



NEUROSCIENCES
GRADUATE PROGRAM

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UC San Diego

**NEUROSCIENCES
GRADUATE PROGRAM**

**PROGRAM GUIDE
2019-20**

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PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION

OVERVIEW

The Neurosciences Graduate Program is an interdisciplinary program that provides coursework and research training leading to a degree of Doctor of Philosophy in all areas related to the development and function of the nervous system. The program draws faculty from various departments across campus as well as the Salk Institute, the Scripps Research Institute, and the Sanford-Burnham Institute. The entire faculty associated with the program makes up the Neuroscience Graduate Program Faculty Group.

Executive Committee

The policies and guidelines that govern the program are set by the Executive Committee. This committee oversees a broad range of issues affecting the program including general administration, the distribution of financial and human resources, as well as activities and events involving the Group's faculty and students. This committee is composed of chairs of the various faculty-student committees, as well as several members at large and two student representatives.

Program Director

The Director of the program is appointed for a renewable 3-year term by the Executive Committee based on input from the program faculty, and may have his or her primary appointment in any of the departments that make up the Faculty Group. The Director is a full-time member of the program faculty and is responsible for the overall administration of the Ph.D. program. The Director serves as chair of the Executive Committee.

Program Associate Director

The Associate Director assists the Director to oversee various program activities and students affairs, and helps to improve the program leadership.

Selection of Program Director

Approximately three to six months before the end of the term for the director, the current director will appoint an Ad Hoc committee representing major participating institutions (UCSD, School of Medicine, Salk, and Scripps), with input from the Executive Committee. This committee will be in charge of soliciting nominations for the next director from the entire community (faculty and students), and recommending a final candidate to be discussed and voted at the Executive Committee meeting. The new Director will select an Associate Director with input from the Ad Hoc committee. The Associate Director is not a director-elect.

Program Coordinators

The Graduate Program Coordinators serve students and faculty members in academic, financial and administrative matters relating to the Graduate Program. The Coordinators are the primary contact for students on most program-related matters. The Neuroscience Graduate Program Offices are located in the Center for Neural Circuits & Behavior (CNCB), 2nd floor, rooms 276 & 277.

Graduate Division

The Graduate Division (GD) administers all graduate programs at UCSD. This office is responsible for all aspects of the graduate programs, from admissions and administration of fellowships, to the various qualifying exams and the final examination. Although the individual graduate programs generally take care of the qualitative assessment of applications and examinations, the GD must be notified of the students' status with respect to all program requirements. For instance, notification of the completion of the Advancement to Candidacy exam must be processed through the GD. The Doctoral Committee must be approved by this office and the final thesis document must be submitted to the GD. The Graduate Council sets, and the GD enforces, standards for leaves of absence and time limits regarding the completion of the Ph.D. The office can also serve as a resource for information on academic progress, academic rules and regulations, as well as sources of research funding and benefits available to graduate students. (Appendix I)

Graduate Student Liaisons

The Graduate Student Liaisons (GSL) are selected by the students and meet periodically with the Program Director and the Graduate Program Coordinators to discuss ongoing issues concerning the Graduate Program and the student body. It is the GSL's responsibility to represent the view of the students to the Director and the Coordinators, and to communicate the results of these meetings to the students. The GSL's also serve as the student members on the Executive Committee.

COMMITTEES

Students and faculty work together on all aspects of the program and serve on various committees. Student representatives for various committees are selected at the beginning of each academic year at a general meeting of the student body. If more than one student volunteers for an office, the appointment is made by a vote of the attending students. The updated Committee Membership list will be handed out in the Fall Quarter after the student elections take place. In general, committee membership terms will run from December 1 to November 30 the following year, although some committees will require participation late in the Fall Quarter following student elections.

Admissions Committee

The Admissions Committee consists of six to eight faculty members and two student representatives who meet approximately three times during the winter quarter. Membership on this committee requires a substantial time commitment since members of the committee must review 150-200 applicant files during a 1-2 week period. After the files have been reviewed, the committee convenes to discuss the individual applicant files and select a group of prospective students. These students are invited to visit the program and interview with Admissions Committee members and other faculty members. Finally, following interviews, the committee meets to decide which prospective students will be offered admission into the program.

Recruitment Committee

Every February, approximately fifty applicants to the Neurosciences Program are invited to UCSD for interviews. The Recruitment Committee works in conjunction with the Program Coordinators to organize activities and events during this period. Housing, meals and transportation for the applicants are arranged, as well as tours, entertainment, and opportunities for applicants to meet current students and faculty in the program.

Seminar Series Committee

This committee organizes all aspects of the weekly Neurosciences Graduate Program Seminar Series. This includes choosing and inviting the speakers, setting the schedule for the talks and designing the annual seminar poster. The Committee works in conjunction with the Program Coordinators who coordinate the weekly seminar details.

Minor Proposition Committee

The Minor Proposition Committee determines the schedule and format of the Minor Proposition exam. Committee members also serve on separate sub-committees, along with other faculty members, to conduct the Minor Proposition Examinations for individual students.

Curriculum Committee

The Curriculum Committee evaluates core courses on an ongoing basis and may recommend changes based on feedback from the program students and faculty. They also solicit and select readings-based electives (NEU221) to be offered each year. This committee has at least two student representatives.

Career Development Committee

The Career Development Committee consists of two faculty members and six student representatives. This committee organizes workshops to introduce students to the traditional and non-traditional career options available to Ph.D. graduates. The committee members are also available to the students for individual counseling and advice. The mission of the Graduate Program is to train outstanding students to become leaders in neuroscientific research, but it is clear that this training is also valuable for careers outside academic research. This committee will provide help to students who want to know about these alternatives.

Peer Advising Committee

The members of this committee are available to informally discuss and advise fellow students. These may cover a wide range of topics, including selecting rotation and thesis advisors, balancing classes and research, and handling personal issues.

Student Progress Committee

The responsibility of this committee is to help with cases where a student may not be progressing according to the expectations of the program. A member of the committee is generally assigned to work with the student and advisor to identify and resolve any impediments, and make recommendations for corrective steps.

Retreat Committee

This committee organizes all aspects of the Spring Retreat with the Graduate Program Coordinators. The committee is made up of two or three faculty members and about six to ten student representatives.

Diversity Recruitment Committee

This committee coordinates efforts to improve recruitment of under-represented groups. The students on this committee travel with the Graduate Program Coordinators and the committee chair to diversity recruitment conferences both locally and nationally.

Social Committee

The Social Committee organizes events to promote informal interaction among students and faculty in the program.

Journal Club Coordinators

Two student coordinators organize the weekly journal club in which seminar series hosts for the following week present a paper from the laboratory of the invited speaker. This includes arranging for any AV needs as well as providing refreshments. **The two student coordinators will receive TA credit for Journal Club after serving for a one year term.**

New Media Committee

The New Media Committee promotes the use of online media by faculty and students to engage with other neuroscientists and the public online. The committee has leveraged existing resources to produce and share diverse content such as well-informed discussions of neuroscience in the news, advocacy for science policy, and general news about neurosciences at UCSD.

Intramural Sports Committee

The students on this committee organize the intramural sports teams within the Graduate Program.

Outreach Committee

The students on this committee organize neuroscience educational outreach programs to bring to local schools and organizations.

Website Committee

The students on this committee review the Neurosciences Graduate Program website and make recommendations for changes and updates. They are also responsible for taking photos at the program events and student gatherings to post on the website.

ACADEMICS

Each student in the Neurosciences Program is expected to make normal progress toward the PhD, as evidenced by meeting the Program's degree requirements at a reasonable pace and with a high level of performance. Under most circumstances, students should be able to earn the PhD in less than 6 years.

Students must complete the following requirements to remain in good standing in the program and to obtain the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy:

- Boot Camp
- Research Rotations (3 Total)
- Core Coursework
- Elective Coursework (12 Units)
- Research Rounds (6 Quarters)
- Teaching (1 Quarter)
- Advancement to Candidacy
- Defense of Dissertation

On the following page is a timeline summary for each year of the program, followed by a full description of each requirement. Note that some requirements are applicable multiple years.

TIMELINE SUMMARY

Year 1

- Complete Boot Camp
- Begin Core Coursework (NEU200 ABC Series, Statistics BIOM 285/COGS 243/PSYC 201, Neuroanatomy NEU257)
- Research Rounds (NEU276)
- Complete three Research Rotations
- Attend SfN Conference
- Select Thesis Advisor

Year 2

- Begin Thesis Research
- Complete Core Coursework (Scientific Ethics NEU241, Minor Proposition Exam NEU280)
- Research Rounds (NEU276)
- Elective Coursework (NEU221, etc.)
- Complete TA Requirement
- Select Pre-thesis Committee
- Pre-thesis Committee Meeting

Year 3

- Continue Thesis Research
- Complete Elective Coursework
- Thesis Committee Meeting
- Advancement to Candidacy

Year 4

- Advancement to Candidacy
- Dissertation Research
- Thesis Committee Meeting

Year 5

- Dissertation Research
- Dissertation Defense

ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS

FIRST YEAR REQUIREMENTS

- Boot Camp
- Three Research Rotations
- Core Coursework (NEU200 Series, Statistics: BIOM 285/PSYC 201/COGS 243, Neuroanatomy NEU257)
- Research Rounds (NEU276)
- Attend SfN Conference
- Select Thesis Advisor

Boot Camp

Boot Camp is an intense pre-graduate laboratory course, intended mainly for the incoming first year students. The purposes of Boot Camp are to introduce the new students to basic ideas and techniques of neuroscience, to get them acquainted with a number of the faculty members and more senior graduate students (who serve as TAs), and for the new students to get to know one another.

All incoming students participate in Boot Camp. **Students are required to enroll in NEU 210 (Neurobiology Boot Camp Course) during the fall quarter enrollment period to receive credit for this two week course.**

Research Rotations

Research rotations provide the opportunity for first-year students to obtain hands-on research experience in several different laboratories. Rotations follow the quarterly academic calendar, and must begin in Fall Quarter unless otherwise approved by the Program Director. The minimum rotation period is nine weeks. Rotation advisors should be selected from the Neurosciences Graduate Program Faculty Group or “Group in Neurosciences”. Students who would like to rotate with a faculty member not affiliated with the NGP must receive pre-approval from the Program Director.

The student is responsible for arranging his or her own rotations. Only fall Quarter rotations may be scheduled before arriving in San Diego. Winter and Spring Quarter rotations may be scheduled after Boot Camp is over.

Prior to the beginning of the rotation, the student and faculty member should discuss their expectations and goals. Regular meetings between the student and the faculty advisor are required. At the conclusion of each rotation, the faculty member will submit a written evaluation of the student’s performance to the Graduate Program office.

Three rotations must be completed by the end of the Spring Quarter of the student’s first year. By this time, each student should have identified the Program Faculty member under whose sponsorship and in whose laboratory their dissertation research

will be completed. A fourth rotation requires approval from the Program Director and should be undertaken only in special circumstances.

Research Rotations for MSTP Students

MSTP students are expected to have completed at least two research rotations before joining the graduate program, and must complete a total of three rotations before joining a thesis lab. At least two of the rotations must be in labs associated with the Neurosciences Graduate Program. MSTP students must complete all rotations by fall Quarter after entering the graduate program, and must select a thesis lab by the end of the fall Quarter.

