Health Information Management

The University of Kansas offers a bachelor’s degree in health information management (HIM), an exciting field that combines business, science and information technology. This degree provides hands-on experiential learning in a variety of health care settings and interprofessional education opportunities with other health care professionals. The curriculum focuses on health care management, data management and analytics, health information system and technology, privacy, security, classification systems, compliance, and quality improvement.

Graduates of this program are positioned to become leaders in health care with the skills required to manage complex systems, health data, workflow processes, and human resources and many now work at health information technology vendors, hospitals, physician offices, and government agencies, and many other types of organizations. To learn more about this program and the profession of health information management, please visit the program website (http://www.kumc.edu/school-of-health-professions/health-information-management/academic-programs.html).

Upon successful completion of the program, students are eligible to sit for the American Health Information Management Association’s national registry exam. Graduates passing this exam become credentialed and nationally recognized as a Registered Health Information Administrator with the RHIA credential.

The bachelor’s degree in health information management is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation for Health Informatics and Information Management Education (http://www.cahiim.org).

Students interested in entering this field should contact an advisor (http://www.kumc.edu/school-of-health-professions/health-information-management/about-us.html) as early as possible in their collegiate careers to ensure prerequisite course work will be completed on schedule. For more information, view the frequently asked questions (http://www.kumc.edu/school-of-health-professions/health-information-management/frequently-asked-questions.html) for prospective students.

Courses

HEIM 177. First Year Seminar. 3 Hours.
A limited-enrollment, seminar course for first-time freshmen, addressing current issues in health data and management. Course is designed to meet the critical thinking learning outcome of the KU Core. First-Year Seminar topics are coordinated and approved by the Office of First-Year Experience and the University Core Curriculum Committee. Prerequisite: First-time freshman status. LEC.

HEIM 210. Introduction to Healthcare. 1 Hour.
This course is an introductory overview of the healthcare system in the United States. The content includes information on the organizational structure and settings in healthcare, the healthcare team, reimbursement, health policy, legal aspects of healthcare including privacy and security, and the health information technology. This course is taught in an hybrid format and requires access to a computer. Open to all students. LEC.

HEIM 230. Medical Terminology. 3 Hours.
A study of the language of medicine including word construction, definitions, medical abbreviations, and use of terms related to various areas of medical science and health professions. Course requires students to be able to break down medical terms, understand their meanings and pronounce them correctly. This online course is designed for students interested in clinical and health professions. LEC.

HEIM 325. Pharmacology. 2 Hours.
This introduction to pharmacology course is intended to provide the student with the background information necessary to practice within the field of Health Information Management. The course covers the fundamentals of pharmacology, including pharmacokinetics and pharmacodynamics. The classification of drugs, the use of drug reference materials, and the mechanisms of therapeutic and adverse responses to drugs will be covered in the course. This course will also introduce the processes used for drug approval in the United States. Prerequisite: Permission of the instructor. LEC.

HEIM 401. Introduction to Health Information Management (HIM). 3 Hours.
This course introduces students to the foundational concepts of health record content, characteristics and requirements, along with the operational processes designed to support and safeguard the healthcare data and information contained therein. Joint Commission survey process is also included. Industry standard software applications are used for applied, hands-on learning in this course. LEC.

HEIM 415. Healthcare Delivery Systems. 3 Hours.
This course is an in-depth overview of the United States healthcare system and focuses on the structure and function of services across settings. Special emphasis is placed on the history of healthcare, reimbursements and financing, health policy, outcomes (cost, quality, access) and the integration of care across delivery settings using health information technology. LEC.

HEIM 420. Legal Aspects of Healthcare. 3 Hours.
This course introduces the student to some of the basic legal principles found in healthcare and health information management (HIM). Fundamentals of law including statutory, regulatory, and judiciary practices are reviewed in the context of HIM including tort and liability. Emphasis is placed on HIPAA regulations. Patient legal rights and responsibilities as related to their healthcare are included, as well as fraud and abuse prevention and compliance. LEC.

HEIM 435. Pathophysiology for Health Professionals. 3 Hours.
An in-depth study of the fundamentals of medical science, medical essentials and the language of medicine, signs, symptoms, and test findings of disease processes and the current therapy employed in the treatment of diseases. Prerequisite: Courses in Anatomy lab, Physiology lab, and Medical Terminology or consent of the instructor. LEC.

