BST 493 Capstone Project

The capstone project requirement is met by working on an applied biomedical project. The student identifies a faculty member from the Department of Biostatistics and Computational Biology to be the primary advisor. The primary advisor helps the student choose a topic and identify a biomedical advisor outside the department (usually from the University of Rochester Medical Center) who provides a dataset for the student to work on. The student, with the help of the primary advisor, needs to identify another biostatistics faculty member to form a three-person advising committee before the project starts. Committee composition must be approved by the Master's Program Director and in accordance with University regulations. All committee members from DBCB must be full-time faculty at the rank of assistant professor or higher (including research faculty). At least one of the biostatistics committee members is required to be tenure-eligible. The external biomedical advisor need not hold a faculty position (full or part-time) at the University of Rochester.

The primary advisor and the biomedical advisor will jointly formulate the aims and scope of the project. These project advisors will provide continued support to the student until completion of the project. In particular, the primary advisor will closely oversee the project and provide regular guidance to the student not only during the work, but also during development of the report and preparation for the presentation and final oral examination.

The student's activities should form a coherent whole that can be summarized after 2-3 terms of work. Students are required to write a formal report summarizing the findings from their project. These findings are presented in a public lecture, which is followed by a closed oral examination.

The Written Report

Content of the Report

P credits of BST 493 Capstone Project; 2) oral presentation of the work conducted during the capstone project; 3) satisfactory performance on the oral examination; and 4) submission of a final (revised) written report of the capstone project.

Students should consult with the Graduate Program Administrator for information regarding deadlines

Computer printouts should be included sparingly, if at all. While it may occasionally be feasible and of interest to provide listings of small sets of data in an Appendix, this is not generally required. Depending on the context of the analysis, it may be helpful to provide data forms. Use of graphical displays to highlight findings of major interest is encouraged, but again, selectivity is required.

Other Considerations

Because investigators may need to ensure that proprietary information is not disclosed, the student should provide a draft copy to the primary and biomedical advisors for review before submitting it to the committee.

Oral Presentation and Final Examination

Student status will end and degree requirements will be fulfilled when the final revised report is accepted by the Master's Program Director. Reports that have been judged as acceptable and that do not contain confidential information intended for disclosure only to committee members will be permanently stored in the Department of Biostatistics and Computational Biology and be available for reference by faculty and students.

<<Report Title>>

by