Health Information Management is a specialized discipline that combines medical science and information technology with legal concepts and business administration. The health information manager is an expert in medical data, and is responsible for the management of health information systems consistent with professional standards and the medical, administrative, ethical and legal requirements of the health care delivery system. As a vital part of the health care team, health information management professionals are the recognized experts who secure, analyze, integrate and manage information.

DEGREES OFFERED
• Bachelor of Science in Health Information Management
• Accelerated Option: 18-month option for those already possessing a bachelor’s degree.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS
• High School diploma or acceptable score on the General Educational Development Test (GED)
• Minimum cumulative GPA 2.5/4.0
• Minimum ACT score of 20

High school or college entry-level biology and computer literacy is recommended. Currently, the average GPA of admitted students is 3.5/4.0 scale and the average ACT score is a 23.

Transfer applicants are encouraged to meet with the Chairman of the Health Information Management program for evaluation of their transcript. A 2.5 cumulative grade point average is required along with a demonstrated aptitude in business, science and information systems course work.

STUDENT ACTIVITY
Students are encouraged to participate in the HIM Student Organization. All Health Information Management majors are automatically members of the organization. The mission of this organization is to
• Further professional knowledge and effectiveness by interacting with health information professionals.
• Provide opportunities for sociability and collegiality among students.

WHY CHOOSE SLU
• DCHS is located within the Allied Health Professions Building on SLU’s Medical Center. HIM students have the opportunity to interact with others majoring in medicine, physical therapy, physician assistant education, occupational therapy, nuclear medicine, nutrition and dietetics, clinical laboratory science, and numerous health care professionals.
• Curriculum supports entry-level professional responsibilities expected of a new graduate.
• Students have access to over 70 clinical sites for their professional development practicum.
• Graduates are qualified to sit for the Registered Health information Administrator (RHIA) national credentialing examination.
• In collaboration with SLUCare, Saint Louis University’s physician practice, the Department has created an electronic health record educational environment that allows students to practice using an actual EHR. This environment mimics the actual EHR that students will see in the practice setting at most clinics. The government has mandated the implementation of an EHR by 2014, and this collaborative effort this gives our students the ability to see first hand how the system works.
CAREER OPPORTUNITIES
Careers in Health Information Management Information drive the health care industry. Whether searching medical databases for the latest treatment, assessing the quality of care provided to patients, managing health care costs, or influencing legislative issues, health information management is at the heart of health care. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, employment of health services managers is expected to have faster than average growth through the year 2016. Graduates work throughout the entire health care industry in settings that span the continuum of care. Employment opportunities include, but not limited to:
- Hospitals
- Ambulatory care clinics
- Physician practices
- Information system companies
- Long-term care facilities
- Home health care
- Governmental agencies
- Insurance companies
- Managed Care
- Mental and behavioral health facilities
- Law firms
- Healthcare consulting
- Healthcare companies
- Research associate

EARNINGS POTENTIAL
Below are typical earnings for health information professionals:
- New HIM graduates- $30,000-$50,000
- After 5 years experience- $50,000-$70,000
- Salaries are generally higher for graduates working in sales or consulting
- Second baccalaureate graduates may have a slightly higher salary range depending on their previous work experience and degree

JOB PLACEMENT
Currently, the market is strong for health information professionals:
- 100% of our HIIM graduates desiring full-time employment have done so within 3 months of graduation

FOR MORE INFORMATION
Please contact: Brion Abel, Recruitment Specialist
Phone: 314-977-2570
Email: abel@slu.edu
Website: HIIM.SLU.EDU

CONNECT
Facebook.com/SLUDCHS
Twitter.com/SLUDCHS
### Standard Curriculum Option

**Total Semester Hours:** 121-122

#### First Semester

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
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<td>Basic Human Anatomy</td>
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<td>Economics</td>
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<td>PHIL</td>
<td>Ethics</td>
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#### Junior Year

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<td>Intro to Health Informatics</td>
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<td>HIM320</td>
<td>Health Data Management</td>
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<td>HIM310</td>
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<td>HIM360</td>
<td>HIM Theory and Practice</td>
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<td>HIM415</td>
<td>Quality Improvement</td>
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<td>HIM461</td>
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#### Senior Year

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<td>*HIM430</td>
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<td>*HIM440</td>
<td>Clinical Data Analytics</td>
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<td>HIM453</td>
<td>Professional Practice</td>
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<td>*HIM498</td>
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<td>HIM</td>
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</table>

*12 week course

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Additional curricular tracks include: Pre-Medicine, Pre-Physician Assistant, Transfer Track, Accelerated Option, and Pre-Professional Health. Please go to hiim.slu.edu to view all tracks.

Revised 05/12
Careers in Health Information Management Information drive the health care industry. Whether searching medical databases for the latest treatment, assessing the quality of care provided to patients, managing healthcare costs, or influencing legislative issues, health information management is at the heart of health care.

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES
Career opportunities include:

- Management positions
- Sales-pharmaceutical, medical equipment, medical office supplies
- Information systems analyst or liaison
- Research
- Education
- Diagnosis and procedure coding
- Quality improvement

Typical work settings include:

- Hospitals
- Ambulatory care clinics
- Physician practices
- Information systems companies
- Long-term care facilities
- Home health care
- Governmental agencies
- Insurance companies
- Managed Care
- Mental and behavioral health facilities
- Law firms
- Healthcare consulting
- Healthcare companies
- Research associate

Salary Map courtesy of American Health Information Management Association (AHIMA)

JOB PLACEMENT
Currently, the market is strong for health information professionals:
- 100% of our HIIM graduates desiring full-time employment have done so within 3 months of graduation
- U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics predicts a “faster than average” job growth through 2016 along with a projected need for over 50,000 health information workers.