HEIM 450. Introduction to Professional Practices Experiences. 1 Hour.
This course is designed to prepare students and develop the skills required for experiences outside of the classroom environment. The emphasis is on professional behavior for health information management professionals in the workplace. The course also introduces students to the application of electronic health record concepts. The content is intended to prepare students for site visits, professional practice experiences, the internship, as well as their future careers. LEC.

HEIM 485. Independent Study in Health Information Management. 1-10 Hours.
The content will vary depending on material appropriate to students. May be repeated for additional credit utilizing a variety of projects and special assignments. Prerequisite: Permission of the program director. FLD.
HEIM 501. Information Resources and Professional Development. 2 Hours.
This course prepares students to effectively utilize information resources and technology on an academic medical center campus to foster success in the Health Information Management program, professional practice experiences and the health professions. Students will learn to apply software applications, project management strategies, and professional writing and literacy skills. This course has a special emphasis on professionalism, self-awareness, communication, collaboration and critical thinking. LEC.

HEIM 510. Professional Practice Experience / Lab I. 1 Hour.
Through supervised learning situations, students are given opportunities to visit different types of healthcare facilities in the area. These opportunities vary from year-to-year based upon availability. Opportunities might include (but not be limited to) developing competence while practicing a specific HIM function in an actual HIM department, exploring nontraditional HIM career roles, or visiting with and interviewing a long term care, behavioral health, rehabilitation, or managed care HIM department manager. Prerequisite: Successful completion of Junior-level HIM academic courses or permission from instructor. LEC.

HEIM 525. Healthcare Database & Architecture. 3 Hours.
This course is designed to help students understand databases and database management systems. Students will learn to model and understand database design, in conjunction with learning methods to structure data as records, tables, or objects. Students will also learn how query languages are used for searching, sorting, reporting, and other "decision support" activities to best utilize the available data. Along with acquiring knowledge fundamental to management of the electronic health record (EHR), students will develop general technical knowledge to become capable health information professionals. LEC.

HEIM 540. Health Information Systems. 3 Hours.
The increased use of technology to support health data and information continues to evolve. This course introduces students to core topics and concepts in health informatics, emphasizing the implementation and management of health information systems. Students learn the conceptual framework and foundational elements of health informatics, selecting and implementing systems through the Systems Development Life Cycle (SDLC), data and information infrastructure, privacy and security aspects, human-computer interaction frameworks and usability concepts, and current trends and supporting technologies. LEC.

HEIM 565. Clinical Terminologies and Classifications I. 4 Hours.
This course introduces classification systems and terminologies used in healthcare and the relationship of these systems to patient care, research, and reimbursement systems. Course content provides study and application of coding guidelines, conventions, and rules of coding systems. Prerequisite: HEIM 435 or permission of the instructor. LEC.

HEIM 566. Clinical Terminologies and Classifications II. 3 Hours.
This course offers continued study of classification systems and terminologies used in healthcare and the relationship of these systems to patient care, research, and reimbursement systems. This course includes an introduction to the role of mapping between the various classification systems, nomenclatures and clinical terminologies used in healthcare. Prerequisite: HEIM 565 or permission of the instructor. LEC.

HEIM 567. Quality and Performance Improvement in Healthcare. 3 Hours.
This course provides instruction on the principles of quality (QI) and performance improvement (PI) in the context of healthcare. PI drivers, models, techniques, and processes are covered including workflow reengineering. QI program organization, management and effectiveness are addressed. This course also includes content on patient safety, risk management, resource management and assessment of provider competence. LEC.

HEIM 570. Introduction to Healthcare Management. 3 Hours.
This course introduces theoretical and applicable concepts of management with an emphasis on managing in healthcare organizations. Students explore traditional management roles as well as leadership concepts. Course content depicts management in the context of a complex stakeholder environment evidenced in the healthcare system of the United States. LEC.

HEIM 571. Human Resource Management in Healthcare. 3 Hours.
Through the course students will have the opportunity to obtain working knowledge of human resource management. Technology and the continuing uncertainty of the economy have affected many aspects of human resource management; a number of tasks formerly performed by an HR office are now the purview of department managers. The course will familiarize students with the environment in which HR functions and the tasks involved in managing people. Topics include: social sustainability, culture, vision, staffing needs analysis, recruiting and selecting, training, developing, retaining, motivating, and legal rights of the people within the rapidly changing business environment. Prerequisite: HEIM 570 Healthcare Management. LEC.

