

The Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai  
Masters in Genetic Counseling  
Class of 2024



Cindy

Toronto

Honours BSc in Molecular Biology and Genetics Co-op from  
McMaster University in Hamilton, Ontario

I chose ISMMS because I knew I wanted to be in a program where I would be able to practice counseling patients of diverse backgrounds, see complex cases, and be taught by experts in the field. Mount Sinai, being one of the top institutions in the world in the diverse city of New York City, offers all of that.

I am an avid music lover and a proud dog-mom from Toronto, Canada. I love meeting new people, experimenting with new recipes, and watching feel-good shows in my free time. I have loved my time here at Sinai so far and I feel extremely grateful to have the opportunity to learn here.

Tayla

Texas

BS in Biology and BA in Chemistry from Texas Christian  
University

I chose ISMSS for numerous reasons, one being that I appreciated how the program takes an interdisciplinary approach with its curriculum. Some of the medical school classes we take have been my favorite!

A little bit about me is that I am a proud owner/mother to the cutest cat known to man and, prior to starting graduate school, I worked as a 9th-grade biology teacher at a private school in Memphis, TN.





## Rachel

California

BS in Biology and Spanish at Gonzaga University

I chose ISMMS because of its seamless integration into one of the largest departments of genetics and genomic sciences in the world. The program has a unique emphasis on social work and coursework is taken alongside other graduate and medical students outside of the genetic counseling program, which helps to foster a unified community.

A fun fact about me is that I'm a citizen of Switzerland, so it's no surprise that my parents were sending my brother and I down the ski slopes from an early age. I'm happiest when I'm outside with my best friends doing anything active, especially backpacking. Prior to graduate school, I worked with the Pediatric Neurogenomics Care Team at Lucile Packard Children's Hospital Stanford and volunteered with the Little Zebra Fund.

## Meg

Kentucky

BS in Biomedical Sciences and French at Eastern Kentucky University

I chose ISMSS because I love New York, the people in the program are a delight, and the program's ongoing commitment to diversity reflects my own values.

During my time at Eastern Kentucky, I contributed to research projects in ophthalmology and immunology/reproductive health. I also visited New York several times for volunteer work and an internship, during which I lived in Washington Heights.





## Rori

New York

BS in Biology with a minor in Sociology from Binghamton University

I chose ISMMS because of the focus on rotations and a wide range of specialties.

Throughout college, I was Vice President of the SEEK, the student run helpline where I gained counseling skills to help me pursue a career in genetic counseling. Additionally, I worked for a non for profit, Helping Celebrate Abilities, where I helped individuals with intellectual disability gain skills to be able to live as independently as possible. In my free time, I love hiking and traveling. A fun fact about me is that I used to work at a science museum, where I led tours of the planetarium.

## Emily

Pennsylvania

BS in Genetics and Developmental Biology; BMA in Musical Arts (Violin) from Penn State University

I chose ISMSS because of the opportunity to work with diverse patient populations within Mount Sinai's esteemed healthcare system and the dynamic community of East Harlem.

I worked at the University of Pittsburgh for 5 years as a Project Manager for government-funded research projects focused on tissue engineering and regenerative medicine. I volunteered with music therapy groups for children with developmental disabilities and taught ESL classes at Goodwill. In my free time, I love to cook and watch cooking competition shows!





## Danielle

Massachusetts  
BS in Microbiology

I chose ISMSS because of the access to impressive faculty, the focus on pushing innovation through research endeavors on all fronts, and the ability to rotate through different specialities while building meaningful connections and professional networks.

I am from Shrewsbury, Massachusetts. I graduated from UMass Amherst in 2021 with a degree in Microbiology and a certificate in Culture, Health, and Science. During my senior year, I interned with Genomes2People, a population genetics focused research group, which solidified my desire to pursue genetic counseling as a career. After graduating, I moved to Boston, MA where I gained further experience working as a Clinical Research Coordinator at Massachusetts General Hospital in stroke genomics. Research has been a significant part of my background and something I am excited to carry on with as a genetic counselor to further advance our field. In my free time, I love to be outdoors, especially visiting my parent's home in the White Mountains of New Hampshire as well as spending time with my pets. I am so excited to be pursuing my MS in Genetic Counseling at the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai!

## Jordana

New York  
Philosophy, Neuroscience, and Psychology (PNP) from  
Washington University in St. Louis

I chose ISMMS because I was excited by the idea of studying, and ultimately practicing, in New York City where I will interact with an ethnically and socioeconomically diverse population. Studying at a world-renowned teaching institution, like Mount Sinai, was especially important to me, and it has been an incredible experience so far!

I am a first year genetic counseling student at Mount Sinai. In undergrad, I worked at WashU's medical campus, researching and facilitating meetings concerning cancer genetics and implementation science. Outside of school, I love hiking and traveling, and this past summer I backpacked through Asia with friends!





## Georgia

London (grew up in Toronto)

BS with honours in Biology from Dalhousie University

I chose ISMSS because of the unique courses offered, the impression I got from current students and leadership, and the opportunities presented by living in NYC.

Before coming to ISMMS, I worked on a Genome Wide Association Study (GWAS) in Toronto investigating the association between an individual's genetics and their experience with, and immune response to, COVID-19 infection. I'm excited to be part of such a rapidly evolving field - I am particularly interested in the advancement of psychiatric genomics and the role of genetic counseling within this speciality. Outside of genetics, I really enjoy fashion/vintage clothing, going out to eat, and snowboarding.

## Kiana

California

BS in Molecular and Cell Biology from UC Berkeley

I chose ISMMS because I was excited to learn from a distinguished program in one of the most exciting cities in the world!

Before coming to Mount Sinai, I worked as a Research Associate at Illumina, where I learned about next generation sequencing. I've also worked as an organic chemistry tutor and a reproductive options peer counselor. In my free time, I like to cook, read, and watch scary movies with friends.





## Anastasia

Florida (split time between Russia and the US during high school)

BS in Biology with a Minor in Psychology from the Georgia Institute of Technology

I chose ISMSS because, within the Mt Sinai Health System, I will have the opportunity to work with diverse patient populations alongside passionate healthcare professionals.

During undergrad, I was involved in Excel, a mentorship program for college students with IDD's. In addition, I was active in my college's outdoor recreation program, where I helped teach mountain biking skills to students. After graduating from Georgia Tech, I had the opportunity to learn more about the US healthcare system by working as a medical front office assistant in a neurology clinic. In my free time, I love visiting art museums in NYC and going on walks in Central Park.

## Nirel

