HIHIT Online Fall 2020 Program Format

Dates, Schedule and Structure

What are the start and end dates of the Fall 2020 program?
The program will begin on Monday, September 21st and end on Friday, November 20th.

There is also a required virtual orientation that students will need to attend on Thursday, September 17th from 6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. CST.

Is the course still full-time for nine weeks?
Yes - HIHIT will be a cohort-based online format where, similar to an in-person format, you will be interacting with faculty and other students during live class sessions in addition to offline projects and activities. You will be supported by faculty and staff fully throughout the session, meaning it will not be a “self-paced” program and the course objectives will not change. The program will have a mixture of synchronous and asynchronous work. You can expect between 12-16 hours per week in live lectures where attendance is required. You can also expect between 15-25+ hours per week of asynchronous work that you complete during the afternoons on your own time. The program will continue to be 9 weeks.

We do not recommend holding a full-time job and taking the program because you can expect to commit a minimum of 40 hours of work per week to the program. It is imperative to keep up with the coursework due to the very fast nature of the program. Meeting your weekly objectives will be crucial to your success.

The Schedule
The schedule will remain the same with the online format:

- **Weeks 1-6:** you are learning the four didactic courses and professional development
  - Live lectures will be Mondays-Fridays from 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. CST (attendance required) *plus 15-25+ hours of asynchronous content*
  - During **Week 5**, there will be two days where you will be required to give project presentations between the hours of 1:00-4:00 p.m. CST. These hours will be announced on the first day of class.
  - Faculty office hours will be Mondays – Thursdays from 2:00 pm. – 5:00 p.m. CST (highly suggested for maximum success in the program)
- **Weeks 7 and 8** are the practicum experience
  - Scheduled hours will vary depending on the practicum experience.
- **Week 9** involves final project preparations, final presentations and graduation.
  Historically this has been the week where employers conduct interviews. For those
employers that still want to conduct interviews this week, we will coordinate them virtually (if needed.)

Will I need to come to UT at all during the course?
No

What will the structure look like, specifically?
The program will have a mixture of synchronous and asynchronous work. You can expect between 12-16 hours per week in live lectures where attendance is required. You can also expect between 15-25+ hours per week of asynchronous work that you complete during the afternoons on your own time. The program will continue to be 9 weeks.

Professional Development

How will the practicum experience change?
We are committed to providing all students with a quality, hands-on practicum experience which may be in a remote or virtual format. We have no way of knowing if we will be able to send students out to hospitals and/or clinics during the fall practicum and we are making preparations so that each student will experience an industry-relevant practicum experience that will meet the goals and objectives of our program.

How will networking day change?
It will be a virtual event where you will visit with professionals from different avenues of Health IT to explore the varieties of different professions that are available in this industry. This has been an in-person event in the past.

How will final onsite interview opportunities change?
With regards to the company interviews that have historically come during week 9 of the program, we plan to continue to provide these (virtually, if needed) with our partners that express interest. We cannot and do not guarantee that all students will secure an employer interview through our partner contacts.

Is there still a chance we could have practicum at off-site facilities?
Yes, but at this time, due to COVID-19, we have no way of knowing if we will be able to send students out to hospitals and/or clinics during the fall practicum. We are making preparations so that each student will experience an industry-relevant practicum that will meet the goals and objectives of our program and provides you with a valuable experience for your career.

How will moving to an online program affect my chances of getting a job?
In all transparency, we cannot have any way of knowing who will be hiring at that time. If companies are hiring, interviews would be done virtually (if needed) during week 9 of the program with our partners that express interest. There is no guarantee of obtaining an interview with one of our partners, but as always, we will do everything we possibly can to help get your resume to our contacts that express interest at that time.
CastleBranch

Is the Castle Branch work still required?
We will not require Castle Branch items (Background check, drug screen and immunizations) to be completed before the first day of class. However, if offsite practicums do become available, we will communicate this information and these Castle Branch items will need to be completed at that time. We will not be able to send you to any partners for practicums if your Castle Branch items are not completed. The process generally takes 1-2 weeks to complete, but can take up to 3-4 weeks.

Tuition

Will there be a price change?
No - tuition for HIHIT will remain the same. Our program will deliver the same quality of curriculum and instruction as we have with our in-person course for ten years and the support from faculty and staff will stay the same. We will have "live" office hours, community help sessions, and be ready to assist you as needed during your course.