EARNINGS POTENTIAL
Below are typical earnings for health information professionals:
- New HIM graduates- $30,000-$50,000
- After 5 years experience- $50,000-$70,000
- Salaries are generally higher for graduates working in sales or consulting
- Second baccalaureate graduates may have a slightly higher salary range depending on their previous work experience and degree
Health information professionals care for patients by caring for their medical data. They ensure that all of a patient’s health information is complete, accurate, and protected, yet readily available for healthcare providers when needed.

**WHAT IS HEALTH INFORMATION MANAGEMENT?**

Health information management (HIM) is the practice of acquiring, analyzing, and protecting digital and traditional medical information vital to providing quality patient care.

Health information management professionals work in a variety of different settings and job titles. They often serve in bridge roles, connecting clinical, operational, and administrative functions. These professionals affect the quality of patient information and patient care at every touchpoint in the healthcare delivery cycle. Having skilled HIM professionals on staff ensures an organization has the right information on hand when and where it is needed while maintaining the highest standards of data integrity, confidentiality, and security.

HIM professionals are highly trained in the latest information management technology systems and understand the workflow in any healthcare provider organization from large hospital systems to private physician practice. They are vital to the daily operations management of health information and electronic health records.

A career in HIM is right for you if you:
- See yourself in a career that offers diverse opportunities.
- Would like to work in health care, but not directly with patients.
- Have an aptitude for science, but also like management, law, and computers.
- Enjoy working with professionals: physicians, nurses, lawyers, administrators and executives.
- Want a career where you can choose to work on your own, with others, or some of both.

HIM programs incorporate the disciplines of medicine, management, finance, information technology, and law into one curriculum. Because of this unique mixture, HIM graduates can choose from a variety of work settings across an array of healthcare environments.

**WHAT IS HEALTH INFORMATICS?**

Health Informatics (HI) is a science that defines how health information is technically captured, transmitted and utilized. Health informatics focuses on information systems, informatics principles, and information technology as it is applied to the continuum of healthcare delivery. It is an integrated discipline with specialty domains that include management science, management engineering principles, healthcare delivery and public health, patient safety, information science and computer technology. Health Informatics programs demonstrate uniqueness by offering varied options for practice or research focus.

There are four major focus research areas in informatics education reflecting various disciplines:
1. Medical/Bio Informatics – physician and research based, attracts medical students
2. Nursing Informatics – clinical and research based, attracts nursing students
3. Public Health Informatics – public health and biosurveillance based, attracts public health students

Information courtesy of the AHIMA HI Careers Site http://www.bicareers.com/health_information_101/health_information_101.aspx
Sebrina Campbell is getting a lot out of her college experience. In addition to being a Resident Advisor and Student Worker in the Medical Records Department at SLU Student Health and Counseling Center, Sebrina is a Martin Luther King Scholar and Honors Program student who participates in a lot of extracurriculars. Sebrina is serving her second term as president of SLU Active Minds, volunteers at the Hopewell Center in the Medical Records Department, and is a member of the AHIMA Student Advisory Council. This year, Sebrina received a Student Triumph Award from AHIMA, the American Health Information Management Association. The award is for students with high academic standards who demonstrate leadership and commitment to the future of the HIM profession.

What made Sebrina choose HIM for her degree? “I chose HIM because I wanted to work in the healthcare industry, but knew I didn’t want to be a physician. The HIM field is one that appealed to me because it is always changing, offers a wide variety, and is a demanding field. I knew that I enjoyed management and have always seen myself in a leadership role, and HIM was the perfect opportunity to combine my interest in healthcare and my passion for leadership in one major.”

Sebrina considers herself a good fit for HIM. “I have always been a natural leader. I thrive in situations where I am able to delegate tasks and manage others. I am very organized and detail oriented which is often necessary for HIM jobs.” She also considers her strong communication skills to be an asset as she prepares for entry into the field. “Communication is a key aspect in the health care industry because it is primarily based upon it. Without strong communication, errors in documentation and patient care occur.”

Sebrina is on her way to completing her Bachelor of Science in Health Information Management at Saint Louis University, and plans to continue one more year in the Master of Health Administration program. Getting her RHIA, Registered Health Information Administrator credentials, is also on her list of priorities. Sebrina would like to work as a director of an HIM department at a local hospital, where she can continue to gain experience. “I do not know where this job will take me afterwards, but my ultimate goal is to become President or CEO of a health care related facility.” There are many choices besides working in a traditional hospital HIM department. “I am also interested in managing a pharmaceutical company, a health systems business, or a special care facility.”

The Health Information Management Program at SLU has prepared Sebrina to pursue her professional goals. “SLU’s HIM program has helped me prepare for my career in HIM by giving me a large variety of courses. These courses have helped me direct my career path as well as build a strong knowledge foundation that increases after every course. The SLU HIM faculty are very supportive and have really worked with me to greater understand concepts and understand where I would like to go beyond graduation.” Her advice for other students: “Take a look at all of your options. There are so many different paths that you can take with an HIM degree. Don’t limit your options! Find something that really interests you and go from there. Also, connect with your professors and any HIM professionals you meet, because it could open up new opportunities.”