This will involve meeting with the student and faculty individually to determine the situation and discuss options and compromise; then the student and faculty member together to develop a mutually agreeable solution. This process can be instigated by either the student or the faculty member. In general, this process will resolve most conflicts. However, there are situations that will require the issue to be escalated. All university employee's are considered mandatory reporters under Title IX.

While the PhD Graduate Director and the Graduate Program Coordinator should be your first stop and will try to help you resolve any issues informally, it is also possible that outside help might be necessary and they will direct you to those individuals. You can also reach out directly to these resources outlined below.

The Ombuds for the Graduate School is an someone who can serve as a neutral outside resource for students. For more information about what the ombuds can do and how to contact the ombuds, please find information at:

https://graduateschool.charlotte.edu/current-students/ombuds

If you are experiencing sexual, interpersonal misconduct, discrimination or harassment the Office of Civil Rights and Title IX is who your report to. If you are unsure if your situation falls under the prevue of this office, they encourage students to report your incident to ensure that you receive the support you need.

https://civilrights.charlotte.edu/

UNC Charlotte has an authorship policy and resolution procedures dictated by University Policy 318. The Graduate School also has resources available for good authorship practices.

https://legal.charlotte.edu/policies/up-318
https://graduateschool.charlotte.edu/responsible-research/authorship

The university also has a formal student grievance procedure covered by Policy 411. This covers any problems that are not covered under other student policies (these are outlined on the website provided below).

https://legal.charlotte.edu/policies/up-411

Resources, Support and Balance

A graduate education is more than just coursework and research. We encourage and support our students to get involved and find community in our department and across campus. Using the resources available and finding a good work/life balance is important.

The Bioinformatics Assembly of Students is the graduate organization in our department. They provide tutoring and support as well as organize social events. You will see email's from BiAS and are encouraged to join.

The Center of Graduate Life and Learning house in the Graduate School is also a fantastic resource. Their website provides a calendar of events that you can register for in a wide variety of areas including career preparation, communication skills, diversity and inclusion, graduate community, leadership development, research and teaching skills, wellness and writing skills. This is an excellent resource and you will receive emailed from the CGLL

https://gradlife.charlotte.edu/

UNC Charlotte has an excellent office of Disability Services. Students who need accommodations are encouraged to register with this office for support.

https://ds.charlotte.edu/

The International Student and Scholar Office provides support and resources for our international students.

https://isso.charlotte.edu/

Conferences and Professional Societies

There are often opportunities to attend conferences in your field, present your work, and meet other scientists. You should be thinking strategically about this as well. Many conferences provide partial or complete travel support for students, so even if your advisor has not offered to send you to a conference, you can still find ways to get that conference paid for by submitting an abstract and applying for funds.

Your main professional society is the International Society for Computational Biology. ISCB https://www.iscb.org/ In addition to hosting the long-running conference series, Intelligent Systems in Molecular Biology (ISMB) which occurs each summer, ISCB has many affiliated conferences listed on their website. http://www.bioinformatics.org/ keeps track of many conferences and workshops as well as job opportunities in the field.

General Information

People you should know & what they do: Bioinformatics Faculty & Staff

Bioinformatics Department Chair: Dr. Jun-tao Guo

Ph.D. Director: Dr. Jessica Schlueter

College of Computing and Informatics Graduate School Liason: gradacadsvcs-cci@charlotte.edu

Ph.D. Academic Advisors: Dr. Alex Dornburg, Dr. Anthony Fodor, Dr. Cynthia Gibas, Dr. Ann Loraine, and Dr. Jessica Schlueter

MS and Certificate Director: Dr. Liz Cooper

Graduate Program Coordinator: Lauren Slane. *Lauren is the go to for course registration permits, questions about your Degreeworks audit, information on Research Rotation Presentations and Qualifying Exam logistics, and any other questions you may have about the department and your program.*

Budget Coordinator: Kim Davis. *Kim can answer questions about your pay, timesheets, and requests to meet with the department chair. If your advisor is in CIPHER, please see James Green for these questions.*

Laboratory Manager: Bill Taylor

Faculty Members (located at UNC Charlotte)
Dr. Alex Dornburg
Dr. Anthony Fodor
Dr. Cynthia Gibas
Dr. Jun-tao Guo
Dr. Daniel Janies
Dr. Denis Machado
Dr. Rebekah Rogers
Dr. Jessica Schlueter
Dr. Zhengchang Su
Dr. Way Sung
Dr. Adam Whaley

Faculty Members (located at the NC Research Campus in Kannapolis)
Dr. Cory Brouwer
Dr. Elizabeth Cooper
Dr. Xiuxia Du
Dr. Abbe LaBella
Dr. Ann Loraine
Dr. Richard Allen White III
Dr. Laurel Yohe
Dr. Robert Reid
Dr. Jun Wang
Dr. Alexandr Smirnov

Faculty Members (affiliated with CIPHER or Physics that can advise Bioinformatics PhD students)
Dr. Don Jacobs
Dr. Irina Nesmalova
Dr. Adam Reitzel
Dr. Elaine Luo
Dr. Rafael Vieira
Dr. Morgan Carter

Important web links

The Department of Bioinformatics and genomics
http://bioinformatics.uncc.edu/

The Graduate School
http://graduateschool.uncc.edu/current-students

Center for Graduate Life
http://gradlife.uncc.edu/

Degree Works
http://degreeworks.uncc.edu

Graduate Academic Petition
https://gpetition.uncc.edu/login

Where can I get help?

Center for Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS)
Christine F. Price Center for Counseling and Psychological Services next to the Student Health Center, 704-687-0311
https://caps.uncc.edu/
Provides wellness-related programs and services to UNC Charlotte students. Services include individual and group counseling, consultation, outreach, and training. Offer a variety of resources that can be a good starting point to learn about various mental health issues.

Niner Central
380 Cone Center, 704-687-8622
https://ninercentral.uncc.edu/
Niner Central is a single location for you to go for services related to financial aid and billing, registration, transcripts, student accounts, academic records and more. The website combines these resources to help students navigate these services.

University Center for Academic Excellence
Colvard 2300, 704-687-7837
http://ucae.uncc.edu/
Tutoring available in such subjects as accounting, economics, mathematics, statistics, and more. Workshops offered in a wide variety of topics around personal success (organization, goal setting, maximizing your budget, etc.)

University Career Center
Atkins 150, 704-687-0795
http://career.uncc.edu/about-us/contact-us
Offers a wide range of resources for students and alumni including career advising, mock interviews, resumes/cover letters and networking.

Writing Resources Center

Cameron 125, 704-687-1899
http://writing.uncc.edu/writing-resources-center
Provides writing tutorials, presentation assistance, library assistance, and more.

Visit https://graduateschool.uncc.edu/current-students/current-student-resources for a list of current student resources in Academics, Support & Resources and Student Life.