QLS Program

The Quantitative Life Sciences Ad Hoc Ph.D. program is a novel inter-department and inter-faculty program designed to produce the next generation of leaders in the rapidly changing world of biology, medicine and biotechnology. This program has been designed from the ground up with close consultation with all stakeholders to produce graduates with the quantitative and interdisciplinary skills that Quebec and Canada need to maintain their positions as world leaders in bio- and life-science research.

The general objective is to train students on quantitative approaches (technological, computational, and statistical) for the collection, analysis and interpretation of complex data from life sciences. Our students will ask questions that will drive tomorrow’s questions in biology and medicine—including molecular biology, biophysics and ecosystems—and be equipped to answer them.

Degree Features and Requirements

- Full year capstone course with modules demonstrating quantitative aspects in many fields in life sciences
- A year of research rotations in different labs (with an associated research stipend) for qualified candidates.
- Seminar series and annual retreat
- Comprehensive exam to demonstrate breadth and depth of knowledge in chosen field
- Research thesis

Eligibility

- Bachelor or Masters in appropriate field such as biology, chemistry, physiology, genetics, engineering, computer science, mathematics, statistics, or physics
- Demonstrated strong quantitative skills, with at least a minor in computer science, mathematics, statistics, physics, chemistry or engineering
- Strong interest in interdisciplinary research in quantitative life sciences
- Applicants who do not have formal education in the life sciences need to have a demonstrated interest for the field, e.g. in the form of an undergraduate research project or life science courses
- High scholastic standing: GPA of 3.3 (out of 4.0) in all levels of study

To apply

- Visit www.mcgill.ca/gradapplicants/apply and select “Quantitative Life Sciences”
- Provide a CV, personal statement, research statement, 2 letters of reference, transcripts, & proof of English proficiency (if required)
- For more information, contact celia.greenwood@mcgill.ca

This PhD program is going through official approval, and will shortly be submitted to the Ministère de l’Éducation et de l’Enseignement supérieur du Québec. However, students can apply now to an ad hoc version of this PhD program, to start in September 2017.