Biomedical-Physics Minor (BPH) Will Distinguish your Med-School Application, Requiring an Investment of Only Two Additional Courses

Glimpse the future of medicine. Nobel-Prize winning physician and former NIH Director Harold Varmus writes that “for at least several hundred years, physicists—and especially their principles, methods and machines—have been illuminating our views of the human body and of every other living thing.” If you plan to go to medical school, you’re already taking General Physics (PHY 2053/4 or PHY 2048/9). With two more courses, you can earn a minor in Biomedical Physics (BPH).

The two courses, Applications of Physics to Biology and Medicine parts I and II (PHZ 4702/3), cover topics including biomechanics, blood flow, thermoregulation, hearing, neural signal transmission, electroencephalography, vision, CAT scans, fMRI, nuclear medicine, and medical nanotechnology. These courses fulfill the BMS major electives and are among the suggested courses for MCAT preparation. Students in the BPH minor have also found research opportunities with biophysics faculty in the Department of Physics; just as examples, their research topics have included lab work on collagen scaffolds for applications in regenerative medicine and computer simulation of cholesterol in cell membranes.

Since 2004, over 1,100 USF students have earned the BPH minor. Both parts (I and II) are offered every fall and spring, and often during the summer.

For more information, contact one of the instructors for PHZ 4702:

Prof. Garrett Matthews (6-9329) or Prof. Martin Muschol (4-2564) for fall 2015.