



**UNE** Online  
UNIVERSITY OF NEW ENGLAND

## Graduate Programs in Health Informatics

Educating skilled, well-rounded professionals to shape and transform the next generation of healthcare.

# Welcome to **UNE**

UNE offers more than 40 undergraduate, graduate and professional programs, is home to Maine's only dental and medical schools, and our faculty include internationally-recognized scholars in the sciences, health, medicine and humanities. UNE's unique combination of expert faculty, personalized student support, advanced technology, and highest-quality curriculum ensures that the education received by our worldwide student body is unparalleled.



# TABLE OF CONTENTS

## 2 WHY UNE ONLINE?

## 3 ACCREDITATION & RECOGNITION

HIMSS AEP Certification

## 6 WHAT IS HEALTH INFORMATICS?

## 7 GRADUATE PROGRAMS IN HEALTH INFORMATICS

Master of Health Informatics

Healthcare Leadership

Health Data Analytics

Training and Development

Individualized

Graduate Certificates in Health Informatics

## 12 PRACTICUM

## 13 ADMISSIONS

Prerequisites

Technology Requirements

Application Requirements

## 15 RESOURCES & SUPPORT

Student Support Specialist

Student Academic Success Center

Complimentary HIMSS Student Membership

Additional Support Services

## 18 TUITION & FINANCIAL AID

Tuition & Fees

Financial Aid





# Why UNE Online?

UNE holds a firm commitment to excellence in online education. Through the College of Graduate and Professional Studies, UNE Online offers innovative courses and programs and is an established leader in the online learning community.

## **THE UNE ONLINE LEARNING PLATFORM:**

- Is flexible and convenient, providing 24/7 access to course materials.
- Enables student-centered teaching, allowing you to engage in ways that best suit your learning style.
- Encourages student interaction and increases instructor accessibility.
- Facilitates learning through interaction with a global and diverse population of students and faculty.
- Encourages continuous connection of academic knowledge to real-world scenarios through course assignments that are practical and applied.

## **ONLINE PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS INCLUDE:**

- No campus visits required – 100% online.
- Learn anytime from anywhere you have an internet connection.
- No GRE required.
- Renowned faculty with experience in the areas they instruct.
- Regionally accredited by the New England Commission of Higher Education (NECHE).

# Accreditation & Recognition

Accreditation is the review of the quality of educational institutions and programs. In the United States, accreditation is a key measure used to identify institutions and programs that provide a high-quality education.

## NEW ENGLAND COMMISSION OF HIGHER EDUCATION

The University of New England is regionally accredited by the New England Commission on Higher Education (NECHE). NECHE is now the federally-recognized regional accreditor for the six New England States after assuming the business functions of the Commission previously managed by NEASC.

The Commission states that its “dual role of quality assurance and quality improvement remains in place.” You can find more information about UNE’s accreditation at:

<https://www.une.edu/provost/accreditation>

## HIMSS APPROVED EDUCATION PARTNER

As a result of meeting the Healthcare Information and Management Systems Society (HIMSS)’s rigorous standards for quality health IT and healthcare education, the University of New England has been named as a HIMSS Approved Education Partner (AEP).

As a mission driven non-profit, HIMSS offers a unique depth and breadth of expertise in health innovation, public policy, workforce development, research and analytics to advise global leaders, stakeholders and influencers on best practices in health information and technology.

As an association, HIMSS encompasses more than 72,000 individual members and 630 corporate members. It partners with hundreds of providers, academic institutions and health services organizations on strategic initiatives that leverage innovative information and technology.

## HIMSS AEP (cont.)

As an AEP, University of New England joins an exclusive group of organizations authorized to offer HIMSS-approved healthcare and health information technology education and training programs. HIMSS highlighted several aspects of UNE programs as reasons for AEP inclusion, such as:

- Online opportunities for students to pursue education in the field of health informatics including individual courses, a graduate certificate, and a master's degree program.
- Well-rounded courses that focus on topics including, but not limited to: public health, quality, computer science, databases, legal, compliance, project management and emerging opportunities.
- Coursework designed for content mastery, developing technical proficiencies, and cultivating and growing leadership attributes.
- Courses that serve as a solid foundation to prepare students to take the CAHIMS or CPHIMS exam.



