

June 2024 ACR Plymouth Prestige

Fall 2024 - New Students

- 29 students have been accepted into the Applied Clinical Research graduate program to date.
- Our goal is for 15 students to start the program in August.

Company Collaborations

Thank you to the following organizations for supporting our students with their capstone experiences over the last year.

- Avio Medtech Consulting – St. Paul, MN
- Boston Scientific – Maple Grove, MN
- CVRx – Minneapolis, MN
- Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Centers and Clinics – Dartmouth, NH
- Health Partners Institute – St. Paul, MN
- Indiana University School of Medicine – Indianapolis, IN
- Rush University Medical Center – Chicago, IL
- ThermoFisher Scientific – Austin, TX and Wilmington, NC
- University of Minnesota Masonic Cancer Center – Minneapolis, MN

Faculty Spotlight



- Katrina Croghan, CCRP, MS
- Quality Management Coordinator, Mayo Clinic Comprehensive Cancer Center
- 12 years of investigational site experience
- Course Instructor
 - ACR 626 – Evidence-Based Medicine
 - ACR 632 – Clinical Study Operations and Execution
 - ACR 634 – Clinical Risk Management and Safety
 - ACR 640 – Clinical Research Leadership
 - ACR 641 – Communication for MedTech Professionals
- Why do you like teaching in the ACR graduate program?
 - I have always loved teaching because it allows me to learn and update my own learning patterns. I am so pleased to have the opportunity to work with ACR

because I love to bring the passion of clinical trials forward, and working with a great group of students and faculty is an absolute delight.

- How does the ACR graduate program help the clinical research profession?
 - Having a clear understanding of clinical trials, regulations, and other driving forces is incredibly important. My best estimate is that it takes two years for study team members to feel comfortable with clinical trial development and terminology and 5-10 years to ‘master it’. This program is a catalyst; it helps accelerate this learning process so those 2 years of uncertainty turn into a year with increased confidence and understanding from the start.
- What is the most unique component or significant highlight of the ACR graduate program?
 - The faculty are passionate and truly want everyone to excel in the field of clinical research. It’s truly remarkable.

Alumni Spotlight



- Justin Patri, MS – Class of 2022
- President & Founder, Flyover Clinical, LLC
- 20 years of industry experience (Clinical and Pre-clinical)
- Favorite Program Courses
 - ACR 630 – Clinical Study Design and Planning
 - ACR 641 – Communication for MedTech Professionals
- How did you benefit from going through the ACR graduate program?
 - Outside of the knowledge and skills I learned in the ACR program, the credentials opened doors for me that would have been difficult before. The MS added credibility to my resume.
- Why would you recommend this program to a developing clinical research professional?
 - This program prepares one well for a career in clinical research. It is a competitive field, and the MS-ACR credential gives job applicants a step up in the competition. Additionally, previous graduates of the program are doing amazing things in the industry, which just builds the reputation of the SCSU MS-ACR program. I would strongly recommend this program to those people willing to put in the effort to build on that legacy.
- What is the most unique component or significant highlight of the ACR graduate program?

- The instructors are industry professionals. These are people with decades of experience in the field. They have seen the industry evolve rapidly and have unique knowledge and experience.
- The small class sizes and the cohort system help ensure that students and graduates can establish a decent-sized network by the time they graduate. This network includes fellow students, instructors, and alumni.
- The hybrid/flexible class model. The program is geared towards working professionals, and many students have families with children. The ability to follow classes remotely but still synchronously breaks down barriers that many parents and professionals face in pursuing graduate degrees.

Student Spotlight



- Jhansi Ayyalasomayajula – Expected graduation, August 2024
- BS in Dental Surgery and MS in Periodontics and Oral Implantology
- Favorite Program Courses
 - ACR 632 – Clinical Study Operations and Execution
 - ACR 634 – Clinical Risk Management and Safety
 - ACR 695 – Special Topics: Career Exploration
- What are your career goals as a clinical research professional?
 - I aim to gain comprehensive experience in various clinical research facets, from study design and protocol development to data analysis and regulatory affairs. I aspire to become proficient in overseeing clinical trials, focusing on ensuring ethical practices, patient safety, and data integrity. I believe I would gain satisfaction as a dental doctor and clinical research professional by doing ethical clinical trials. One of my long-term aspirations is to transition into an educator role, sharing my knowledge and experiences with the next generation of professionals entering the field.
- What has been the most unique component or significant highlight of the Applied Clinical Research graduate program so far?
 - In the ACR 630 course, we visited the Histosonics company. During this visit, we delved into the intricacies of histotripsy, a groundbreaking technique in medical research. The hands-on exposure to such cutting-edge technologies was educational and transformative. The proactive approach of our graduate director taking the student feedback seriously and helping us to enhance our learning journey resulted in the unique opportunity to engage with Histosonics in a real-

time setting. It's a testament to the program's dedication to providing theoretical understanding and practical, tangible experiences that enrich our understanding of clinical research.