HEALTH INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

Health Information Technology students will learn to organize, analyze and technically evaluate medical records according to established standards in a variety of health care institutions, including hospitals, nursing homes, physician offices and insurance companies.

HEALTH INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

Degree: Associate in Applied Science
HEGIS Code: 5213
Curriculum Code: 1969.HIT
Campus Location: North
Health Sciences Division
Pre-Admission Recommendations: HS Average of 80%, Biology, Math II, Keyboarding
Recommended H.S. Courses And/Or Experiences: Computer Skills, Math II
Career Opportunities/Further Education: Hospitals, Long-term Care Facilities, Mental Health Facilities, Rehab Facilities, Ambulatory Health Care Centers, HMOs, Other Health Care Facilities, Third-party Payers, and other Health Data Organizations

Program Description

The purpose of the Health Information Technology Program is to prepare individuals for employment as health information technicians. Graduates of this program will be prepared for positions in the health information/medical record departments of health care institutions such as hospitals, nursing homes, health maintenance organizations, physician offices, insurance companies and a variety of other health care institutions. Graduates will be prepared in organizing, analyzing and technically evaluating health data/information according to established standards. Compilation of statistics, medical coding of information, abstracting health information data and legal aspects of health information will be covered.

The academic content will include a core of liberal arts chosen from the areas of anatomy and physiology, social sciences, humanities, computer science, and English. The remainder of the curriculum is designed to build technical and computer skills necessary for the health information technician. Computer laboratories and web based activities will also be used for medical coding, statistical analysis, clinical database management, maintenance and retrieval of patient health data and the emerging electronic health record (EHR). During the course of study, students will participate in a professional practice experience which will provide training and experience in a health care setting.

Accreditation

The Associate of Applied Science degree in Health Information Technology is nationally accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Health Informatics and Information Education (CAHIIM). Graduates of the Health Information Technology program are eligible to write the National Qualifying Examination for certification as a Registered Health Information Technician (RHIT).

Department Notes

Cost of books, supplies, background checks, toxicology tests, transportation to professional practice sites, meals, parking, other costs related to Professional Practice Experience (PPE) and the physical examination/immunizations prior to the PPE are the responsibility of the HIT student.

Admission/Program Requirements and Prerequisites

- Applicants must have at least a high school diploma or HSE (High School Equivalency).
- Applicants should have high school biology and two units of mathematics. Computer and keyboarding skills are highly recommended.
- Applicants should have at least 80 percent high school average.
• Individuals who have not had biology in high school must take Survey of Anatomy BI 147 prior to taking the Anatomy and Physiology I & II BI 150/151 BI 152/153.

• The SUNY Erie English pretests must be passed, college English transferred from another college or developmental courses successfully completed before matriculation into the Health Information Technology Program.

• Individuals must complete MT 006 or pass the college placement test prior to matriculation into the Health Information Technology curriculum.

• Students must maintain a "C" or better in all required Health Information Technology courses, Anatomy & Physiology I and II lecture and lab and Medical Terminology I & II. A C- is not a passing grade for these courses.

• A physical examination and current immunization report is required prior to the start of the PPE.

• Students must meet all departmental and college requirements for graduation.

• Individuals must complete keyboarding (OF 101, OF 102 or OF 111) and Computer Literacy (CS101) or prove proficiency in course content.

• Medical Terminology II (MA 125) is a program requirement which must be taken before the start of the spring semester second year.

Program Competencies

Upon graduation with an Associate in Applied Science degree in Health Information Technology, the graduate will be able to:

• apply existing policies for organizing, planning, collecting, processing, controlling, and evaluating health information services;

• evaluate health records to determine if they meet institution needs;

• maintain manual or automated incomplete record control systems and systems for retrieval of all other health information;

• apply, and follow existing policies for retrieval and retention of health information;

• develop, apply and evaluate policies and procedures for health information, services and functions;

• apply and follow existing policies for the control, use and release of health information;

• follow procedures to maintain confidentiality and security of health information including computerized information;

• follow existing procedures for abstracting and reporting health information as required by legal, accrediting, licensing, and certifying regulations;

• apply coding rules to diagnoses and procedures;

• sequence diagnoses and procedures to ethically and accurately optimize reimbursement;

• organize and display data for research projects, special studies, and educational programs; and

• follow procedures to maintain security of computerized information; and conduct oneself in a professional and ethical manner by adhering to the AHIMA code of Ethics.

Program Outcome Measures

The following HIT program outcome measures are for academic year 2017-2018:

• Employment Rate – 83%

• Graduate Satisfaction Rate – 100%

• Employer Satisfaction Rate – 100%

CURRICULUM

Total Degree Credits: 63

First Year, Fall Semester

MR 101 Introduction to Health Information (3 cr)
MR 102 Lab for MR 101 (1 cr)
BI 150 Anatomy and Physiology I (3 cr)
BI 151 Laboratory for BI 150 (1 cr)
EN 110 College Composition (3 cr)
MA 115 Medical Terminology I (3 cr)

First Year, Spring Semester

MR 103 Health Record Law (3 cr)
MR 105 Introduction to Coding, Classification & Reimbursement Systems (3 cr)
MR 106 Lab for MR 105 (1 cr)
MR 250 Health Concepts (3 cr)
BI 152 Anatomy and Physiology II (3 cr)
BI 153 Laboratory for BI 152 (1 cr)
EN 111 Composition and Interpretation of Literature (3 cr)

Summer Session

MR 252 Professional Practice Experience I (3 cr)*

Second Year, Fall Semester

MR 107 Health Information Assessment and Reporting Principles (3 cr)
MR 203 CPT Coding, Classification & Reimbursement Systems (3 cr)
MR 204 Lab for MR 203 (1 cr)
MR 209 Computer Systems in Health Care (2 cr)
MR 210 Lab for Computerized Systems in Health Care (1 cr)
______ Humanities Elective (3 cr)
______ Social Science Elective (3 cr)

Second Year, Spring Semester

MR 205 Alternative Health Care Delivery Systems (3 cr)
MR 206 Lab for MR 205 (1 cr)
MR 208 Health Care Reimbursement (3 cr)
MR 211 Topics in Health Information Management (2 cr)
MR 212 Coding Seminar (3 cr)
MR 253 Professional Practice Experience II (1 cr)

Note: This is a recommended sequence. Students should consult the Health Information Technology Department Head prior to registering for courses.