*“ ...the program does a great job of giving students exposure to different subject matters within the field. If healthcare and IT pique your curiosity, then health informatics may very well be the ideal degree for you to pursue.*

*- Steve Butka,  
M.S. Health Informatics '19*





# What is Health Informatics?

Health informatics connects people, technology, and data to improve healthcare outcomes and safety by supporting operational and technological advancements. It is a hybrid career situated between two fast-growing industries.

Between 2016 and 2026, overall healthcare employment is projected to increase by 18 percent, and computer and information technology employment by 13 percent. These are both much faster than the average job growth of 6 to 9 percent.

*(Bureau of Labor Statistics)*

## **RESPONSIBILITIES MAY INCLUDE:**

- Driving operational efficiencies that enable streamlined comprehensive care and secure protection of patient data.
- Health data collection, storage, extraction, manipulation, reporting, and communications through technologies including wearables, apps, and telehealth.
- Designing, configuring, and managing health information and clinical support systems.

## **WHO PURSUES A MASTER OF SCIENCE OR GRADUATE CERTIFICATE IN HEALTH INFORMATICS?**

- Working professionals with healthcare experience including nurses, physicians, pharmacists, and health educators.
- IT professionals, including network architects, computer systems analysts, network administrators, and database administrators, who want to expand their skill set to become more marketable in the healthcare industry.
- Professionals interested in changing careers.
- People already working in the health informatics field who have real world experience, and want or need a graduate degree or certificate to advance in their career.
- Clinicians and clinical analysts who want to further advance their data interpretation skills to improve the healthcare industry.
- Dental, pharmacy, PT, OT, or nursing students who are interested in a rapidly-evolving specialty.

# Graduate Programs in Health Informatics

## MASTER OF SCIENCE IN HEALTH INFORMATICS

The Master of Science in Health Informatics is a 36-credit hour master's program designed to expand your technical skill set and knowledge-base to make you a leader in the health industry. This program can be completed entirely online, with no campus visits required, and offers the flexibility busy working professionals need to complete a graduate degree. All course work is completed in an asynchronous format.

Students may opt to take individual, non-matriculated courses for personal or professional development rather than pursuing a degree (up to 9 credits). This option depends on available space and approval by the Program Director.

## REQUIRED COURSES - 30 CREDITS

<b>HCA 601</b>	Introduction to Health Administration	( 3 credits )
<b>HIN 605</b>	Introduction to Health Informatics	( 3 credits )
<b>HCA 610</b>	Healthcare Quality for Enhanced Value-Based Patient Outcomes	( 3 credits )
<b>HIN 615</b>	Advanced Computer Information Technologies for Health Informaticists	( 3 credits )
<b>HIN 620</b>	Database Design, Standards, Access, Modeling	( 3 credits )
<b>HIN 625</b>	Health Information Legislation, Compliance, Privacy and Security	( 3 credits )
<b>HIN 700</b>	Project Management	( 3 credits )
<b>HIN 715</b>	Health Data Analysis, Visualization, and Storytelling	( 3 credits )
<b>HIN 785</b>	Health Informatics Capstone	( 6 credits )

## OPTIONAL FOCUS AREAS

Students can specialize their degree track to match their professional goals with industry demands. Our unmatched focus area model provides each student the skills and training needed to power their career, and ultimately ensures a valuable return on their investment.

Specialize in one of the following focus areas, or customize your degree to fit your career ambitions

## HEALTHCARE LEADERSHIP

This focus area addresses the needs of students who may work in health informatics and want to advance to the next level of leadership. The coursework is focused on strategic planning, financial management, leadership skills, supply chain, budgeting, and economics.

**HCA 720** Leadership and Strategic Management in Health Settings (3 credits)

**HIN 760** Healthcare Finance and Economics (3 credits)

## HEALTH DATA ANALYTICS

This focus area will prepare students for a career in data science and predictive analytics. Through an investigation of health data analytics, students will obtain exposure and preliminary skills in the area of data science. Health Data Analytics continues to be the program's most-selected focus area.

**HIN 770** Foundations of Healthcare Data Analytics (3 credits)

**HIN 775** Advanced Concepts in Healthcare Data Analytics (3 credits)



# Graduate Programs in Health Informatics

## TRAINING & DEVELOPMENT

This focus area explores adult learning theory as it pertains to training in IT settings and emphasizes visual and oral communication techniques to inform instructional programming. Those considering career advancement in corporate training, system implementation, or education programming environments may be interested in this focus area.