First Year Course Work

Students are required to take five core courses (listed below and see the full description on page 14) and three quarters of Research Rounds during the first year. Journal Club attendance is optional but strongly encouraged. Students electing to obtain the Specialization in Computational Neuroscience are required to take additional coursework (see the “Computational Neuroscience” section, page 14).

- NEU 200A Cellular, Molecular & Developmental Neuroscience
- NEU 200B Systems Neuroscience
- NEU 200C Cognitive & Behavioral Neuroscience
- NEU 257 Neuroanatomy
- BIOM 285 Statistical Inference and Experimental Design (BIOM 285) *or*
COGS 243 Statistical Inference and Data Analysis *or*
PSYC 201 Quantitative Methods (PSYC 201a/b)
- NEU 276 Research Rounds (Fall, Winter & Spring)

Journal Club

First year students who maintain attendance of 70% or better for Journal Club will receive 2 units of NEU 221 credit to count towards elective requirements. Upon approval, and during the fall quarter of their second year, students will enroll in a NEU 221 section, 2 units, letter grade option.

Attend SfN Conference

The program provides up to \$1,000 to each incoming student to attend the annual Society for Neuroscience conference. Travel and reimbursement information will be provided at Orientation and the Graduate Program Coordinator will process your travel reimbursement.

First Year Advisor

Incoming students will be assigned a First Year Advisor to discuss research rotations, coursework, thesis lab selection and any other questions or concerns they may have. Students should meet with their advisor each quarter.

Thesis Advisor Selection

Selecting your Thesis Advisor is a crucial step in your graduate student career. They will supervise your PhD thesis research and to chair your doctoral committee. You should select your Thesis Advisor by the end of June of the first year and no later than the beginning of the second year in September. Your thesis advisor also assumes fiscal responsibility for you, which includes payment of all fees and tuition and your stipend.

To help ensure that basic components of a productive student-advisor relationship are met, the program will provide a “Joining a Lab” checklist to be signed by the student and advisor. This checklist will establish general guidelines that address both parties’ expectations throughout the student’s tenure in the lab.

You and your thesis advisor should meet on a regular basis. To guide your progression through the program, you will receive an annual evaluation (a.k.a. Spring Evaluation) from your thesis advisor and committee beginning in your second year. The spring evaluation will be reviewed by the Program Director and the Graduate Division, and will become part of your academic file (see “Spring Evaluation”, page 30).

Summer

During the summer months you will not be enrolled in courses. You are expected to focus exclusively on your thesis research.

SECOND YEAR REQUIREMENTS

- Begin Thesis Research
- Core Coursework (Scientific Ethics NEU241, Minor Proposition NEU280)
- Research Rounds (NEU276)
- Elective Coursework (NEU221, etc.)
- Complete TA Requirement (one quarter)
- Form your Pre-thesis Committee
- Pre-thesis Committee Meeting

Second Year Coursework

All second year students are required to take the following courses:

- NEU 280 Minor Proposition
- NEU 241 Research Ethics (Or Ethics Course via UCSD Research Ethics)
- Electives 1 – 2 Electives (to fulfill the 12 unit requirement)
- NEU 276 Research Rounds (Fall, Winter & Spring).

NEU 280 Minor Proposition

The Minor Proposition course preparation begins winter quarter of the second year. The minor proposition proposal must be completed and the oral exam passed by the end of spring quarter. Students will enroll in Minor Proposition (NEU 280), 4 units.

The student must receive a passing grade in the course, based on a successful written proposal and oral exam, to continue in the graduate program.

The Minor Proposition course requires the student to select a research problem in the neurosciences and propose an experimental approach for solving it. The selected problem should be broad, requiring experimental approaches from more than one discipline, and should be separate from the student's anticipated dissertation research. Students will be required to demonstrate a working knowledge of the subdisciplines involved in the Minor Proposition (see Minor Prop, page 19).

Ethics Course Requirement

Students are required to take an Ethics Course by the end of their second year. Ethics courses are offered fall, winter and spring quarter each year. Course information and enrollment details are available at <http://ethics.ucsd.edu/courses/index.html>

Electives

Students are required to take 12 credits of elective courses (200 level), and at least 4 credits need to be advanced topics courses based on reading of primary literature. This can be satisfied either by completing NEU 221 courses or by completing graduate level readings based courses offered by the Departments of Neurosciences, Biological Sciences, Cognitive Science, Psychology or any other related discipline.

Core course requirements for students in the Computational Neuroscience Specialization can be used to fulfill the elective requirement (must be 200 level courses). However, CN students must also fulfill the 4 credits of advanced topics courses based on reading primary literature.

MSTP students may petition to receive credit for neuroscience related coursework taken as a medical student, including clerkship, for a maximum of 8 units. A petition to waive an elective requirement should be submitted in writing to the Program Director with a copy of the syllabus of the previous course, and a copy of the transcript showing the grade earned. All MSTP students must take at least 2 units of a reading based elective, and are encouraged to take other neuroscience related electives to broaden their education and subject knowledge.

Teaching

All students are required to perform as a teaching assistant (TA) for at least one quarter to develop their talents and gain experience as teachers. Opportunities to lecture and to assist in laboratory exercises and demonstrations are available through a number of departments, including Neurosciences, Biology, Cognitive Science and Psychology. **The teaching requirement must be fulfilled before advancing to candidacy.** (see “Teaching” section, page 22).

Pre- Thesis Committee

By winter quarter of the second year, students must form a three member Pre-Thesis Advisory Committee in consultation with the Thesis Advisor. The committee consists of the Thesis Advisor and two other members of the Graduate Program faculty group (one of the members may be from outside the program by approval of the Program Director). The Pre-Thesis Committee provides scientific input on the dissertation project and evaluates students each year. Typically the Pre-Thesis Committee becomes the nucleus of the Doctoral Committee. The full five member Doctoral Committee must be formed by winter quarter of the third year.

All students are required to meet with their Pre-Thesis or full Doctoral Committee, once formed, every spring. This meeting serves as the annual Spring Evaluation. This evaluation is primarily related to the students’ research rather than their course work. The meeting should contain an oral presentation by the student, outlining progress made and plans for the future. **Students must submit a 1 – 2 page written thesis proposal to their committee prior to the first pre-thesis spring evaluation meeting.**

Continuing Master’s Degree (optional)

By the end of the second year and upon completing all required coursework, passing the Minor Proposition course and fulfilling the teaching requirement, the student is eligible to receive a Master’s Degree (Appendix III). Filing for a Master’s Degree is optional. The Graduate Division requires a minimum of 36 units of graduate coursework, not including 296 or 299 research courses. Only students who have not previously received a Master of Science degree in Neurosciences or a Master of Science degree in a similar subject are eligible to receive their Master of Science degree in Neurosciences from UCSD. Students should contact the Graduate Program Coordinator if they choose to file for a continuing Master’s Degree.

Summer

During the summer months you will not be enrolled in courses. You are expected to focus exclusively on your thesis research.

THIRD YEAR REQUIREMENTS

- Continue Thesis Research
- 1-2 Elective Courses (to complete the 12 unit requirement)

- Form your “Doctoral Committee”
- Spring Evaluation and/or Advancement to Candidacy
- Advance to PhD Candidacy (MSTP Requirement)

By the end of the third year students should have completed their elective courses (12 units), TA requirement, formed their full Doctoral Committee, and met with their full committee for their Spring Evaluation or Advancement to Candidacy.

Doctoral Committee

By winter quarter of the third year, and prior to advancement, the student must put together a five member Doctoral Committee that is approved by the Program Director and The Graduate Division (GD). Names of your proposed committee members must be submitted to the Graduate Program Coordinator at least one month prior to the anticipated advancement exam date. After review, the coordinator will send the nomination form to the GD for review and approval. Allow three weeks for the GD’s review process. **Students should not schedule their advancement until they have received final approval for the appointment of their doctoral committee by the GD** (see Doctoral Committee membership, Appendix IV).

Advancement to Candidacy

The Neurosciences Graduate Program encourages all students to advance to candidacy by the end of their third year. **MSTP students are required to advance by the end of spring quarter their third year.** Non MSTP Neuroscience students are required to advance by the end of spring quarter of their fourth year. The GD will place a hold on all students’ registration during summer quarter following the pre-candidacy time limits. The University will not allow students to register for the fall quarter following the advancement deadline or receive any financial support unless they have successfully advanced to candidacy. **All required course work must be completed before a student is permitted to advance** (see “Advancement to Candidacy”, page 25).

FOURTH YEAR REQUIREMENTS

- Advancement to Candidacy
- Dissertation Research
- Thesis Committee Meeting

FIFTH AND SIXTH YEAR REQUIREMENTS

- Dissertation Research
- Thesis Committee Meeting
- Dissertation Defense (by the end of the Sixth year)

COMPUTATIONAL NEUROSCIENCES SPECIALIZATION

Computational Neurosciences Specialization

Overview

The Computational Neurosciences Specialization (CNS) is a facet of the broader Neurosciences Graduate Program at UCSD. The goal of the specialization is to train the next generation of neuroscientists with the broad range of analytical and computational skills that are essential to understand the organization and function of complex neuronal systems. The specialization is intended for students in Neuroscience with backgrounds in chemistry, computer science, engineering, mathematics, and/or physics.

The specialization allows Neuroscience students to concentrate on a focused program of rigorous course work in both the experimental and theoretical aspects of computational neuroscience. Students are encouraged to pursue thesis research that includes both an experimental and a computational component, often arranged as a collaboration between two research groups. Upon achievement of degree requirements, students will receive a diploma indicating both their successful completion of the broader Neuroscience Program as well as their specialization in Computational Neuroscience.

Themes

The program is focused on these four major themes relevant for computational neuroscience research:

- 1) Neurobiology of Neural Systems - The anatomy, physiology, and behavior of systems of neurons, with emphasis on basic phenomenology.
- 2) Theoretical Basis for Collective Neural Dynamics - A synthesis of approaches from mathematics and physical sciences as well as biology will be used to explore the collective properties and nonlinear dynamics of neuronal systems.
- 3) Algorithms for the Analysis of Neural Data - New algorithms and techniques for analyzing data obtained from physiological recording.
- 4) Advanced Measurement Tools in Neuroscience - Advanced imaging, recording, and stimulation techniques reflecting the impact of experimental physics on neuroscience.

Requirements and Electives

Accordingly, in addition to the broader Neuroscience program requirements (Theme 1), students are required to take the following course sequence:

- BENG 260/BGGN 260/PHYS 179 Neurodynamics (Abarbanel, Cauwenberghs or Silva), 4 units
- PHYS 278 Biophysical Basis of Neuronal Computation (Kleinfeld or Sharpee), 4 units
- COG 260 Neural Signal Processing (Mukamel), 4 units

The additional core course requirements for students in the Computational Neuroscience Specialization can be used to fulfill the elective requirement (must be 200 level courses). **However, CN students must also fulfill the 4 credits of advanced topics courses based on reading primary literature.**

The following courses are also strongly recommended, but not required:

- BGJC 213 Computational Neurobiology Journal Club (Sejnowski), 4 units
- PHYS 270A Experimental Techniques for Quantitative Biology (Tsai), 4 units

Finally, because of the mathematical rigor of the program, students are encouraged to take additional classes in engineering, mathematics and physics to supplement their backgrounds as needed. Please note only 200 level courses can fulfill the Neuroscience Program elective requirements. If enrolling in a 100 level undergraduate course, please make sure you have an additional 12 units of graduate courses per quarter. Full time status as a graduate student is based on enrolling in a minimum of 12 units of graduate level courses (200 level or above).