Will the payment procedures change at all?
No - the process will still remain the same. If you were to be accepted, you would first reserve your spot with a $500 nonrefundable deposit. Tuition is due by September 16th unless you establish a payment plan. We will still offer an in-house payment plan that is open for all students. This is not a loan, it is a simple plan/form with no additional fees or interest. If you would like to set up a payment plan, please contact Phyllis Belllon at Phyllis.bellon@mccombs.utexas.edu. Also keep in mind that financial aid does not apply because it's a not-for-credit, professional certificate program. UT Austin will only certify loans for UT Austin graduates as well.

Attendance

How will you take attendance in the course?
You can expect between 12-16 hours per week in live lectures where in person attendance is required and attendance will be taken. Cameras should be turned on for all live sessions to build community and for accountability. These live lectures will take place Mondays-Fridays 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. CST for the first six weeks of the program.

Health IT Technologies/Labs

How will we do the EHR, SQL, Tableau and Excel labs?
You will still be able to get experience and practice with Health IT technologies on your laptop or desktop. There are requirements for your laptop or desktop and you can find this under “Laptop/Desktop Requirements”.
**Laptop/Desktop Requirements**

**What kind of laptop/technical equipment do I need?**
In order to participate fully in the online environment, your computer and internet must meet the following requirements to access our virtual laboratory and participate in Zoom meetings.

**Operating Systems:**
- Apple macOS (10.8.1 and above)
- Windows 8 or Windows 10
- Linux (Ubuntu Linux 18.04 and above)

**Browsers:**
- The latest version of Google Chrome or Firefox

**Processor and RAM requirements:**

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<th>Minimum</th>
<th>Recommended</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Processor</td>
<td>Single Core 1Ghz or Higher</td>
<td>Dual Core 2Ghz or Higher (i3/i5/i7 or AMD equivalent)</td>
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<tr>
<td>RAM</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>4Gb</td>
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**Notes:**
- Dual and single core laptops have a reduced frame rate when screen sharing (around 5 frames per second). For optimum screen sharing performance on laptops we recommend a quad core processor or higher.
- Linux requires a processor or graphics card that can support OpenGL 2.0 or higher.

**Bandwidth Requirements:** The bandwidth used by Zoom will be optimized for the best experience based on the participants’ network. It will automatically adjust for 3G, WiFi or Wired environments.

Recommended bandwidth for meetings and webinar panelists:
- For group video calling:
800kbps/1.0Mbps (up/down) for high quality video
○ For gallery view and/or 720p HD video: 1.5Mbps/1.5Mbps (up/down)
○ Receiving 1080p HD video requires 2.5mbps (up/down)
○ Sending 1080p HD video requires 3.0 Mbps (up/down)

- For screen sharing only (no video thumbnail): 50-75kbps
- For screen sharing with video thumbnail: 50-150kbps
- For audio VoIP: 60-80kbps

Webcam and Microphone: A webcam and microphone are required for participating in live instruction and partner assignments. If your computer is not equipped with a webcam or microphone, a list of compatible products suggested by Zoom can be found at the bottom of this page: https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us/articles/201362023-System-Requirements-for-PC-Mac-and-Linux

Class Lectures, Material, Exams, etc..

How will I attend class?
You will attend class via Zoom. You will have a UT Austin Zoom account as a visiting student.

How will I submit work?
Canvas, which is UT Austin’s Learning Management System.

How will exams be given/graded?
All exams and quizzes will be given and graded in Canvas.

How much of the course will involve “live” lecture and how much will be self-paced learning?
The program will have a mixture of synchronous and asynchronous work. You can expect between 12-16 hours per week in live lectures where attendance is required. You can also expect between 15-25+ hours per week of asynchronous work that you complete during the afternoons on your own time. The program will continue to be 9 weeks.

What does asynchronous content include?
Asynchronous content will include watching lecture videos, reading articles, quizzes, case studies, projects, etc… Students must complete at least 90% or greater of the asynchronous content in order to participate in the practicum experience and receive a certificate.

I heard from a friend that there is not much homework outside of preparing for exams. How will the new structure of the course change the amount of homework we have?
Due to the fast and intense nature of the program, some students require more study time outside of class than others, only you know what’s best for you. You can also expect between 15-25+ hours per week of asynchronous work that you complete during the afternoons on your own time. The hours will vary per week depending on the assignments given.

How will I get student support from faculty and staff?
Faculty and staff will still be readily available to support you with "live" office hours, community help sessions, and be ready to assist you as needed during the program.