HEIM 575. Applied Statistics and Research Methods in Healthcare. 3 Hours.
Emphasis is on the statistical analysis of healthcare data. Content includes hospital-based statistics, an introduction to epidemiological concepts, research design and methodology, research ethics and protocol, hypothesis testing, data management, analysis and presentation. Prerequisite: MATH 365 Elementary Statistics, or similar.

HEIM 585. Healthcare Reimbursements & Financing. 3 Hours.
This course examines complex financial systems within the United States healthcare system. Students explore content related to healthcare financing, reimbursement, and revenue cycle management, to include regulatory and/or policy initiatives and operational considerations for healthcare organizations. Prerequisite: Accounting or permission from instructor. LEC.

HEIM 604. Professional Practice Experience / Lab II. 2 Hours.
Provides a laboratory/professional practice experience setting for the application of coding, reimbursement and revenue cycle management-related practices with potential opportunity to participate in interprofessional activities. This is a two-credit hour lab. Prerequisite: HEIM 565, HEIM 585, and HEIM 635 or permission of the instructor. LAB FLD.

HEIM 635. Clinical Terminologies and Classifications. 3 Hours.
This course offers continued study of classification systems and terminologies used in healthcare and the relationship of these systems to patient care, research, and reimbursement systems. This course includes an introduction to the role of mapping between the various classification systems, nomenclatures and clinical terminologies used in healthcare. Prerequisite: HEIM 565 or permission of the instructor. LEC.

HEIM 661. Management Principles in Health Care. 3 Hours.
Introduction to basic principles of management and education and their application in the current healthcare environment. Course content includes: management, quality issues, budgeting, personnel issues, evaluation and application of management concepts, and educational methodologies. Cross listed with CLS 661 and RESP 661. Prerequisite: Admission to the Health Information Management Program or permission of the instructor. LEC.

HEIM 665. Topics in Health Information Management. 2 Hours.
This course will utilize case studies, student discussions and guest presentations to address the latest developments in the management of health information. Students will examine key issues and trends within HIM through a series of seminar topics and presentations. LEC.
HEIM 670. Independent Study in Health Information Management. 1-10 Hours.
The content will vary depending on material appropriate to students. May be repeated for additional credit utilizing a variety of projects and special assignments. Prerequisite: Permission of the program director. LEC.

HEIM 671. Strategic Leadership in Healthcare. 3 Hours.
This course applies key concepts in personal, professional and organizational leadership for healthcare management. Special emphasis is on strategic leadership and planning for enterprise-wide health information strategies. Student will focus on leadership styles with an emphasis on self-discovery and professional development within an ever-changing environment. LEC.

HEIM 676. Healthcare Analytics. 3 Hours.
This course covers data-driven, computer-based tools and data analysis techniques that aid decision-making in healthcare. Effective use of data analysis increases the quality of strategic and operative planning and reduces the time used for decision-making processes. The course focuses on data-driven techniques and tools including such topics as medical coding systems, database fundamentals, business performance monitoring (managerial dashboards), and data mining applied to the healthcare industry. A number of data mining and predictive modeling approaches are discussed to address specific issues in healthcare. LEC.

HEIM 679. Information Governance in Healthcare. 3 Hours.
This course examines the role of health information managers as facilitators and champions of information governance in healthcare organizations. Course content includes an exploration of the topic of information governance, as well as introduces strategic considerations for enterprise processes, policies and procedures, standards, and metrics to support information governance efforts. Information is considered throughout the course as a strategic asset for organizational optimization. External users of information and related implications are also discussed. LEC.

HEIM 680. Management Internship. 3 Hours.
This internship experience provides the student with a management capstone experience in the activities and responsibilities of the health information administrator. Students are responsible for all costs to include: room, board, and transportation. Management sites are selected based on the experience and credentials of the student. Prerequisite: Successful completion of all HIM professional coursework and/or permission of the instructor. LEC.

HEIM 681. Management Practicum. 3 Hours.
This practicum experience provides the student with a management capstone experience in the activities and responsibilities of the health information administrator. The specific practicum topics are selected based on the experience and credentials of the student. Prerequisite: Successful completion of all HIM professional coursework and/or permission of the instructor. LEC.