Suggested classes in analysis and applied mathematics include:

- ECE 250 - Parameter Estimation
- ECE 255 - Information Theory
- MATH 250 - Differential Geometry
- MATH 280 - Probability Theory
- MATH 282 - Applied Statistics
- MATH 287B - Multivariate Analysis
- PHYS 210 - Nonequilibrium Statistical Mechanics

Suggested classes in engineering and physics include:

- BENG 278 - Magnetic Resonance Imaging
- BENG/ECE 247A - Advanced Biophotonics
- BENG/ECE 247B - Bioelectronics
- PHYS 270B - Quantitative Biology Laboratory
- ECE 240 - Lasers and Optics

Quantitative Foundations Series

In addition to the CN specialization, the program also offers the “Quantitative Foundation Series” for students who do not have a quantitative backgrounds sufficient to begin the CN specialization. The goal of the QF series to ensure that all students acquire practical experience and knowledge of tools for quantitative exploration, interpretation and evaluation of neuroscience data through hands-on problems solving exercises that develop skills in quantitative data exploration.

The QF series comprises three optional courses (intended to be taken as electives in the first and second year):

- NEU 231, *Data Analysis in MatLab* (Serences), covers a variety of data analysis methods implemented in Matlab, including model fitting, time-series analysis and machine learning algorithms. Offered fall quarter.
- NEUG 240, *Mathematical Foundations for Computational Neuroscience* (Bazhenov), teaches mathematical concepts in Neuroscience to students inexperienced in computation and math. Topics from Linear Algebra, Calculus, Information Theory, Digital Signal Processing, Graph Theory and Machine Learning are covered with mentored problems sets. Offered winter quarter.
- BGGN 201: *Introduction to Methods in Computational Neuroscience* (Reinagel), provides an introduction to the computational methods most frequently used in neuroscience research. Topics include probability distributions, Bayes' Theorem, Poisson processes, correlation analyses, Fourier/spectral analysis, principal components/linear algebra, signal detection theory, information theory. Offered every other spring quarter.

DETAILED COURSE DESCRIPTION & ELECTIVE REQUIREMENTS

All students in the Program are required to attend Boot Camp, take six Core Courses, fulfill elective requirements, attend Research Rounds for two years, complete three Research Rotations, and serve as a Teaching Assistant for at least one quarter.

Boot Camp

Boot Camp is an intense pre-graduate laboratory course, intended mainly for the incoming first year students. This course is patterned after summer courses at the Marine Biological Laboratory (MBL) in Woods Hole, MA, with a series of intensive lab exercises that run six days a week from early morning until midnight and beyond, for two weeks just before regular classes begin in Fall Quarter. In addition, part of each morning is devoted to lectures by 5-7 faculty members, highlighting the major research interests being pursued in their laboratories. At lunch time, the students give short talks about the research they have done before entering this graduate program.

The purposes of Boot Camp are to introduce the new students to basic ideas and techniques of neuroscience, to get them acquainted with a number of the faculty members and more senior graduate students (who serve as TAs), and for them to get to know one another.

All incoming students participate in Boot Camp. Students are required to enroll in NEU 210 (Neurobiology Boot Camp Course) during the fall quarter enrollment period to receive credit for this two week course.

Core Courses

By the end of the second year, students are expected to demonstrate competence in the basics of neuroscience by taking the following mandatory course work:

NEU 200A Cellular Molecular & Developmental Neuroscience

This course covers cellular & molecular neuroscience and is taught every fall. Each week, there is one lecture and one discussion section in which research papers are discussed. Topics include cellular physiology, synaptic transmission, neurotransmitters and receptors, plasticity, and neural development.

NEU 200B Systems Neuroscience

This course covers systems neuroscience and is taught every winter. Lectures are given by researchers in various fields, coupled with discussion sections on research papers. Topics include visual, auditory, olfactory, somatosensory, and motor systems.

NEU 200C Cognitive & Behavioral Neuroscience

This course deals with the methods of cognitive neuroscience, and then various topics including object recognition, attention, long-term and working memory, reinforcement learning and executive function.

BIOM 285 **Statistical Inference and Experimental Design** or
COGS 243 **Statistical Inference and Data Analysis** or
PSYC 201 **Quantitative Methods (PSYC 201a/b)**

All incoming non-MSTP Neuroscience students are required to take at least one statistics course during their first or second year of the program, unless you meet the requirement to qualify for a “statistics waiver” (details below).

Students may choose from the courses listed below offered through Biomedical Sciences, Cognitive Science, and Psychology based on their level of previous stats experience.

- **BIOM 285: The advanced statistics course is offered every winter** and is recommended if you’re looking to augment a basic level of competence with more advanced techniques. Please contact one of the NGP Graduate Coordinators for a copy of the syllabus.
- **BIOM 285: The basic statistics course is offered every spring** and is recommended if you don’t have any prior experience or it’s been a long time since you took stats, and you desire a basic level of competence. Please contact one of the NGP Graduate Coordinators for a copy of the syllabus.
- **COGS 243: This statistics course is offered winter quarter** and provides a rigorous treatment of hypothesis testing, statistical inference, model fitting, and data analysis techniques used in neural sciences. Students acquire an understanding of mathematical foundations and hands-on coding experience in Matlab. Facility with calculus, linear algebra and elementary probability theory is assumed.
- **PSYC 201a.b: This statistics course is offered as part of a series every fall and winter**, and is recommended if you’re starting from scratch and want to obtain an advanced level of competence. The syllabi are available at: <http://vulstats.ucsd.edu/>

In addition to the proposed courses, students may petition to take a statistics course in another department to meet the program requirement by sending a copying the course syllabus to the Program Director for his review and approval.

Statistics Waiver

Students should email the Program Director to request a statistics waiver if they meet the following requirements: Computational Neurosciences sub-specialty track students should have completed a statistics course within the past 3 years with a grade of an 'A' or equivalent to receive a waiver. All other students should have completed a statistics or biostatistics course that focuses on applications in the biomedical sciences with some exposure to experimental design within the past 3 years with a grade of an 'A' or equivalent. All waiver requests should include a copy of the course schedule (i.e. a link to the current class website) and a copy of the transcript.

IMPORTANT: prior to the start of winter quarter of the first year, each non-MSTP student must notify one of the Graduate Coordinators to let her know which stats course they plan to take or submit the appropriate stats waiver to the Program Director, and copy the Graduate Coordinator.

NEU 257 Neuroanatomy

This course provides a hands-on look at the anatomy of the central nervous system including the key structures and their connectivity and the types of information they carry. The course is typically offered in winter quarter. **MSTP students are waived from Neuroanatomy (NEU 257) if they took SOMC 227 and 237 in Medical School. In addition, the MSTP student will receive an additional 4 units of elective credit for this course.**

NEU 276 Research Rounds

Research Rounds is a weekly seminar course that meets in Fall, Winter and Spring quarters, in which graduate students beyond their second year in the program present their current research. All students in their first and second years are required to take Neurosciences Research Rounds (NEU 276) for six quarters.

NEU 280 Minor Proposition

This intensive writing course offers graduate students in the neurosciences the opportunity to propose and defend an original research project. Students are required to select a research problem in the neurosciences and propose an experimental approach for solving it. They will work with and learn from a small committee of neuroscientists with experience in proposal preparation. This course is designed to meet two objectives:

- 1) To evaluate the ability of the student to propose and defend an original research project.
- 2) To evaluate the proficiency of the student's general neuroscience knowledge as drawn from the Core Courses taken in the first two years of study.

The selected problem should be broad, requiring experimental approaches from more than one discipline, and should be outside the area of the student's anticipated dissertation research. Students will be required to demonstrate a working knowledge of the disciplines involved in the Minor Proposition. There are four phases to the Minor Proposition:

- 1) Selection of an approved topic through the production of a two-page abstract submitted to the Minor Proposition Committee.
- 2) Submitting a ten-page proposal in NIH small-grant format.
- 3) Taking an oral examination consisting of a thirty-minute presentation followed by a period of open questioning by a two-member committee
- 4) The Chair of the student's committee will submit an evaluation form to the Graduate Program Office describing the student's Minor Proposition presentation and outcome of exam.

Electives

Students are required to take 12 credits of elective courses (200 level), **and at least 4 credits need to be advanced topics courses based on reading of primary literature.** This can be satisfied either by completing NEU 221 courses or by completing readings based courses offered by the Departments of Neurosciences, Biological Sciences, Cognitive Science, Psychology and related disciplines. To qualify for a readings-based course, at least one session per week should be devoted to discussion of published research papers. Courses offered by these departments can be found at <https://www.ucsd.edu/catalog/index.html>.

Grading

Core Courses, Research Rounds, and required electives must be taken for a letter grade with the exception of Journal Club which should be taken for an S/U grade.

If a course is only offered as a Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory grade option, the instructor must provide a letter indicating the letter grade the student would have received. A grade of "B" or better must be obtained. This will be placed in the student's file.

All other non-required courses may be taken for a grade of "satisfactory", where "satisfactory" grade is considered to be a "B-" or better. If a student receives a grade of "C+" or lower or "unsatisfactory", (s)he has the option of either repeating the course or taking a different course from the list of allowable electives.

It is the responsibility of each student to clear up any grading problems. Students should check their academic record on TritonLink each quarter for grading clerical errors, missing grades and/or incorrect course enrollment. If errors are not cleared up by the end of the quarter, the grade "F" or "U" will be assigned. All academic errors must be corrected within one year. There will be no exceptions except for medical reasons or military duty.

Waiving a Course Requirement

If a student feels that he/she has previously demonstrated proficiency (received a letter grade of "A" at a graduate level equivalent course) in a class comparable to one of the Core Courses (see special provisions for the Statistical Methods Course), (s)he may appeal to the Chair of the Curriculum Committee or the Program Director to substitute the previous coursework for selected Neurosciences Core Courses. Such a request needs to be made in writing via email, with a letter from the Neuroscience Program instructor approving the substitution, a copy of the syllabus of the previous course, and a copy of the transcript showing the grade earned.

Petitioning

Many of the academic and administrative requirements are handled by the "General Petition," form as outlined in Appendix VIII. Note an important use of the General Petition, listed under section H. Other: "...may also be used when requesting exceptions to academic policy not covered in other petition sections." This means that students can petition for exceptions to essentially any policy, and these requests will be considered.

