

Neuroscience Degree Plan

First year DBS students take 12 credit hours in the Fall and the Spring, and 6 credit hours in the Summer semesters. In subsequent years, they are enrolled in 9 credit hours in the Fall and the Spring, and 6 credit hours in the Summer. Typically, didactic coursework is completed in the first year, and in subsequent years, students are enrolled in dissertation research and a combined work-in-progress seminar (WIPS)/ journal club totaling full-time enrollment equivalency. Candidacy of the qualifying exam **is dependent upon the successful completion of all coursework and the qualifying examination**, which takes place in the second year.

Year	Term	Half/ Full	Title	Credit Hour	Total Credit Hrs/Term
First Year	Fall	1 st Half	Core Curriculum - Genes	2	
			Core Curriculum - Proteins	2	
		2 nd Half	Core Curriculum - Neuroscience	2	
			Core Curriculum - Cells*	2	
		Full	Professionalism, Responsible Conduct of Research, and Ethics I	1	
	Full	Laboratory Rotations	3	Semester Total: 12	
	Spring	1 st Half	Elective Coursework*	1.5	
		2 nd Half	Elective Coursework*	1.5	
		Full	Fundamentals of Neuroscience	4.0	
			Professionalism, Responsible Conduct of Research, and Ethics II	1	
			Introduction to Biostatistics and Bioinformatics	2	
	Full	Laboratory Rotations	2	Semester Total: 12	
Summer		Research	6	Semester Total: 6	
Second Year	Fall	1 st Half	Elective Coursework*	1.5	
		Full	Research	8	
	Spring	Full	WIP Seminar / Journal Club	1	Semester Total: 9
		Full	Research	8	
	Summer		WIP Seminar / Journal Club	1	Semester Total: 9
			Dissertation Research	6	Semester Total: 6
Third Year	Fall	Full	Dissertation Research	8	
		Full	WIP Seminar / Journal Club	1	Semester Total: 9
	Spring	Full	Dissertation Research	8	
		Full	WIP Seminar / Journal Club	1	Semester Total: 9
	Summer		Dissertation Research	6	Semester Total: 6
Fourth Year & Beyond	Fall	Full	Dissertation Research	8	
		Full	WIP Seminar / Journal Club	1	Semester Total: 9
	Spring	Full	Dissertation Research	8	
		Full	WIP Seminar / Journal Club	1	Semester Total: 9
	Summer		Dissertation Research	6	Semester Total: 6
Minimum Credit Hours for PhD					102

* Students are required to complete a total of 4.5 credit hours of elective and advanced elective coursework that can be chosen from the following table. The following table includes all advanced elective courses listed in the Neuroscience Graduate Program.

*Elective Coursework	Credit Hour	Term Offered	
Core Curriculum - Cells	2	Fall	2 nd half
Synapses and Channels	1.5	Fall on Even years	1 st half
Heritable Neurological Diseases of Mice & Men	1.5	Spring on Odd years	1 st half
Neurotechniques	1.5	Spring on Odd years	1 st half
Neurobiology of Mental Illness	1.5	Spring on Even years	1 st half
Neural Control of Homeostasis	1.5	Spring on Even years	2 nd half

Students may take electives from other programs within DBS but must get approval from the Program Chair prior to enrolling. MoD track coursework cannot be substituted for electives. If necessary, students may take up to a maximum of 3 elective courses in any given half-term to accommodate the electives of their choice during the first year.