

UCSD Life Sciences PhD Programs

This table is designed to help you better understand the unique qualities of each program and make informed decisions during the application process. This is a summary view. Please consult program web pages for more detail.



	Biological Sciences (BioSci)		Biomedical Sciences (BMS)	Neurosciences (NGP)
	General	EBE		
<i>First Year Rotations</i>	4 x 6 week within program (+2 optional)	4 x 6 week (1+ with probable advisor)	3 x 12 weeks (or 6 weeks) within program	3 x 12 weeks
<i>First Year Coursework</i>	Boot camp + CORE course sequence	Boot camp BGGN 204	BIOM200AB, BIOM201 + 3 core courses + 2 core seminars	Boot Camp + 6 core courses (NEU200ABC + 3 others)
<i>Electives</i>	Two 4-unit courses	Two courses, to be chosen in consultation with thesis advisor	15 units	12 units
<i>Qualifying exam or equivalent</i>	Thesis Proposition Exam (Year 2)	Qualifying Exam (Year 1)	Research Proposition Exam (BIOM296) Fall of Year 2	Minor Proposition (NEU280)
<i>Advancement to candidacy</i>	3 rd or 4 th year	2 nd , 3 rd or 4 th year	3 rd year	3 rd or 4 th year
<i>Teaching requirement</i>	3 quarters	3 quarters; additional teaching for financial support available	1 quarter	Minimum 1 quarter
<i>Seminar requirement</i>	BGSE 205 (Year 2 and beyond)	BGSE 205 (Year 2 and beyond)		Research Rounds (weekly), 6 quarters
<i>Curricular tracks and specializations</i>	Standard, qBio, Microbiology, Immunology, etc. (see here)	qBio, Microbiology, etc. (see here)	9 research areas + qBio, glycobiology, anthropogeny	Computational neuroscience
<i>Current students</i>	210	19	177	94
<i>Program faculty</i>	180 in the Division + Salk	21	246 (UCSD, Salk, SBP)	160 (UCSD, Salk, SBP, TSRI)
<i>Admissions</i>	GRE not required	GRE not required	GRE not required; International Student Pre-Application required	GRE not required or considered

PhD students may perform thesis research with any UCSD faculty, as defined in the [Doctoral Committee Membership Table](#), regardless of their home program, provided program requirements, including student support requirements, are met.