2018-19 ENROLLMENT AND REGISTRATION CALENDAR

Description	Fall 18	Winter 19	Spring 19
Schedule of Classes available	5/4	11/2	2/8
Effective date for enrollment holds	5/8	11/6	2/12
Enrollment begins for all continuing students	5/9	11/7	2/13
Wait Lists Open	5/21	11/19	2/25
Effective date for fee payment holds	8/20	11/16	2/19
Billing statement available on TritonLink . (eBill available continuing students)	9/5	12/4	3/2
Enrollment and Registration fee payment deadline (after this date, late fees apply)	9/21	12/14	3/22
Quarter begins	9/24	1/2	3/27
Classes and wait list dropped if registration payment not received	9/26	1/7	4/1
First day of classes	9/27	1/7	4/1
Late health insurance fee waiver deadline (no waivers will be accepted beyond this date)	9/28	1/7	4/1
Deadline for all students to add or re-enroll in classes if canceled for non-payment via WebReg. Find out how to add a class .	10/12	1/18	4/12
Deadline to apply for part-time status	10/12	1/18	4/12
Deadline for Graduate students to file for leave of absence , in absentia or to apply for half-time status for current quarter	10/12	1/18	4/12
Deadline to file for Advancement to Candidacy for Master's degrees	10/12	1/18	4/12
Deadline to change grading option, change units, and drop classes without "W" grade on transcript	10/26	2/1	4/26
Effective date for students receiving financial aid to withdraw and retain 100% federal aid	11/14	2/21	5/16
Deadline to drop with "W" grade on transcript	11/30	3/8	5/31
Last day of classes before finals	12/7	3/15	6/7
Finals week	12/8- 12/15	3/16- 3/23	6/8-6/14
Deadline to file for "Removal of Grade Incomplete" from previous quarter	12/15	3/23	6/14
Quarter ends	12/15	3/23	6/14

TEACHING & OUTREACH TA CREDIT

All students are required to perform as a teaching assistant (TA) for at least one quarter to develop their talents and gain experience as teachers. To this end, opportunities to lecture and to assist in laboratory exercises and demonstrations are available through a number of departments, including Neurosciences, Biology, Cognitive Science and Psychology (see list below). **The TA requirement must be fulfilled before advancing to candidacy.**

Furthermore, as TAs are a curriculum requirement for the program, they are not a source of supplementary income. In cases where the students' TAs provide financial support, the total annual support will remain at the standard level, currently \$34,000/year. Students are encouraged to complete their TA requirement during their second or third year, and should contact the instructor of the course they wish to TA. In addition students must inform the Graduate Program Coordinator at least three weeks prior to the beginning of the quarter when the TAship starts. Students TAing for Neuro courses or others that do not have a specific TA section listed should enroll in NEU 500 Apprenticeship Teaching for 2 Units.

The following teaching opportunities are available each year:

Teaching Assistant positions are advertised through the "Job Opportunities Brochure" from the Graduate Division's website: <http://grad.ucsd.edu/files/financial-support/employment-files/job-opportunities/jobopp1819.pdf>. The brochure provides a list of departments who have salaried TAs and hire students outside of their own department. Note the application deadlines and procedures for each department.

The Division of Biological Sciences has salaried TA positions available. Our department has 3 (50% or 20 hour a week) slots available each year. A link to the application will be sent to the student listserv in May of each year.

Neurosciences students may serve as a TA for one of our core classes (NEU 200ABC, NEU 257 Neuroanatomy, and NEU 243 Mathematical Foundation in Comp Neuro). These are non-salaried positions and if interested please contact the primary instructor who will select a TA(s).

MSTP students may serve as a TA for a med school course. Prior to accepting the position, please send an email to the Program Coordinator with details about the course to make sure it will meet the program's TA requirement.

The graduate program's Journal Club coordinators receive TA credit. A call for volunteers will be sent to second year students at the beginning of their second year (in August).

Students may serve as an "Associate In" or instructor of record for an undergraduate level course. An Associate In may conduct the entire instruction of a lower division course or upper division course with approval granted by the Dean of the Graduate Division. The Associate is assigned a faculty mentor to provide guidance and training as needed. To serve as an Associate,

the graduate student must have demonstrated a talent for classroom teaching and had advanced training in the subject matter. For Ph.D. students, the candidacy exam must have been passed and the student must be in the final stages of dissertation writing or must have equivalent other accomplishments (publications, extensive experience as performer-teacher, or the like). The appointment is also dependent upon positive academic and administrative review and approval by the student's department/group Chair, Dean of the Graduate Division.

TA Credit for Outreach

Students may fulfill the Neurosciences Program TA requirement by completing an outreach teaching activity that fulfills criteria below.

Getting approval for Outreach TA credit: If a student is interested in fulfilling his/her TA requirement using an outreach activity, he/she must submit an outreach TA plan (1-2 paragraphs) to the Program Director before beginning the outreach activity and have it approved. The outreach plan must describe how the teaching requirement will be met. Upon completion of the teaching outreach activity, the student must submit a two page teaching portfolio report to the Program Director describing the outreach activities completed, and the number of hours spent on outreach teaching. If possible, the student should include documentation to indicate effectiveness of the activities (e.g. letters/evaluation from students or Program Director). The signed report must then be submitted to the Graduate Program Coordinator so that the fulfillment of the TA requirement is noted in the student's file. Students who have completed an outreach TA activity without pre-approval may petition the graduate program director to receive TA credit for the activity by submitting an outreach teaching portfolio.

Criteria that must be met for outreach teaching credit:

An outreach teaching experience suitable for TA credit should involve both curriculum development and hands-on teaching time, with the graduate student being the person primarily responsible for at least one of these two areas. Outreach subject matter should be science related.

The teaching experience should be focused in time (occurring over the course of a quarter/semester) and should contain at a minimum 20 hours of student contact time in addition to time spent on curriculum development, paper grading and other prep work. The hands-on teaching time should include some time spent teaching to a group in a class type setting and not entirely consist of one-on-one interactions.

Graduate students requesting outreach TA credit should develop and teach multiple lessons. For example, visiting 20 high school (HS) classrooms with the identical outreach lesson would not be considered sufficient.

Students can be of any age group, however if the graduate student has not had previous experience teaching college aged students, i.e. undergraduate TA experience, they should

strongly consider an outreach or traditional TA position with that age group.

If the outreach TA experience involves a larger disruption of lab work than traditional TA appointments graduate students should receive approval from their PI.

Examples of outreach experiences likely to receive TA credit:

- Academic Connection classes- Graduate students develop and teach an intensive 3-week class for talented HS students during the summer at UCSD. <http://academicconnections.ucsd.edu>
- Teaching a class at a local community college.
- Elementary Institute of Science- Graduate students develop and teach a 16 week hands-on science class for 7-13 year olds. <http://www.eisca.org>
- Developing a series of neuroscience lessons for HS students. Teaching these lessons to HS teachers and then helping the teachers to successfully teach these lessons in their HS classes.

Examples of outreach experiences **not** likely to receive TA credit:

- Volunteering with the Salk Mobile Science lab repeatedly.
- Volunteering repeatedly with the UCSD neuroscience outreach group.
- Tutoring
- Volunteering as an exhibit explainer at the Reuben H. Fleet science center.
- Visiting schools and talking about how to become a scientist.

Students must report any income they receive to the graduate program coordinator so that their stipend can be adjusted accordingly. Outreach activity income may not be used to supplement approved stipend levels.

ADVANCING TO CANDIDACY: DOCTORAL COMMITTEE & QUALIFYING EXAMINATION

To advance to candidacy the student must assemble their full doctoral thesis committee and meet with them for the qualifying exam.

The qualifying exam is required by the Graduate Council of the Academic Senate to evaluate the quality of the dissertation work completed to date as well as the proposed additional experiments. The emphasis of the exam is on the conceptual rationale of the dissertation proposal (see below). In addition, it is the charge of the Doctoral Committee to estimate the time required to complete the project. Passing the qualifying exam advances the student to candidacy, effectively changing his/her status from doctoral student to doctoral candidate.

The Neurosciences Graduate Program encourages all students to advance by the end of their third year. MSTP students are required to advance by the end of spring quarter their third year. Non MSTP Neuroscience students are required to advance by the end of spring quarter of their fourth year. The GD will place a hold on all students' registration during summer quarter following the pre-candidacy time limits. **The University will not allow students to register for the fall quarter following the pre-candidacy time limit or receive any financial support unless they have successfully advanced to candidacy.**

The Graduate Council requires that students advance to candidacy a minimum of three quarters (not including summer) prior to their final dissertation defense. This requirement may be waived under special circumstances.

To take the qualifying examination, a student must maintain a minimum GPA of 3.0 in upper-division and graduate course work with no more than eight units of "F" and/or "U" grades. Additionally, the student must have grades of "B" or better in all Core Courses, fulfilled their teaching requirement and must have completed a minimum of three academic quarters. **All required course work must be completed before a student is permitted to advance.**

Doctoral Committee

By winter quarter of the third year, and in preparation for advancement, the student must put together a Doctoral Committee that is approved by the Program Director and the Graduate Division (GD). Names of your proposed committee members must be submitted to the Graduate Program Coordinator at least one month prior to the anticipated exam date. After review the coordinator will send the nomination form to the GD for review and requested approval. Allow three weeks for the GD review process. Students should not schedule their exam date until they have received final approval for the appointment of their doctoral committee by the GD.

The Doctoral Committee for students in the Neurosciences Graduate Program should comprise a minimum of five members, of which at least three must be members of the Group in

Neurosciences. If all members are from the Group, then two must have a different home department in which the Committee Chair and Co-Chair have no primary affiliation, and one of these two must be tenured. The Program also allows for two adjunct committee members **without** adding a sixth member. If the Graduate student's advisor has an adjunct title, he/she must appoint a ladder ranked co-chair and they must be a UCSD faculty member.

Note: "Group in Neurosciences" faculty are members of the Neurosciences Graduate Program, the program faculty are listed on our website at <http://neurograd.ucsd.edu>. Because new faculty are constantly joining the program, you can obtain the most current list of program faculty from the Graduate Program Coordinators. (See **Appendix IV** for detailed information on criteria for selecting a Doctoral Committee.)

Dissertation Proposal/ Qualifying Exam

After selecting a Doctoral Committee, the student must schedule the qualifying examination and present a written dissertation proposal to the Doctoral Committee. The proposal should be at least 5 pages and should describe the goals of the project, summarize previous work in the area, describe the experimental design, present the progress that the student has already made, and discuss future plans. The Thesis Advisor should read and approve the proposal before it is distributed to other Doctoral Committee members. The committee should have your proposal at least one week prior to the Qualifying Examination.

At the Qualifying Examination, the student is required to give an oral presentation that is followed by a period of open questioning from the committee members. When the dissertation proposal is approved, the Committee members sign the exam approval sheet (Appendix IV, exhibit two). A \$50.00 Advancement to Candidacy fee is required to complete the paperwork. The Neurosciences Graduate Program will not cover this fee, however the student may request reimbursement from their doctoral advisor or thesis lab.

Advancement to Candidacy becomes official when the advancement fee has been paid and the approved form is filed with the GD, provided that the student is enrolled that quarter.

Advancements occurring during the summer or between quarters will be posted in the next quarter of enrollment.