<b>HIN 775</b> Advanced Concepts in Healthcare Data Analytics	( 3 credits )
<b>EDU 760</b> Adult Learning Theory	( 3 credits )

## INDIVIDUALIZED

Build a curriculum designed to best serve your future goals through a combination of any two courses that offer a custom learning experience.

<b>HCA 720</b> Leadership and Strategic Management in Health Settings	( 3 credits )
<b>HIN 730</b> Human Factors for System Development	( 3 credits )
<b>HIN 735</b> Measuring User Experience	( 3 credits )
<b>HIN 750</b> Applying Consumerization Principles to Health Informatics Strategy	( 3 credits )
<b>HIN 760</b> Healthcare Finance & Revenue Cycle Strategy	( 3 credits )
<b>HIN 765</b> Communication for Healthcare Leaders	( 3 credits )
<b>HIN 770</b> Foundations of Healthcare Data Analytics	( 3 credits )
<b>HIN 775</b> Advanced Concepts in Healthcare Data Analytics	( 3 credits )
<b>EDU 760</b> Adult Learning Theory	( 3 credits )
<b>GPH 702</b> Public Health Policy	( 3 credits )

# Graduate Certificates in Health Informatics

## GRADUATE CERTIFICATE IN HEALTH INFORMATICS

The 18-credit hour Graduate Certificate in Health Informatics provides students with the core concepts they need to enhance their professional knowledge or to pursue a graduate degree in the field. All certificate program courses can be applied to UNE's Master of Science in Health Informatics program.

### GRADUATE CERTIFICATE CURRICULUM - 18 CREDITS

<b>HCA 601</b>	Introduction to Health Administration	( 3 credits )
<b>HIN 605</b>	Introduction to Health Informatics	( 3 credits )
<b>HCA 610</b>	Healthcare Quality for Enhanced Value-Based Patient Outcomes	( 3 credits )
<b>HIN 615</b>	Advanced Computer Information Technologies for Health Informaticists	( 3 credits )

## GRADUATE CERTIFICATE IN HEALTHCARE DATA ANALYTICS

The 12-credit hour Graduate Certificate in Healthcare Data Analytics provides students the foundation, skills, and advanced concepts to perform healthcare data analysis using experiential learning techniques to fully understand the software platforms and applications used in today's workforce. Key data platforms learned will include SQL, R, and Tableau.

### GRADUATE CERTIFICATE CURRICULUM - 12 CREDITS

<b>HIN 620</b>	Database Design, Standards, Access, Modeling	( 3 credits )
<b>HIN 715</b>	Health Data Analysis, Visualization, and Storytelling	( 3 credits )
<b>HIN 770</b>	Foundations of Healthcare Data Analytics	( 3 credits )
<b>HIN 775</b>	Advanced Concepts in Healthcare Data Analytics	( 3 credits )

