The application of information and communications technology in healthcare, now generally known as health informatics, is a complex and intellectually demanding interdisciplinary field in which medicine, computer science, management science, statistics and engineering are all represented.

Health informatics is no longer viewed as a peripheral issue but rather as a central means of improving the overall efficiency and effectiveness of healthcare delivery. This in turn is encouraging governments to increase investment in ICT in healthcare. However, the lack of people with appropriate education and training in health informatics continues to be a major problem. The M.Sc. in Health Informatics aims to address this problem by equipping students with the knowledge required to ensure that the health sector gets the best out of ICT.

The course, run jointly by the School of Computer Science and Statistics and the School of Medicine, is intended for suitably qualified applicants currently working or aspiring to work in a position in the health sector which requires the efficient and cost effective application of information technology.

Aims of the Course

- to give a comprehensive understanding of the role of ICT in the health sector
- to provide an understanding of the principles underlying health informatics
- to study the application of health informatics with emphasis on practice and theory
- to provide students with an appreciation of the medico-legal and ethical issues
- to provide the necessary supporting research methodology and demonstrate its application to practical problems

The Course

The course runs over two academic years (September-June) part-time, on Friday afternoons and Saturday mornings to facilitate those in full-time employment. The first year consists of taught modules, with a strong emphasis on practical team-based continuous assessment. Those with a clinical background take an introductory Computer Programming module, while those from an IT background take a Basic Medical Sciences module. Other modules include Introduction to Health Informatics, Health Information Systems, Clinical Decision Support Systems, Human-computer Interaction in Healthcare, Biomedical Imaging, and Bioinformatics. In the second year students take a Research Methods module, undertake an independent research project and report on it as a 20,000 word dissertation.

Entry Requirements

Applications will be accepted from those who hold a good honours degree in a professional (health sciences or computer/engineering) discipline or hold other appropriate qualifications with at least 3 years’ relevant experience. Applicants meeting these requirements will normally be interviewed.
Further Information

Further Information, Applications Details, Fees and Closing Date available at:

Web    www.scss.tcd.ie/courses/mschi
Email   postgraduate@scss.tcd.ie

Postgraduate Administration Unit
School of Computer Science & Statistics
O’Reilly Institute
Trinity College
Dublin 2

Tel    +353 1 896 1765
Fax    +353 1 677 2204

School of Computer Science & Statistics (SCSS)
Faculty of Engineering, Mathematics and Science

The College reserves the right to update or change syllabi, fees, timetables or other aspects of the course at any time