Doctoral (Thesis) Committee Meetings

In addition to administering the Qualifying Exam, the Doctoral Committee (also called thesis committee) oversees the progress of the dissertation and administers the Final Examination. The student should schedule at least one thesis committee meeting each year during Spring Quarter after Advancement to Candidacy. The Chair of the thesis committee and all committee members must be present and sign the online spring evaluation at the conclusion of each meeting to indicate that the student is making adequate progress towards completing his/her dissertation.

DEFENSE OF THE DISSERTATION/FINAL EXAMINATION

The student MUST contact the Graduate Program Coordinator at least one month prior to scheduling their defense/final exam. Students must refer to the Graduate Division's requirements and timelines for degree completion available at:

<http://grad.ucsd.edu/academics/preparing-to-graduate/degree-completion.html#Doctoral-Students>

Dissertation Formatting

- Students are expected to submit a draft of the doctoral dissertation each member of the doctoral committee at least one month before the scheduled defense.
- Preliminary and final meetings with the GD Academic Affairs Advisors are mandatory. Appointments are scheduled online at: <https://gradforms.ucsd.edu/calendar/index.php>.
- The submission of the doctoral dissertation is the last step leading to the award of the degree. The finished manuscript is a scholarly work that is the product of extensive research and related preparation. The two final copies of the dissertation or the electronic copy are preserved by the UCSD Libraries. It becomes the official and permanent record, available to other researchers and faculty. For these reasons, the Graduate Council has established criteria for uniformity in physical format which have been compiled in a manual which can be found at the GD website link at: <http://grad.ucsd.edu/files/academics/BlueBook%202017-18%20updated%204.13.18.pdf>

These are the minimal requirements to which all doctoral dissertations must conform in order to be accepted. To ensure that all of these requirements are met, and to become thoroughly familiar with these instructions students should read the manual in full.

Final Examination/Dissertation Defense

The Dissertation Defense consists of a public presentation of the dissertation work, followed by public discussion. As well as an oral defense, in closed session, with the student's Doctoral Committee.

All committee members are required to be present at the final examination/defense. Graduate Council has permitted any absent member to examine the candidate in advance of the exam date and to then sign off on the Final Report and the dissertation signature page. If the absent member has questions for the committee to consider at the exam, these should be forwarded to the committee chair and the committee chair should then withhold signature until those questions are resolved. This procedure should not be undertaken without the program and committee chair's advance approval. The committee chair and the tenured outside member must always be present at a final examination/defense.

At the conclusion of the Defense, all members will sign the “Final Report of the Final Examination and Filing of the Dissertation for the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy” form (Appendix VI, Exhibit 1), directly following the examination.

The Final Report form **and** the dissertation signature page must have the original signatures of all members of the doctoral committee; the Final Report form must also be signed by the program chair. Proxy signatures are not accepted.

The Ph.D. degree is conferred at the end of the quarter in which all forms are completed. The student may, if they choose, attend the graduation ceremonies held in the following June.

Support Limit

This is the maximum time during which a doctoral student is eligible for support. **Neurosciences doctoral students must complete all requirements by the end of their sixth year.**

MSTP students must complete all requirements and defend within 6 years. Their total registered time limit is also 6 years.

Non-MSTP students may continue as a student for an additional 7th year, but will not be eligible for financial support during that year. This includes all stipend, fees/tuition payments, fellowships, scholarships, and employment administered by the University and its affiliated institutions (i.e. the Salk Institute, the Sanford-Burnham Institute, and the Scripps Research Institute), but does not affect financial aid loans. Because students cannot receive any support beyond their sixth year, they will be required to pay their own tuition/fees to be eligible for student health insurance and student housing.

ACADEMIC ADVISING & EVALUATION

First Year Advisors

Each first year student is assigned a first year advisor. First year students should meet with their first year advisor to discuss academic issues such as course and rotation selections and selection of a thesis lab. It is recommended that first year students meet with their assigned advisor once per quarter.

Non-Thesis Faculty Advisor

Beginning fall 2018, and beginning in the second year, each student will meet with an assigned faculty advisor on an annual basis. The meeting will have a similar format to the first year evaluation including topics such as progress to degree, coursework, thesis research, career development, and any other questions or concerns the student may have about the program or their advisor.

Pre-Thesis Committee

This committee provides scientific input on the dissertation project and evaluates students at the end of each year after the first (i.e., once they have joined a laboratory) and until they advance to candidacy. This evaluation is primarily related to the students' research rather than to their course work.

By winter quarter of the second year, students must form a three member Pre-Thesis Advisory Committee in consultation with the Thesis Advisor. The committee consists of the Thesis Advisor and two other members of the Graduate Program faculty group (one of the members may be from outside the program by approval of the Program Director). The Pre-Thesis Committee provides scientific input on the dissertation project and evaluates students each year. Typically the Pre-Thesis Committee would become the nucleus of the Doctoral Committee. The full five member Doctoral Committee must be formed by winter quarter of the third year.

All students are required to meet with their doctoral committee, Pre-Thesis or full doctoral Committee once it's formed, every spring. This meeting serves as the annual Spring Evaluation. This evaluation is primarily related to the students' research rather than their course work. The meeting should contain an oral presentation by the student, outlining progress made and plans for the future. **In addition, prior to the first pre-thesis spring evaluation, students must submit a 1 – 2 page written thesis proposal describing their progress and future plans to their committee.**

All members of the pre-thesis committee must sign the online Spring Evaluation to indicate that the student is making adequate progress towards his/her dissertation.

Doctoral (Thesis) Committee

By winter quarter of the third year, students should have formed their full Doctoral Committee; they will be evaluated by this committee each year. In keeping with the Graduate Council policy

on in-candidacy evaluations, the evaluation should cover “the student’s progress to date, recommend the modifications to the dissertation’s scope or methodology, timetable for completion, and recommendation for support in the following year. The Doctoral Committee chair shall write up the results of the evaluation and discuss them with the student. All members of the Doctoral Committee participating in the evaluation, the student, and the Program Director are to sign the evaluation.”

The Graduate Division implemented an on-line system for the submission of the annual spring evaluation (see details below).

Spring Evaluation

In the spring quarter of each year, all graduate students are subject to review. This review takes the form of a Spring Evaluation. **A satisfactory Spring Evaluation must be submitted to the GD by the end of spring quarter each year. Continued approval for financial support is dependent upon the annual filing of a satisfactory Spring Evaluation.** A hold will be placed on the student’s winter quarter registration by GD if the evaluation is not completed by the deadline.

The Spring Evaluation completed and submitted through the Graduate Divisions “On-Line Spring Evaluation” system. Evaluations are routed to the committee chair, committee members, the Program Director, and the graduate student for comments and approval. The final evaluation is routed to the GD and becomes a part of the student’s permanent record. Although the signatures and submission of the evaluations will be accomplished on-line, the Graduate Division Dean has emphasized the importance of having face to face meetings between students and their faculty advisors and committee. **The on-line submission process should not prevent an in-person meeting.**

First year students will meet with the Program Directors for their initial Spring Evaluation. The evaluations will be scheduled in early June by the Graduate Program Coordinator.

MSTP first year students should form a pre-thesis committee in consultation with their primary advisor (two faculty members in addition to your advisor), and plan on having a committee meeting during summer of their first year.

Before a student advances to candidacy, the Spring Evaluation is called a “pre-candidacy” evaluation. The student must meet with all three members of his/her pre-thesis committee for the evaluation. Once the student has advanced to candidacy, the Spring Evaluation is called an “in-candidacy” evaluation. The Neurosciences Graduate Program requires that all of the Doctoral Committee members attend the spring evaluation. **Students should schedule their spring evaluation in April to meet the September 30 deadline each year.**

Students who receive a “needs improvement” rating on their Spring evaluation need to have a follow-up meeting with their committee to make sure that there is clear evidence of improvement and for the committee to provide necessary guidance. The follow-up meeting should ideally be in the quarter immediately following the evaluation and should take place no

later than 6 months from the date of the spring evaluation meeting. A form for the follow-up meeting can be obtained from the Graduate Program Coordinator.

It is important to note that Spring Evaluations affect not only future support but **are required** before any exception can be requested of the Graduate Council, and, if there are academic difficulties, will be relied upon heavily in the Dean's action. In many instances, they are the only narrative documentation of a student's progress, other than the transcript.

The following students are exempt from Spring Evaluations:

- A student advancing to Ph.D. candidacy during winter or spring of the current academic year.
- A student on approved leave of absence during the spring of the current academic year. Note that an evaluation must be submitted, in this instance, by the end of the first quarter of return after the leave for continued support.

EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

FALL WELCOME DINNER

A purely social event for students and faculty to welcome the incoming students to the program, held during fall quarter.

STUDENT JOURNAL CLUB

The Student Journal Club is organized entirely by students. Each week a student presents a paper from the laboratory of the seminar speaker for that following week. The goal of Journal Club is to create an open venue for friendly but lively scientific discussion. Refreshments are provided.

RESEARCH ROUNDS

Research Rounds is a weekly seminar course that meets in Fall, Winter and Spring quarters, in which graduate students beyond their second year in the Program present their current research. All members of the Neuroscience community are welcome to attend these presentations.

SEMINAR SERIES

The Graduate Program's weekly seminar series meets on Tuesdays at 4:00 p.m. in the CNCB Marilyn Farquhar Conference Room and features invited speakers from around the country. Students have the opportunity to meet with the speakers over lunch or dinner each week (interested students should contact the student host). The Salk Institute also organizes frequent lectures as do many of the other departments and institutions in and around UCSD. The Neuroscience related seminars are announced in the "This Week" email sent by the Graduate Program Coordinator.

SPRING RETREAT

The program organizes a retreat each spring that fosters interactions among program faculty and students. The retreat is typically held off campus over a weekend and features lectures, discussion groups, and social events.

FACILITIES

ON-CAMPUS

NEUROSCIENCE GRADUATE PROGRAM: ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES AND STUDENT LOUNGE

Center for Neural Circuits & Behavior (CNCB), 2nd floor, rooms 276 & 277.

A conference table, refrigerator, and microwave are provided in the student lounge/conference room, CNCB room 274. An LCD projector is available for check-out for student presentations.

BIOMEDICAL LIBRARY

Location: On the School of Medicine campus next to the Biomedical Sciences Building

The Biomedical Library (BML) has an extensive collection of journals and manuscripts in neuroscience, medicine, molecular biology, psychiatry and related fields. While this library should meet most of the students' needs, additional titles are available from the BML's branch library at the UCSD Medical Center in Hillcrest, from the Scripps Institution of Oceanography (SIO) Library, and from other libraries on the main campus. Volumes not available at any of UCSD's libraries can be requested from one of the UC system's other libraries without charge. UCSD's journal and manuscript catalogs ('Melvyl' and 'Roger') can be searched at BML or remotely by users with UCSD e-mail accounts.

LEARNING RESOURCES CENTER

Location: Medical Teaching Facility, 2nd floor.

The Learning Resources Center, sponsored by the School of Medicine's Office of Learning Resources, operates primarily as a computer center for graduate and medical students. Macintosh and PC computers are available for use on a walk-in basis or can be reserved in advance. Printers and typewriters are available as well as many commonly used applications, and some specialized neuro-anatomical and medical applications.

