PhD in Biological Sciences

Admission Requirements
Applicants are considered on an individual basis. Transcripts of all undergraduate and any graduate work must be submitted. In addition to the Graduate College minimum requirements, applicants must meet the following program requirements:

• **Baccalaureate Field** No restrictions. It is recommended that prior academic work include courses in biological sciences beyond the introductory level to provide sufficient preparation for the proposed area of study. Admitted applicants may be required to remedy specific course work deficiencies by enrolling in undergraduate classes during their first year.

• **Grade Point Average** At least 3.00/4.00 for the final 60 semester (90 quarter) hours of undergraduate study.

• **Tests Required** GRE General.

• **Minimum English Competency Score**
  - TOEFL 90, with subscores of Reading 19, Listening 24, Speaking 26, and Writing 21 (iBT Internet-based TOEFL), OR, IELTS 6.5, with subscores of 6.0 for all four subscores, OR,
  - PTE-Academic 54, with subscores of Reading 51, Listening 47, Speaking 53, and Writing 56.

• **Letters of Recommendation** Three required, preferably from faculty who are familiar with the applicant’s recent work.

• **Personal Statement** A one- to three-page statement of the applicant’s area of interest, research experience, professional goals, and reasons for wishing to attend graduate school is required.

• **Deadlines** Application deadlines for this program are listed on the Graduate College website at http://grad.uic.edu/deadlines.

Degree Requirements
In addition to the Graduate College minimum requirements, students must meet the following program requirements:

• **Minimum Semester Hours Required** 96 from the baccalaureate.

• **Course Work** At least 22 credit hours of 400- and 500-level courses are required. A minimum of 8 semester hours of 500-level courses must be letter-graded courses (A to F), not project (BIOS 597), thesis (BIOS 599), or seminar courses which are graded Satisfactory (S) or Unsatisfactory (U).

• **Preliminary Examination** Required.

• **Dissertation** Required. Students must earn at least 32 hours in BIOS 599.

Interdepartmental Concentration in Neuroscience
In addition to meeting the above requirements, qualified PhD students interested in pursuing a concentration in neuroscience may complement their studies through the Interdepartmental Concentration in Neuroscience. Refer to Interdepartmental Concentration in Neuroscience (http://catalog.uic.edu/gcat/graduate-college/neus-conc) in the Graduate College section for more information.