BIOINFORMATICS AND
COMPUTATIONAL BIOLOGY
(BCB)

BCB 5000 - Introduction to Computer Programming for Life Sciences
Credit(s): 3 Credits
An accelerated introduction to programming, covering control structures,
functions, and classes, as well as data structures including stacks,
queues, linked lists, priority queues, dictionaries, trees, and binary search
trees. When possible, programming projects will draw upon motivation
from biological problems. Offered every Fall.

Restrictions:
Enrollment limited to students in the MS Bioinformatics Comp Biol
program.

BCB 5200 - Introduction Bioinformatics I
Credit(s): 3 Credits
The course focuses on the study of nucleotide and peptide sequences
and structures from a computational perspective. Topics including
sequence alignment, detecting and understanding mutations, gene
identification, and structural comparison and prediction. Student should
have taken Cellular Biochemistry and Molecular (BIOL-3020) and Data
Structures (CSCI-2100) or equivalent. (Offered every Fall)

Restrictions:
Enrollment is limited to students with a major in Bioinformatics Comp
Biol.

Attributes: CS Grad-Advanced Applications

BCB 5250 - Introduction Bioinformatics II
Credit(s): 3 Credits
This course focuses on the study of interaction and evolution of
biological sequences and structures. Topics include interaction networks,
clustering, phylogenetic trees and how biological systems change at the
genomic. Offered every Spring.

Restrictions:
Enrollment limited to students in the programs.

Attributes: CS Grad-Advanced Applications

BCB 5300 - Algorithms in Computational Biology
Credit(s): 3 Credits
This course introduces the foundations of algorithmic techniques and
analysis, as motivated by biological problems. Topics include dynamic
programming, tree and graph algorithms, sequence analysis, hidden
Markov models. Motivations include sequence alignment, motif finding,
gene prediction, and phylogeny.

Prerequisite(s): BCB 5200; BCB 5250

Restrictions:
Enrollment is limited to students with a major in Bioinformatics Comp
Biol.

BCB 5350 - Machine Learning in Bioinformatics
Credit(s): 3 Credits
An application of machine learning techniques to solve problems arising
in bioinformatics. Unsupervised and supervised learning, clustering,
hidden Markov models, and neural networks will be introduced and
applied to study biological sequences, structure prediction and gene
expression. (Offered occasionally)

BCB 5810 - Bioinformatics Colloquium
Credit(s): 0-1 Credits (Repeatable for credit)
The course provides students with current information about studies
in bioinformatics and computational biology through presentations
given by faculty members, students, and invited speakers. Students who
enroll for credit must present a 20-30 minute talk as part of the seminar,
demonstrating their oral communication skills while presenting technical
content. Students must have graduate status or receive permission of
the CAS Associate Dean for Grad Ed and the instructor to enroll for credit.
Offered fall and spring.

Restrictions:
Enrollment is limited to students with a major in Bioinformatics Comp
Biol.

BCB 5910 - Bioinformatics Internship
Credit(s): 1-3 Credits (Repeatable for credit)
Internships will include experiences in research and development
laboratories of local biotechnology companies, as well as in research
laboratories in SLU’s departments of Biology, Chemistry, Computer
Science, and Mathematics or departments in the School of Medicine.
Students must have graduate status in any of the following programs:
Bioinformatics and Computational Biology, Biology, Computer Science,
Math, Chemistry or in departments in the School of Medicine. (Offered
every Spring and Summer)

Prerequisite(s): BCB 5200; BCB 5250

Restrictions:
Enrollment limited to students in the MS Bioinformatics Comp Biol
program.

Enrollment limited to students in the Math Stats/Computer Science
department.

BCB 5930 - Special Topics
Credit(s): 1-3 Credits (Repeatable up to 12 credits)

Restrictions:
Enrollment limited to students in the programs.

BCB 5970 - Research Topics
Credit(s): 1-3 Credits (Repeatable for credit)
This course will provide research experiences in SLU’s departments of
Biology, Chemistry, Computer Science, and Mathematics or departments
in the School of Medicine. Offered each semester.

Restrictions:
Enrollment limited to students in the MS Bioinformatics Comp Biol
program.

Enrollment limited to students in the Math Stats/Computer Science
department.

BCB 5980 - Graduate Reading Course
Credit(s): 1-3 Credits