

**Master of Science in Clinical Investigation Sciences
Program Closure**

The Master of Science (M.Sc.) in Clinical Investigation Sciences is a 31-credit hour program within the School of Public Health and Information Sciences (SPHIS). The program has experienced a 94.7% decline in enrollment during the past six (6) academic years with only one (1) student being enrolled for the Fall 2024 semester. Additionally, with recent faculty retirements and departures, SPHIS has had difficulty offering the necessary coursework for the degree program. Finally, SPHIS is shifting its academic, research, and engagement focus to public health, and as a result, the academic unit's leadership and faculty believe the degree program is increasingly a poor fit for the unit. The SPHIS Academic Affairs Committee approved the proposed closure of the M.Sc. in Clinical Investigation Sciences on February 10, 2025.

I. Enrollment and Degree Conferrals

Academic Year	Fall Enrollment¹	Degree Conferrals
2019-2020	19	7
2020-2021	16	6
2021-2022	13	7
2022-2023	8	6
2023-2024	7	0
2024-2025	1	N/A
¹ The fall term is UofL's official reporting semester for enrollment data.		

II. Students

As of the Spring 2025 semester, seven (7) students are currently enrolled in the M.Sc. in Clinical Investigation Sciences degree program. Of these students, all are currently on track to complete their degree requirements by no later than the Summer 2026 semester. Specifically, the enrolled students are expected to complete the program according to the following schedule given the number of credits they have already earned:

- Five (5) will likely graduate by no later than the Summer 2025 semester.
- One (1) will likely graduate by no later than the Fall 2025 semester.
- One (1) will likely graduate by no later than the Summer 2026 semester.

The required coursework for these students to complete the program will be offered through the Summer 2026 semester to ensure they can complete the degree requirements to be bestowed the M.Sc. in Clinical Investigation Sciences.

Students who are admitted into the program will be informed via email upon acceptance into the program that they have three academic years from the date of admission to complete the required coursework to be bestowed the M.Sc. in Clinical Investigation Sciences. This will provide all students with sufficient time to complete the degree requirements (i.e., 150% of the minimum time for degree completion). By Summer 2029, the coursework to complete the degree program will no longer be guaranteed to be offered.

III. Notification of Faculty, Staff, and Community

Affected faculty in SPHIS are already aware of the closure. Six (6) courses required for the degree program are also required courses for other certificate and degree programs in SPHIS, and all the faculty that teach in the program have appointments in other departments within SPHIS. Faculty appointments within SPHIS have remained stable with 40 full-time appointments in 2019 and 41 in 2024. Accordingly, the closure of the M.Sc. in Clinical Investigation Sciences is being implemented, so SPHIS can shift faculty resources to areas of enrollment and research growth in public health and biostatistics.

Once the degree program is officially closed with SACSCOC, the Vice Provost/SACSCOC Liaison will notify all relevant parties (e.g., registrar, graduate school, advisers, academic deans, etc.) of the program closure via email, and the academic catalog will be updated to reflect the program closure with a note being added to the 2025-2026 and 2026-2027 Graduate Academic Catalog that the program is currently being phased out with it being closed to admission for the Fall 2026 semester. The degree program will be removed from the Graduate Academic Catalog entirely for the 2027-2028 academic year. Finally, the program director will email all community partners (e.g., student recruitment partners, etc.) to notify them of the closure.

IV. Current, Lapsed, and Prospective Student Communication Plan

Currently enrolled students will be formally notified via email by the program director, and they will be encouraged to meet with the program director to discuss their academic progress toward degree completion.

Lapsed students who are still eligible to re-enroll in the degree program under UofL's continuous enrollment policy will be emailed by the SPHIS Director of Admissions. The notification will inform lapsed students that they must re-enroll by no later than the Summer 2026 semester and within two years of the last term in which they were enrolled to be able to complete the program.

As previously mentioned, prospective students will be informed the program is currently being phased out, and they have until Summer 2029 to complete the degree program if they chose to enroll in the program at UofL. They will be notified of this condition at the time of admission, and the degree program's website and the graduate catalog will both denote the program is being phased out with a last admission term of Summer 2026.

V. Effective Date

The last term students will be admitted to the M.Sc. in Clinical Investigation Sciences is the Summer 2026 semester. The program will be closed to subsequent enrollment effective for the Fall 2026 semester (August 17, 2026).