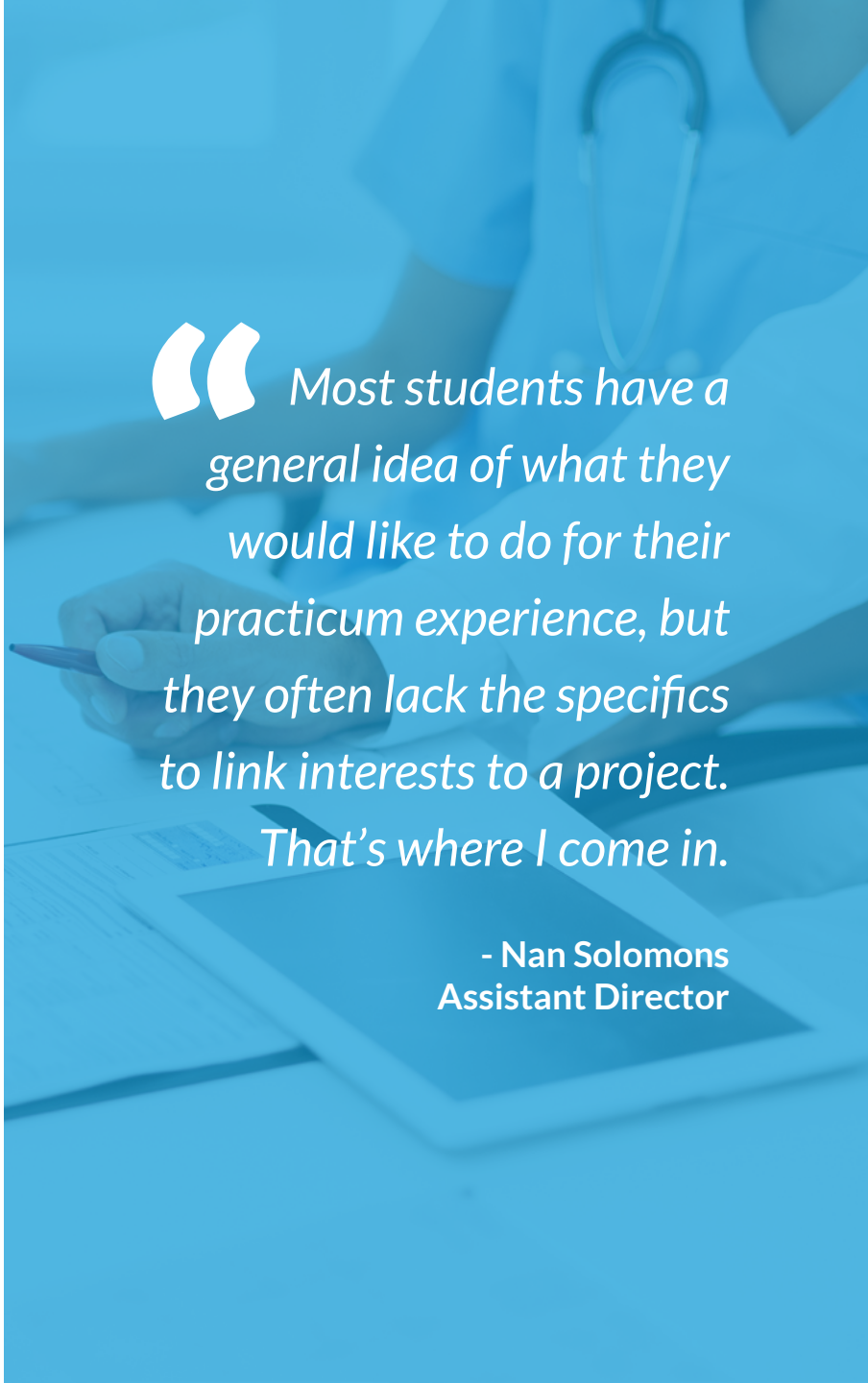
# Practicum

## HIN 785

In addition to 120 hours of workplace-based field experience, the field practicum experience is made up of one 16-week course, HIN 785 Health Informatics Capstone.

In HIN 785, students will write regular journal entries, quarterly reports, and a review of the scientific literature on a topic related to their workplace experience. As part of the paper, students will compare findings from the literature to their experiences and observations in the workplace. Additionally, at the end of the course, students will describe their practicum journey and future plans via an ignite presentation.

*Note: Securing a successful practicum site is the student's responsibility. The practicum coordinator is available to help students identifying a practicum interest, develop strategies to find a site, and communicating with potential hosting sites.*



“ Most students have a general idea of what they would like to do for their practicum experience, but they often lack the specifics to link interests to a project. That's where I come in.

- Nan Solomons  
Assistant Director

# Admissions

## ATTRIBUTES OF A SUCCESSFUL APPLICANT

Health informatics is a rapidly evolving field of study and that applicants from diverse backgrounds are drawn to this program. Successful students have rich backgrounds with a variety of professional and academic experiences.

The successful student is characterized by a lifelong curiosity, a natural perseverance, and an inclination to take on new challenges. The ability to learn and adapt to new tools and technology is an asset in this program. Students with the capacity to manage multiple competing priorities are most successful in our online learning environment.

## TRANSFER CREDIT POLICY

Upon acceptance, students may apply to transfer up to three, 3-credit courses (maximum nine semester credits) into the master's degree program or one 3-credit course (max. three semester credits) into either of the graduate certificate programs.

## APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

- Complete the online graduate application at [online.une.edu/apply](https://online.une.edu/apply)
- Provide contact information for three references, preferably of supervisory or leadership positions.
- Submit official transcript(s) reflecting conferral of bachelor's degree and above. Applicants with international degrees should contact an enrollment counselor for more information.
- Professional Resume / CV: Must be current and include current professional roles and responsibilities.
- Goal Statement / Essay: 500 – 1000 words. This statement should describe personal development and future goals, relevant professional experience, interest in graduate study in health informatics, and the capacity to succeed in a distance learning format, i.e., self-motivated, self-starter, comfortable with and access to a computer and the internet.
- Submit a \$40 non-refundable application fee.



# Admissions (cont.)

## PREREQUISITES

- Bachelor's degree and above from a regionally accredited institution or international equivalent.
- A cumulative undergraduate GPA of 2.75 or better will be considered.

## TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

- Access to a computer and the internet.
- Webcam - 1280 x 720 (1 megapixel) resolution recommended.
- Microphone / speakers.
- Microsoft Office - free and available to students with their @une.edu account via Office 365; includes Microsoft Outlook for your @une.edu email.



# Resources & Support

The University of New England is committed to student success, and we understand that success impacts the overall student experience. That is why we work hard to provide you with the very best student experience possible. We provide personalized support for all aspects of the student journey, including application, course registration, and academics, so that you can focus on successfully completing your program.

## **STUDENT SUPPORT SPECIALIST**

A Student Support Specialist is assigned to every student who enters the Health Informatics program in order to ensure success. From the moment you enter the program your support specialist is by your side answering any questions, providing access to all of the resources that UNE has to offer, and ultimately guiding you from registration through graduation.

## **YOUR DEDICATED STUDENT SUPPORT SPECIALIST CAN HELP YOU:**

- Stay up to date with changes in textbooks and other course resources
- Find announcements about course or schedule revisions
- Complete course registration
- Contact a faculty member
- Navigate the course site or using course tools
- Answer general course information or questions
- And more

# Resources & Support (cont.)

## COMPLIMENTARY HIMSS STUDENT MEMBERSHIP

The University of New England is proud to provide each graduate student complimentary membership to the global Healthcare Information and Management Systems Society (HIMSS). As a HIMSS Academic Organizational Affiliate (AOA), UNE maintains a valuable partnership with HIMSS by empowering students to receive hands-on experience, network with peers, and even contribute to the industry while they're completing their degree program. Key benefits of HIMSS membership include:

- The ability to connect with peers in your area of expertise.
- Discounted pricing on conferences, webinars, the HIMSS bookstore, and the HIMSS Learning Center.
- Access to the HIMSS job board.
- Invitations to and member pricing for local chapter events and professional networking opportunities.
- Educational resources for career advancement.
- Participation on a national community, committee, or special interest group.

## STUDENT ACADEMIC SUCCESS CENTER

The Student Academic Success Center provides a comprehensive array of academic support services including workshops, tutoring, writing support, and individual learning consultations specifically relevant to online students. The Center's mission is to empower students to become more independent and efficient learners so that students are able to meet the University's academic standards and attain their personal educational goals. For students' convenience, the Center can be contacted by phone, email, video conferencing, or in person.

## ADDITIONAL SUPPORT SERVICES

- Career Services Center
- Writing Support
- Student Financial Services
- Library Services
- Learning Management System (Brightspace) Tutorials
- Student Access Center
- Technology Support



MARTIN GYMNASIUM

# Tuition & Financial Aid

## TUITION & FEES

Application Fee (Non-Refundable)	\$40
General Services Fee (per semester, non-refundable for matriculated students)	\$60
Tuition (per credit hour)	\$750
Technology Fee (per semester)	\$85
Registration Fee (non-matriculated students per semester)	\$30

- Graduate tuition and fee rates are subject to change.
- Students are expected to pay for textbooks and materials at the beginning of the semester.
- Books, supplies and other items available at the UNE Bookstore or through other online channels.

## FINANCIAL AID

Investing in your future is a big financial commitment, which is why the University of New England is proud to offer accredited and quality education at a competitive price. Financing a college education is a partnership between the student, his or her family, and the University. The Financial Aid Office at UNE is available to assist students and their families in finding the financial means necessary to achieve their educational goals.



The University of New England has repeatedly claimed a spot in U.S. News & World Report's rankings for Best Online Graduate Education Programs.

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