CAMPUS PARTICIPATING INSTITUTIONS

THE SALK INSTITUTE FOR BIOLOGICAL STUDIES

10010 North Torrey Pines Road, La Jolla, CA 92037-1002
or UCSD Mail Code 0932
Phone: (858) 453-4100

THE SANFORD-BURNHAM INSTITUTE MEDICAL RESEARCH FOUNDATION

10901 North Torrey Pines Road, La Jolla, CA 92037
Phone: (858) 646-3100

THE SCRIPPS INSTITUTION OF OCEANOGRAPHY

University of California, San Diego
9500 Gilman Drive, MC 0210, La Jolla, CA 92037-0210
Phone: (858) 453-2830

THE SCRIPPS RESEARCH INSTITUTE

10550 North Torrey Pines Road, La Jolla, CA 92037
Phone: (858) 784-1000

SHILEY EYE CENTER

University of California, San Diego
9500 Gilman Drive, MC 0946
La Jolla, CA 92093-0946
Phone: (858) 534-6290

UCSD MEDICAL CENTER

200 West Arbor Drive, San Diego, CA 92103
Phone: (619) 543-6222

VETERAN'S ADMINISTRATION MEDICAL CENTER

3350 La Jolla Village Drive, La Jolla, CA 92037
Phone: (858) 552-8585

FUNDING

Upon entering the Graduate Program, all first year students receive a \$1,500 start-up fellowship to help cover the costs of moving.

The first year of funding is provided by the Graduate Program, this includes full payment of tuition and fees and a stipend, currently \$34,000/year, from Sept 1 to Aug 31 the following year. The program also covers the non-resident supplemental tuition for all first year non-residents, if applicable.

The Graduate Program covers partial support (approximately \$25,000) during the second year and the thesis advisor is responsible for the remaining support. Beginning with the third year, the thesis advisor is responsible for full support. Before joining a lab, students should make sure that the thesis advisor is able to cover the student's stipend and fees for the duration of the thesis project.

The Program offers \$1,000 reimbursement to first year students for travel to the Society for Neuroscience conference. This money does not roll over from year to year. Contact the Graduate Program Coordinators for details and processing.

MSTP STUDENT SUPPORT

The Graduate Program will provide the financial support equivalent to a second year student during fall quarter of the first year and the thesis advisor will take financial responsibility for the student (stipend and tuition/fees) winter quarter of the first year.

STIPENDS

A standard support level (currently \$34,000/year) has been set by the Neurosciences Graduate Program for all Neurosciences graduate students. Faculty members are expected to pay graduate students at this level, in addition to providing funding for tuition and fees, and non-resident supplemental tuition (international students only). Earnings from university employment (i.e. Teaching Assistantships, Instructors, Readers, Tutors, etc.) may be used to bring stipends up to the standard support level (\$34,000/year), but they may not be used to increase earnings above the standard support level. **In general it is expected that students will not hold any employment outside UCSD while they are registered as full time students receiving financial support.**

EXTRAMURAL FELLOWSHIPS

All students are encouraged to apply for extramural fellowships. In addition to being a strong plus on one's academic record, such funding can benefit the student by making more laboratories available for thesis research. Most fellowships also provide some money for travel and supplies. **A student who is awarded an extramural fellowship (non-UCSD) as the Principal**

Investigator, not an institutional training grant slot, will be given a \$2,400 annual bonus in addition to their stipend. The bonus will be issued during the life of the fellowship as long as you are a current student. If the extramural fellowship is received in the first year, the Graduate Program will provide the bonus. Thereafter, it will be provided by the thesis advisor with his/her approval.

There are many different deadlines for submission, depending upon which type of fellowship you are applying for. It is highly recommended that you check the websites early for deadlines.

One of the most notable fellowships is the “Graduate Research Fellowship Program” through the National Science Foundation. Typically a student can apply for the NSF GRFP in their first year or in the year preceding entry into graduate school. Applications are available online at <http://nsf.gov>. The application deadline for an NSF fellowship is typically the first week of November. Many of our Program students have been successful in receiving an NSF GRFP award.

The National Institute of Health (NIH) also offers a variety of fellowship opportunities. The most readily accessible are the Research Supplements for Underrepresented Minorities program designed to attract minorities into biomedical and behavioral research. PI’s holding NIH research grants may apply for these supplements to support underrepresented minorities. The supplements offer funding for fees, stipends and supplies. The application is straightforward with a fast turn-around time and high success rate (averaging 72 percent across the various NIH institutes).

The Individual National Research Service Award Program (NRSA), available from a number of agencies within NIH, requires a more extensive application and has a lower success rate than other fellowship opportunities, but provides a very rich source of funding for students once they begin their thesis research. There are three annual deadlines for these applications: April 5, August 5 and December 5. Information about these fellowships can be found at <https://researchtraining.nih.gov/programs/fellowships> .

For information on National Defense Science and Engineering Graduate Fellowships please go to: <http://ndseg.asee.org/>

Information about other funding sources is available from GD at their website: <http://grad.ucsd.edu/financial/fellowships/index.html>.

REIMBURSEMENTS

When students incur **pre-approved** program expenses (i.e. Journal Club refreshments, recruitment hosting, etc.), they may turn in the original receipts and information to the Neurosciences Graduate Program Office for reimbursement. Please tape your receipts to a letter-sized piece of paper (for scanning). Write your name, date, what the expense was for (RE: Journal Club), and a list of who attended the event.

GENERAL INFORMATION

CALIFORNIA RESIDENCY

Since the University of California waives tuition for all California residents, all students (except foreign students) are expected to establish California residency prior to the start of their second year. Students who do not establish California residency will be responsible for their nonresident supplemental tuition (approximately \$15,000/year). **You should begin the process to establish residency immediately following your arrival to California.**

To qualify for residency, the student must demonstrate that he/she has resided in California for at least one year. Residency is established by severing residential ties with other states and creating them with California: getting a California driver's license and registering your car with the state; establishing a residence; registering to vote; and/or paying California taxes. For detailed information please visit the following website:

<http://students.ucsd.edu/finances/fees/residence/index.html>.

At orientation, first year non-resident students are provided a list of documents and/or actions to collect and/or establish within their first year in California to satisfy all reclassification requirements. Questions regarding your application should be directed to the Residence Deputy, at residence deputy@ucsd.edu or (858) 534-5486.

MAILING LISTS

neuro-students-l@ucsd.edu (note lower case "L")

Most information relevant to students in the Neurosciences Graduate Program is distributed via the 'neuro-students' e-mail list. Many enthusiastic discussions of student concerns occur through use of this list. For this reason, all students are encouraged to check their e-mail account regularly. Information regularly received via 'neuro-students' include: announcements of lectures, program events, and social activities; information on fellowships, post-doc opportunities, taxes and student health insurance; research questions from other students; changes in university policies, and a variety of other important information.

neuro-faculty-l@ucsd.edu (note lower case "L")

This listserv distributes mail to all the Neurosciences Graduate Program Faculty Members.

neuro-postdocs-l@ucsd.edu (note lower case "L")

This listserv is for post-docs who do research in Neurosciences. It is voluntary and not comprehensive.

neuro-seminar-l@ucsd.edu (note lower case “L”)

This listserv distributes information on seminars and lectures for the Neurosciences Graduate Program as well as other departments. If you are on any of the above listservs, you are automatically subscribed to the “neuro-seminar” email list.

To subscribe/unsubscribe to a particular mailing list, go to:

<http://blink.ucsd.edu/technology/email/services/lists/MM-subscriber.html> select the mailing list you wish to be a member of and follow the instructions as directed on the online form.

Please note that incoming students will automatically be added to the program mailing lists by the program coordinators.

STUDENT ID

You may obtain a student ID via Student Business Services through the online Photo Tool at: <https://students.ucsd.edu/finances/campus-cards/photo-tool.html>. Or you may go to the Student Business Services Campus ID Office.

GRADUATE DIVISION (GD)

The Graduate Division’s main website is an important resource for graduate students providing information regarding academics, funding, housing and a host of additional information. <http://grad.ucsd.edu>

GRAD LIFE @ UCSD: <http://gradlife.ucsd.edu>. This site will give you access to event and resources information specifically for graduate students.

GRADUATE STUDENT ASSOCIATION (GSA)

GSA is the collective voice of all graduate and professional students on campus at UCSD. They provide input from graduate students to committees all over campus. They regularly host social events to engage the graduate student population, and career and professional development seminars. They are also a resource for students when they want to see change at an institutional level. Two representatives from the Neurosciences program typically serve on GSA, though there are appointed and officer positions as well that many students in our program have served in. Check out gsa.ucsd.edu for more information including how to get funding for new events and ideas on campus, along with travel grants. Find them on [Facebook](#) as well for all social and academic events they host.

UCSD EDUCATION TECHNOLOGIES SERVICES

Location: Applied Physics & Mathematics building, room 1313

Providing computer network services and support to the UCSD community. Services include assistance with email, wireless access, on & off campus network access. For details see website: <http://acms.ucsd.edu/students/index.html>.

TRITONLINK

TritonLink <http://students.ucsd.edu/> is a service provided through the UCSD's website, Infopath, and is a subset of Blink. Services available to students through TritonLink include:

Schedule of Classes: Includes all course information. In addition, TritonLink shows class size limits and seats available, additional meetings (such as review sessions, make-ups, etc.) as they are scheduled throughout the quarter.

Academic History: Allows students to view and print an unofficial version of their transcript. Information includes course work taken, grades, GPA, and transfer courses.

Remember Neurosciences Graduate Students are required to check their academic record every quarter and report any grading or course registration errors to the Graduate Program Coordinator.

Addresses: Students can verify and update their addresses (mailing and e-mail), emergency contacts, and directory publishing restrictions.

Billing Statements: Students can view charges and payments on their account, view billing statements, and see account transactions for the last thirty days.

Classes and Wait Lists; Weekly Planner: Students can see their class schedule for enrolled and wait listed courses. Information includes section days, times, and location, grading option, and instructor. Additional meeting information, such as review sessions, films, and final exams will also appear as they are added throughout the quarter. In addition, students may view a weekly planner, which shows how their courses are scheduled throughout the week. It also shows time conflicts and allows students to customize their planner with additional information. A separate final exam planner is available approximately the sixth week of each quarter.

Holds: Students may check for holds on their record, and find information about how the hold will affect their registration and whom they need to speak to have any holds removed.

WebReg: Students may add, drop, change course and wait list sections on-line.

Residency for Tuition Purposes: Students may verify their residency status for tuition purposes.

TRANSPORTATION & PARKING SERVICES

Transportation and Parking Services sponsors a variety of programs and services designed to make it easier for students to live at UCSD without a car.

They operate an extensive network of free shuttle routes, looping around the campus, connecting to peripheral parking lots, and linking the campus to the Hillcrest Medical Center, Scripps Institution of Oceanography, Torrey Pines Center, and the Amtrak Coaster commuter train. Some routes operate year-round and others only while school is in session. Shuttles do not run on university holidays. At winter and spring quarter breaks and at the Thanksgiving holiday, special shuttles connect to San Diego International Airport and the Amtrak station downtown.

