

Clinical Research, B.S.

Recent changes: CLR 320 Scientific Literature Seminar is being replaced with CLR 340 Study and Site Management starting Fall 2017.

1) The Program:

- a. **Course Format:** Cohort model starting in Fall, but some flexibility for part-time students; Almost fully online asynchronous (Online synchronous: CLR 460 Senior Seminar, CLR 496 Senior Internship I, CLR 497 Senior Internship II); CLR 301 Basics of Clinical Research & CLR 350 Medical Terminology and Clinical Endpoints offered in summer; Students interact with instructors and classmates through WebEx and discussion boards.
- b. **Concentrations:** None.
- c. **Program Size:** 50 students accepted every Fall. 25-50 students per course.
- d. **Length of Program:** 4 semesters in Fall and Spring.
- e. **Progression:** Must complete all 300 level CLR courses prior to taking CLR 496 (Senior Internship I). A "C" or better in each prerequisite and CLR course in order to progress. A cumulative GPA of 2.00 or better is required for graduation.
- f. **Orientation:** A few days before fall classes; in person and via WebEx.
- g. **Financial:** Tuition and Fees are lower for extension students (see student accounts for current rates); Scholarships and financial aid available through the Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships
- h. **Outside Obligations:** CLR 496 & CLR 497 require 14 hours per week at a clinical research site or company; must be outside of current work obligations if already in the field.
- i. **Not at UNCW:** Do not need to take courses at UNCW prior to admission. Major courses must be taken at UNCW.
- j. **Accreditation:** None needed.

2) Exploring:

- a. **Exploratory Courses/Experiences:** CLR 301: Basics of Clinical Research. CLR 350: Medical Terminology and Clinical Endpoints. If not a CLR major, these can only be taken in Summer. Shadowing of clinical research professionals.
- b. **Skills Needed:** Science, math, writing, statistics, and communication.
- c. **Why this Field/Career:** Growing industry; combines the medical field with research and innovation; great salaries with only a bachelor's degree.
- d. **Why UNCW's Program:** Offers specialized education, training, and year-long experience in the field; direct experience in a rapidly growing industry. Students secure jobs... 80% at or before graduation; 90% within 3 months of graduation; 95% within 6 months of graduation; most students secure jobs at their internship site.

3) Admissions:

- a. **What:** Competitive application; See admissions information on website.
- b. **When:** Apply by April deadline to start in following fall semester.
- c. **How:** 50% Prerequisite GPA; 20% videotaped interview; 20% essay; 10% essay. A "C" or better in all required prerequisite courses. Minimum 2.5 GPA from all institutions attended.
- d. **Transfer Students:** Need to be admitted to UNCW and pay enrollment deposit prior to applying to the program.
- e. **Competition Level:** Most competitive student: all prerequisites done at end of Spring; resume reviewed by Career Center; videotaped interview and essay reviewed by University Learning Center.
- f. **Not Accepted:** Reapply next year with: completed prerequisite courses; higher GPA; reworked essay/resume/interview. Other potential majors: EXS, PBH, and other health or science degrees. Questions from students not accepted into the major should be direct to the SSC, not Ms. Pennington.

4) Complimentary Experiences:

- a. **Living/Learning Community:** None.
- b. **Minors Offered:** CLR Minor consisting of basic classes, which allows student to get foot in door of CLR industry.
- c. **Minors to Add:** Biology, Chemistry, Neuroscience, Gerontology or Psychology.

- d. **Research Opportunities:** Available with or without DIS with faculty members.
- e. **Study Abroad:** None related to program.
- f. **Student Organizations:** Student Association of Clinical Research (SACR).

5) Applied Learning:

- a. **What:** Internship.
- b. **When:** Senior year fall & spring; 14 hours per week.
- c. **Where:** Wilmington, Raleigh/Durham, Charlotte, or anywhere that has clinical research jobs/companies. Must be able to travel to a clinical research company for internship.
- d. **How:** Can choose own location or will receive assistance from program coordinator.
- e. **Additional Info:** MUST be outside of normal job responsibilities if student is already in clinical research.

6) Career:

- a. **Advanced Degrees:** M.S. in Clinical Research and Product Development. Not needed to be employable.
- b. **Typical Careers/Employers:** Research sites (PMG Research, Duke Clinical Research Institute); Contract Research Organizations (PPD, Chiltern, INC Research, Novella, Quintiles, PRA, Premier); Pharmaceutical Companies (Merck; small, niche Biotech).
- c. **Typical Day:** 40 hours a week, but looks very different depending on the position and company.
- d. **Salary Expectations:** Starting range: \$60,000-\$65,000; future salaries depend largely on company/position.
- e. **Job Market/Security:** 13% increase from 2012-2022. UNCW students secure jobs... 80% at or before graduation; 90% within 3 months of graduation; 95% within 6 months of graduation; most students secure jobs at their internship site.
- f. **Greater Employability:** Shadow as many different specialists/departments at your internship site.
- g. **Job Search:** Job search starts prior to graduation; should be on LinkedIn with an updated resume.
- h. **Licensure/Certification:** N/A.

7) Advising:

- a. **Program Coordinator:** Barb Pennington.
- b. **SSC Liaison:** Natalie Bernardina.
- c. **Advising Model:** Pre-CLR majors and juniors in CLR are advised by SSC; Senior CLR students are advised by faculty.
- d. **Required Major Course Sequence:** CLR 301 and 350 can be taken in Summers prior to admission. PAR 215 and CLR Elective can be taken prior to admission, but must be taken prior to Fall of final year. All 300 level courses must be completed prior to taking CLR 496: Senior Internship I. If a student declares the CLR Minor, they can take CLR 301, 310, 330, 350, 420, and 450.

NOTE: All students regardless of catalog year must take CLR 340 if they start Clinical Research classes in Fall 2017 or later. If they have already taken CLR 320, they will still need to take CLR 340.

- e. **Additional prereqs not fulfilled by University Studies:** BIO 240, BIO 241, and BIO 246.
- f. **University Studies:** (if not noted, follow UNCW recommendations)
 - i. Math/Stats: MAT 111, 112, 115, 151, 152, 161 or 162
 - ii. AIL: Possibly fulfill Global Society with AFN 290, ARH 203, ENG 111/225/226/227, FNA 101, or MUS 106; Try to fill WI
 - iii. HST: Possibly fulfill Global Society with HST 101-104, HST 207-209, or INT 200
 - iv. PAR: PAR 115 or 215
 - v. Science: CHM 101 and BIO 201
 - vi. UHIB: PSY 105
 - vii. Diverse Nation: GRN 101 (Online course that fulfills CLR Elective)
 - viii. Global Society: Try to fulfill with AIL or HST
 - ix. WI: CLR 310 and CLR 410
 - x. IL: CLR 340 and CLR 420 (composition and first year seminar may fulfill)
 - xi. QLR: STT 210, STT 215, PSY 225, or QMM 280