

HGEN 6900 –All Semesters: Genetic Counseling Research

Credit Hours: Variable

Contact Information

Name	Position	Phone	Email
Faculty TBD			UUGPGC@utah.edu

Course Information

Brief Description of Course

Genetic counseling students should choose a research project that analyzes a primary or secondary data set in an innovative way. Research topics may include investigations of the psychological, biological, sociological, political and/or ethical aspects of genetic disease/birth defects, and the research may be conducted in a clinical, laboratory and/or community setting. Literature reviews, case reports, and designing or implementing patient, professional, and community educational programs are not acceptable research projects.

Alternatively, students can elect to do a formal master's thesis. Such students would register for research credits using HGEN 6970 and must adhere to University of Utah thesis guidelines. This includes the composition of the student research committee (<https://gradschool.utah.edu/graduate-catalog/degree-requirements/>), guidelines for the format of the written thesis manuscript (<https://documents.gradschool.utah.edu/thesis-handbook/>), and approval of the final manuscript by the university thesis editor.

Course Objectives

The University of Utah Graduate Program in Genetic Counseling requires the satisfactory completion of a research experience that can be either an independent research project or a thesis. The goals of the research experience are for GC students to:

- Participate in the design and implementation of a research project,
- Carry out the institutional requirements for research,
- Develop research questions, analyze data, and interpret results,
- Deliver oral presentations of the research study,
- Demonstrate the basic skills and knowledge required to be involved in research,
- Critically appraise research results,
- Actively engage with investigators/research team,
- Establish and maintain a professional relationship with committee members,
- Submit an abstract for presentation at a national conference, and
- Create a journal-ready manuscript and submit it for publication (or have committee convey why submitting post-graduation is preferred).

The ACGC Practice-Based Competencies Addressed in this course:

- Genetics and Genomics Expertise: 1; 1.a
- Research: 5: 5.a, 5.b., 5.c.
- Professional Identity: 7; 7.a, 7.b, 7.c, 7.d.

Course Format & Schedule

Timeline

Summer semester and all semesters of second year.



Educational and Instructional Modalities

TBD; dependent on research project and committee composition

Role of the Student in this Course

Students will practice genetic counseling skills under the supervision of board-certified genetic counselors and many other medical professionals. Students choosing a research rotation will work on an independent research project.

Required Textbooks/Readings

Textbooks will be available as references and will differ for different fieldwork settings.

Assessment & Grading

Evaluation Methods

Students will be evaluated on the quality and timeliness of their progress on the research project, oral presentations in the first and second years, professionalism and communication, and the final written manuscript. While the student research committee will be providing input on your research progress as a whole (as well as your final research defense to your committee), other assignments and presentations will be graded by the research course instructors and/or the Research Oversight Committee.

To receive credit and graduate from the Program, students must follow the research guidelines.

Grading System

A-F. In summer semester, prior to second year, students will receive an A-F letter grade. In the second year, students will receive a "T" grade for the fall semester. "T" grades will be awarded only in the event that continued, appropriate progress on the research project has been demonstrated. This grade will be converted to the final letter grade conferred by the research course instructors and your research committee at the end of the student's final semester.

Grading Scale

A	95-100
A-	90-94
B+	86-89
B	82-85
B-	79 - 81
C+	76-78
C	73-75
C-	70-72
D+	67-69
D	64-66
D-	60-63
F	Below 60

Standard Policies

The Americans with Disabilities Act.

The University of Utah seeks to provide equal access to its programs, services, and activities for people with disabilities. If you will need accommodations in this class, reasonable prior notice needs to be given to the Center for Disability Services, 162 Olpin Union Building, 801-581-5020. CDS will work with you and the instructor to make arrangements for accommodation. All written information in this course can be made available in an alternative format with prior notification to the Center for Disability Services.

Addressing Sexual Misconduct.

Title IX makes it clear that violence and harassment based on sex and gender (which includes sexual orientation and



gender identity/expression) is a civil rights offense subject to the same kinds of accountability and the same kinds of support applied to offenses against other protected categories such as race, national origin, color, religion, age, status as a person with a disability, veteran's status or genetic information. If you or someone you know has been harassed or assaulted, you are encouraged to report it to the Title IX Coordinator in the Office of Equal Opportunity and Affirmative Action, 135 Park Building, 801-581-8365, or the Office of the Dean of Students, 270 Union Building, 801-581-7066. For support and confidential consultation, contact the Center for Student Wellness, 426 SSB, 801-581-7776. To report to the police, contact the Department of Public Safety, 801- 585-2677(COPS).

Campus Safety.

The University of Utah values the safety of all campus community members. To report suspicious activity, call campus police at 801-585-COPS (801-585-2677). You will receive important emergency alerts and safety messages regarding campus safety via text message. For more information regarding safety and to view available training resources, including helpful videos, visit safeu.utah.edu.

Alternate Name and/or Personal Pronoun

Class rosters are provided to the instructor with the student's legal name as well as 'Preferred' first name (if previously entered by you in the Student Profile section of your CIS account). While CIS refers to this as merely a preference, we will honor you by referring to you with the name and pronoun that feels best for you in class, on papers, exams, group projects, etc. Please advise us of any name or pronoun changes (and please update CIS) so we can help create a learning environment in which you, your name, and your pronoun will be respected.

Current COVID-19 Campus Guidelines

COVID-19 Guidelines change rapidly. Please access the most current information COVID-19 Central @ The U. coronavirus.utah.edu