In addition to the shuttle system, the campus Transportation office offers a Triton U-Pass that provides unlimited access to all regional mass transit bus and trolley/light rail routes provided by the San Diego Mass Transit System (MTS). The U-Pass is available during fall, winter and spring quarter with no additional cost to the student. Students should go to the Campus Parking Office in mid-September to pick up their U-Pass sticker each year.

During the summer, students may purchase a Triton Summer Pass for \$36. Information about purchasing a Summer Pass is available at:

<http://transportation.ucsd.edu/alternatives/transit/summer-pass.html#Using-your-Compass-Card>

If you choose to bring a car to campus, be aware that a parking permit is required on UCSD property, Monday through Friday, 7:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m., unless otherwise posted. Yellow lines border student spaces. A student ("S") parking permit is valid in these spaces at all times. After 4:30 p.m. on weekdays, all UCSD permits are upgraded and become valid in spaces marked with green or red squares, as well as in metered spaces (no fee required). Parking is free on weekends in these spaces; however, student permits are never valid in spaces marked "A" Permit Required, 24 Hours a Day; 7 Days a Week, or in any other 7/24 parking space. Parking permits and applications forms can be obtained at the Parking Office. Go to the UCSD Parking and Transportation website: <http://transportation.ucsd.edu>.

Student parking permits:

- \$65/mo. "S" permits, paid quarterly, are available to all students.
- \$81/mo. "B" permits, valid for 90 consecutive days, are available to graduate students.
- \$117/qtr. "S" permits and \$132/qtr. "B" permits: Alternate schedule permits. M-W-F or T-Th-F.

Parking Sales and Services also offers a variety of short-term permit options:

- Occasional Use: up to 10 days of parking per quarter:
- \$47/ea. in “B” lots
- \$40 /ea. in “S” lots
- \$43/qtr. Night Quarterly: valid in yellow spaces after 4:30 p.m.
- Motorcycle, motorized scooter, motorized bike permit for up to 30 consecutive days, \$22/mo.
- Pay Station Rates: \$2 per hour

For more detailed information on:

- Shuttle Schedules
- Free Campus Bus Sticker
- Parking Permits/Regulations

contact Rideshare Operations at (858) 534-8841, or search Transportation & Parking Services on TritonLink or Blink (www.blink.ucsd.edu).

The University Parking offices are located both on the central campus and at the UCSD Medical Center, and parking permits can be obtained at either location.

Campus Parking Office: Gilman Parking Structure, 7:00 a.m - 5:00 p.m. weekdays (except the 3rd Wednesday of each month when they are closed from 9 a.m. – 1 p.m.) (858) 534-4223

Medical Center Parking Office: 200 West Arbor Drive, 6:30 am - 4:00 p.m. (858) 543-6524

HOUSING

<http://hdh.ucsd.edu/arch/pages/>

On-Campus

Graduate and family housing is available at the following locations:

Coast Apartments, Mesa Residential Apartments, One Miramar Street Apartments, Rita Atkinson Residences, and Single Graduate Apartments. A description of each community are available by visiting the housing home page: <http://hdh.ucsd.edu/arch/pages/>.

Affiliated Housing Operations can provide detailed information on the above locations and can be reached by e-mail at ahoinfo@housing.ucsd.edu.

The housing website link includes online applications for residency at any of the on-campus locations.

Off-Campus

UC San Diego community member can log in to offcampushousing.ucsd.edu to search property listings, find roommates, or post available rentals. If you are an incoming grad student and you do not yet have your UC San Diego User ID/PID, you can register for a temporary guest account to search our Off-Campus Housing website. Guest accounts will expire after 60 days.

GRADUATE HOUSING OPPORTUNITIES LISTSERV

The housing listserv is especially for UCSD graduate students who have off-campus or on-campus housing needs or housing opportunities to share. Students post their own messages regarding housing needs. To subscribe or unsubscribe from the listserv, visit <http://mailman.ucsd.edu/mailman/listinfo/grad-housing-op-l>. Current subscribers can also access an archive of past list postings. If you have questions or trouble subscribing to the grad housing listserv, contact the GradLife Intern at gradlife@ucsd.edu. Once you are on the listserv send your messages by email to grad-housing-op-l@mailman.ucsd.edu.

HEALTH INSURANCE

The Student Health Insurance Plan (SHIP) is mandatory and can be waived only with approval of the Student Health Services Insurance Representative after review of proof of existing comparable insurance. <http://studenthealth.ucsd.edu>

See the website for more detailed information about UCSD student health insurance plans and FAQ's.

Location: Student Health Services Student Health & Wellness Center
Library Walk (West of the Price Center & South of Geisel Library)

Hours: Monday-Friday, 8:00am-4:30pm, except Wednesday, 9:00am-4:30pm, closed daily 12:00 – 1:00 pm

General Information Line: (858) 534-3300 or 534-2124, Appointments: (858) 534-8089

COUNSELING & PSYCHOLOGICAL SERVICES

Counseling services are available without charge from UCSD's Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS). <http://psychservices.ucsd.edu/#students>

Central Office: Galbraith Hall 190

Hours: Mon-Fri, 8:00am-4:30pm

Phone & Crisis: 534-3755

Individual counseling is available for a limited number of sessions per year. There are also several counseling groups which meet regularly, some designed around specific issues and some exclusively for graduate students or for women in science.

SEXUAL ASSAULT RESOURCE CENTER (SARC)

SARC offers free confidential advocacy and support for sexual violence and gender-based violence (dating violence, domestic violence, stalking). <https://students.ucsd.edu/sponsor/sarc/>

Location: Student Services Center, 5th floor, Suite 500

Hours: Mon-Fri, 8:00am-4:30pm

Phone: 534-5793

Email: sarc@ucsd.edu

OFFICE FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

The primary objective of the Office for Students with Disabilities is to integrate these students into general campus programs and activities, and encourage their independence within and outside the campus community. The following services are available to meet the individual needs of students with disabilities:

- Disability management advising
- Academic support coordination: readers, interpreters, note takers, lab/library assistants
- Equipment repair service
- On-campus transportation
- Special parking coordination
- Special on-campus housing coordination
- Registration/enrollment assistance
- Test-taking arrangements
- Resource library
- Liaison with the California State Department of Rehabilitation.
- Referrals to resources, services and agencies
- Campus accessibility map (CAM)

Documentation of disability will be required for the delivery of most of these services.

For additional information contact:

Office for Students with Disabilities

University Center 202

<http://disabilities.ucsd.edu>

(858) 534-4382

(858) 534-9709 (TTY) Reserved for people who are deaf or hard of hearing

APPENDIX I: GRADUATE DIVISION (GD) INFORMATION

DEADLINES

There are a number of deadlines by which students must meet academic requirements. Some of these are set by the program and some by GD. The most relevant of these deadlines are:

Completion of Ph.D. Requirements

Each Ph.D. program at UCSD has three time limits:

1) Pre-Candidacy Time Limit

Neurosciences Graduate Students are encouraged to advance to candidacy by the end of their 3rd year. MSTP students are required to advance by the end of spring quarter of their 3rd year. Non MSTP Neuroscience students are required to advance by the end of spring quarter of their 4th year. The University will not allow students to register for the fall quarter following the advancement deadline or receive any financial support unless they have successfully advanced to candidacy.

2) Support Limit

This is the maximum time during which a doctoral student is eligible for support. Students must complete all requirements by the end of their sixth year.

MSTP students must complete all requirements and defend within 6 years. Their total registered time limit is also 6 years. At the end of the sixth year, the student is no longer allowed to register at the University.

Non-MSTP students may continue as a student for an additional 7th year, but will not be eligible for financial support during that year. This includes all stipend, fees/tuition payments, fellowships, scholarships, and employment administered by the University and its affiliated institutions (i.e. the Salk Institute, the Sanford-Burnham Institute, and the Scripps Research Institute), but does not affect financial aid loans. Since students cannot receive any support, they will be required to pay their own tuition/fees to be eligible for student health insurance and student housing.

3) Total Registered Time Limit

This is the maximum registered time in which a student must complete all Ph.D. requirements. As noted above, MSTP students must complete all Ph.D. requirements by the end of the sixth academic year, thereafter the student is no longer allowed to register at the University.

Non-MSTP Neuro students must complete all Ph.D. requirements by the end of the seventh academic year. At the end of the seventh year, the student is no longer allowed to register at the University.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Graduate students are eligible for a maximum of three quarters of leave with departmental approval.

If you would like to request a leave of absence, you must do the following:

- 1) Write a letter stating the reason you are requesting a leave and explain the circumstances. The letter should be addressed to the Neurosciences Graduate Program Director.
- 2) Have your advisor also submit a signed letter supporting your leave of absence request.
- 3) Set up a meeting with the Program Director to discuss your request and bring the signed letters to your meeting.

Please note that the Director will not approve a leave of absence until the above requirements have been met.

A student who leaves the University for one quarter (and up to three quarters) with the intention of resuming study during a later quarter must file a formal Leave of Absence, Extension and/or Withdrawal form prior to leaving the campus. Graduate students must have completed at least one quarter of academic residence and be in good standing (GPA 3.0 minimum or equivalent and no more than eight units of U or F grades) to be granted a leave. A student on leave of absence status cannot make use of University facilities or faculty time, be employed at UCSD, UCSD Medical Center or UC Extension, or hold a fellowship, traineeship, assistantship, or similar appointment at UCSD.

A student seeking to maintain health coverage while on a leave of absence MUST contact the Student Insurance office on campus at 858-534-2124 for specific details.

Voluntary SHIP for LOA, Filing Fee or After Graduation:

Voluntary coverage is available for up to two quarters while on an approved LOA, or one quarter maximum if on Filing Fee status or post-graduation. The student must be covered under SHIP the prior quarter in order to "continue" coverage. The Student Health website has information regarding how to enroll in the voluntary continuation coverage through SHIP at: <https://wellness.ucsd.edu/studenthealth/insurance/other-options/Pages/grad-students-leave.aspx> NOTE: There are enrollment deadlines for the voluntary coverage (generally 30 days from the end of the last coverage period) so it is important that if a student is planning on continuing coverage, they must file the appropriate paperwork for their eligible status (e.g. LOA or Filing Fee) **PRIOR TO** the voluntary SHIP enrollment deadline. The current cost to purchase voluntary SHIP coverage is \$1,202 per quarter.

Foreign Students on a Leave of Absence

Under normal conditions, a foreign student is not permitted to go on a leave of absence. Immigration regulations require that the student must be enrolled in a full-time course of study for the duration of the student's stay in the United States. Exceptions may be granted under the following circumstances. All requests for a leave of absence for foreign students require International Center approval prior to GD consideration. The usual requirements of departmental approval and campus regulations apply. Students who have advanced to Master's or Ph.D. candidacy may apply for a leave for research or employment related to their research purposes. **The International Center requires a copy of the GD approved advancement form** and a letter from the department stating the purpose of the leave prior to consideration of the leave request. If the student is leaving the country, International Center approval is usually automatic and the student does not need a department letter.

