

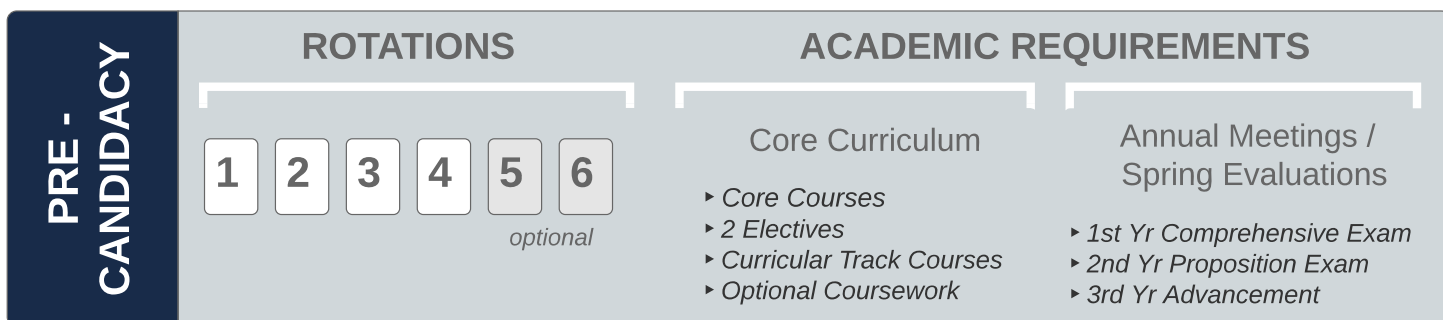
The Biological Sciences PhD Program provides world-class doctoral research training in biological sciences, equipping a diverse group of trainees for a variety of scientific careers. **Core principles** drive a student centered approach that is attuned to the goals of the trainee.

The **core curriculum** covers fundamental topics in molecular, cellular, genetics and population biology, focusing on development of critical thinking, intellectual independence, communication, creativity, and leadership. The first year offers a high degree of flexibility in choice of thesis advisor through the **rotation program**, which consists of four to six six-week rotations. Strong emphasis on **engaged mentoring** builds on this early development.

As a central hub of the thriving San Diego biosciences community, the program maintains strong partnerships with research organizations such as the Salk Institute, as well as with other campus units, enabling a wide range of **curricular tracks** and **interdisciplinary training programs**, including the Program in Immunology and the Genetics Training Program.

The **training philosophy** centers on the following principles:

- Rigor, reproducibility, and responsibility
- Quality mentorships, student mental health, and well-being
- Equity, Diversity and Inclusion
- Open science practices
- Communication and outreach
- Teaching and research as interdependent facets of engaged scholarship



Select a Thesis Advisor (by end year 1)
Begin Thesis Research

Graduate Instructional Apprentice Assignments
(Years 2,3,4; 1st concurrent with BGN 500)