Parental Leave of Absence

Parenting Leave: A graduate student who is bearing a child, who has primary responsibility for the care of an infant immediately following birth, a child under the age of five, or adoption of a child under age five and is in good academic standing will be granted, on request, a one-quarter extension of all unexpired Ph.D. time limits. During the quarter in which childbirth or adoption occurs, the graduate student may choose one of the following registration options:

- 1) Continue registering as a full-time graduate student and retain eligibility for support.
- 2) Reduce to part-time status (less than 12 units) and be eligible for up to 25% time employment on campus.
- 3) Take a leave of absence.

After the quarter in which childbirth or adoption occurs, a graduate student who has primary responsibility for caring for a child up to the age of five will be granted, on request, a leave of absence for the purpose of caring for the child for a maximum of two quarters (or three quarters, if a one quarter extension has not been granted for the quarter in which childbirth or adoption occurred).

The total amount of time for which graduate students may receive extensions of time limits for parenting or childbearing may not exceed three quarters in a graduate student's career at UCSD. Approved leaves for childbearing and parenting will not count in the three-quarter leave limit available to all graduate students.

UCSD Childbirth Accommodation for Doctoral Students

As many as 6.4% of UCSD PhD students are parents of a young child or children. Recognizing the special challenges involved in balancing participation in Doctoral programs and childbearing, the University and the Graduate Division (GD) are committed to supporting policies, programs, and services to financially assist graduate students through childbirth while they pursue their academic goals.

Doctoral student women who give birth while in paid status with a Graduate Student Researcher (GSR), Associate In or Teaching Assistant (TA) appointment may be excused from regular employment duties for a period of up to six weeks without loss of financial support (a longer period may be granted in the case of exceptional medical circumstances experienced by the mother or child before or after birth). Eligible students holding TA or Associate In positions (all salaried ASE positions) must use all available ASE/UAW contract childbirth benefits first. This policy will supplement those benefits to provide a combined total of up to six weeks. The student will continue her academic program and maintain registration status. She will continue to pursue her academic goals during this accommodation period (i.e., registered for independent study).

Students will continue to be paid by their existing employer. With prior approval by GD, support for a TA replacement may be charged by the academic unit to the GD Childbirth Accommodation Program. Support for an Associate In or GSR replacement will only be considered under exceptional circumstances. For GSR replacements, in particular, the PI must justify that extraordinary circumstances, such as a pressing proposal deadline, could warrant the addition of a substitute employee, who presumably will be unfamiliar with the specifics of the research project. Substitute funding will not be provided to support another GSR in the same research group during the period of the childbirth accommodation who otherwise was already being supported by the PI. Any replacement student employee would only qualify for fee remissions if they reach 25% time during a given quarter. International students holding F-1 or J-1 visas who may be considered for replacement appointments are not eligible for an exception to work over 50% time.

Women doctoral students supported by university fellowships, traineeships or graduate student researchers, will experience no change in their financial support during childbirth accommodation. Women doctoral students supported by extramural fellowships will likewise experience no change in their financial support if the outside agency defers to the University in matters of leave policies.

Note: Students will not receive financial support under this provision if they do not already hold a GSR, Associate In, or TA appointment. Support for a replacement student employee will also not be continued beyond the end date of the original appointment of the mother covered by this policy.

Eligibility: In addition to the criteria above, a doctoral student requesting childbirth accommodations must: 1) Maintain full time academic status throughout the accommodation period, and 2) Apply prior to the accommodation period requested (retroactive requests will not be considered).

Applying for the GD Childbirth Accommodation Program: A student must:

- 1) Contact your Graduate Program Coordinator to initiate the request
- 2) Secure the applicable endorsements from the academic program Graduate Adviser, the student's TA, Associate In or GSR supervisor, as appropriate
- 3) Return the form to the Graduate Program Coordinator to document and then forward to GD.

GD PROBATION PROCESS

Graduate students who do not meet the requirements for good standing are advised by letter of their status and the implications of that status by the Graduate Division Dean. A copy of the letter is also sent to the program. If it is a student's first instance of academic difficulty and the GPA is above 2.0, the letter serves as a warning and advises of the next step(s).

In subsequent quarters if the student:

- a) Raises the GPA above a 3.0, then no further action is taken.
- b) Raises the GPA but not to a 3.0, student may have probation extended by request of the program with a plan for improvement and the Graduate Division Dean approval.
- c) Shows no change, same as b, dependent upon the overall GPA.
- d) Lowers the GPA further, a hold on a subsequent quarter's registration may be placed.

Any student with more than 8 units of "U" and/or "F" grades or less than a 2.0 overall GPA is barred from future registration including the next available quarter.

Note: Due to the processing of grades after the next quarter has begun, registration holds are usually placed on the 2nd quarter after the problem arises (i.e. fall quarter problem, registration hold placed on spring registration. During the summer, however, registration holds may be placed on students for fall quarter).

Regardless of the severity of the problem, students are advised to maintain communication with the department. It is the program's and student's responsibility to also monitor the student's quarterly "unofficial record" received.

The GD Academic Policies and Procedures can be found at:

<http://grad.ucsd.edu/academics/policies-procedures/index.html>

APPENDIX II: COURSE LISTINGS/COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

CORE COURSES (offered every year)

NEU 200A Cellular Molecular & Developmental Neuroscience

This course covers cellular & molecular neuroscience and is taught every fall. Each week, there is one lecture and one discussion section in which research papers are discussed. Topics include cellular physiology, synaptic transmission, neurotransmitters and receptors, plasticity, and neural development.

NEU 200B Systems Neuroscience

This course covers systems neuroscience and is taught every winter. Lectures are given by researchers in various fields, coupled with discussion sections on research papers. Topics include visual, auditory, olfactory, somatosensory, and motor systems.

NEU 200C Cognitive & Behavioral Neuroscience

This course deals with the methods of cognitive neuroscience, and then various topics including object recognition, attention, long-term and working memory, reinforcement learning and executive function.

BIOM 285 Statistical Inference and Experimental Design (BIOM 285) or

COGS 243 Statistical Inference and Data Analysis or

PSYC 201 Quantitative Methods (PSYC 201a/b)

All incoming non-MSTP Neuroscience students are required to take at least one statistics course during their first or second year of the program and may choose from the courses listed below.

- BIOM 285: **The advanced stats course is offered every winter** and is recommended if you're looking to augment a basic level of competence with more advanced techniques.
- BIOM 285: **The basic stats course is offered every spring** and is recommended if you don't have any prior experience or it's been a long time since you took stats, and you desire a basic level of competence.
- COGS 243: This course provides a rigorous treatment of hypothesis testing, statistical inference, model fitting, and exploratory data analysis techniques used in the cognitive and neural sciences. Students will acquire an understanding of mathematical foundations and hands-on experience in applying these methods using Matlab
- PSYC 201a.b: This course is offered as part of a series every fall and winter, and is recommended if you're starting from scratch and want to obtain an advanced level of competence. The syllabi are available at: <http://vulstats.ucsd.edu/>

NEU 241 Ethics and Survival Skills in Academia

This course will cover "ethical" issues in academia, including dishonesty, plagiarism, attribution, sexual misconduct, etc. Also discussed are "survival" issues, including job hunting, grant preparation, journal reviews, writing letters of recommendation, mentoring, etc. Students are required to take an Ethics Course by the end of their second year. Please check the website <http://ethics.ucsd.edu> for information on additional UCSD Ethics Courses taught by Dr. Michael Kalichman and other instructors.

NEU 257 Neuroanatomy

This course provides a hands-on look at the anatomy of the central nervous system including the key structures and their connectivity and the types of information they carry. The course is offered in the winter or spring each year.

APPENDIX III: MASTER OF SCIENCE DEGREE

Upon completing all required coursework, passing the Minor Proposition Course and fulfilling the teaching requirement, the student is eligible to receive his/her Master's degree. The GD requires a minimum of 36 units of graduate coursework, not including 296 or 299 research courses. Only students who have not previously received a Master of Science degree in Neurosciences or a Master of Science degree in a similar subject are eligible to receive their Master of Science degree in Neurosciences from UCSD.

The minimum residence requirement is three academic quarters, at least one of which must follow the Comprehensive Exam/Minor Prop. A candidate must be registered in the quarter in which the degree is to be awarded.

To obtain the Master's degree, the student must fulfill departmental requirements through Plan II, Comprehensive Examination, as outlined in the instructions for preparation of the GD form "Application for Candidacy for the Thesis or Comprehensive Examination, Plan I or II, for the Degree of Master of Arts or Science."

Please contact the Graduate Program Coordinator for instructions and forms.

PROCEDURES

- Forms must be filed with the GD no later than two weeks after the first day of the quarter in which degree requirements are to be completed.
- File upon passing the comprehensive examination (Minor Proposition Exam). All appropriate signatures and dates must be included.
- List only courses/units required for Master's degree program. A minimum of 36 units of graduate course work is required. Candidates must have a GPA equivalent to 3.0 in upper division and graduate course work undertaken, with a total of no more than eight units of F and/or U grades. GD guidelines for the number of units that must be completed are as follows: at least 14 units in graduate courses in the major field, 10 additional units in graduate courses, and 12 units in graduate or upper-division courses. No credit will be allowed for 296 & 299 research courses.

The Neurosciences Graduate Program requirements are as follows: complete all required coursework, pass the Minor Proposition course and fulfill the teaching requirement.

APPENDIX IV: APPOINTMENT OF DOCTORAL COMMITTEE

A Doctoral Committee conducts the qualifying examination, conducts the students annual Spring Evaluation, supervises the preparation and passes upon the dissertation, and administers the final examination.

PROCEDURES

By winter quarter of the third year, and in preparation for advancement, the student must put together a Doctoral Committee that is approved by the Program Director and the Graduate Division (GD). Names of your proposed committee members must be submitted to the Graduate Program Coordinator at least one month prior to the anticipated exam date. After review the coordinator will send the nomination form to the GD for review and requested approval. Allow three weeks for the GD review process. Students should not schedule their exam date until they have received final approval for the appointment of their doctoral committee by the GD.

- The committee request must be approved by GD prior to scheduling a qualifying exam.
- The Graduate Program in Neurosciences policy on Doctoral Committee membership is as follows: “The Doctoral Committee for students in the Neurosciences Graduate Program should comprise a minimum of five members and of these; at least three must be members of the Group in Neurosciences. If all members are from the Group, then two must have a different home department in which the Committee Chair and Co-Chair have no primary affiliation, and one of these two must be tenured. The Program also allows for two adjunct committee members **without** adding a sixth member. If the Graduate student’s advisor has an adjunct title, he/she must appoint a ladder ranked co-chair and they must be a UCSD faculty member.”
- The Neurosciences Graduate Program also allows for two adjunct committee members **without** adding a sixth member (as approved by Graduate Council 12/1/95).
- If the graduate student’s advisor has an adjunct title, he/she must appoint a ladder ranked co-chair and they must be a UCSD faculty member.
- Note: “Group in Neurosciences” faculty are members of the Neurosciences Graduate Program, the program faculty are listed on our website at <http://neurograd.ucsd.edu>. Since new faculty are constantly joining the program, you can obtain the most current list of program faculty from the Graduate Program Coordinators
- GD policy states that: “The committee consists of five or more officers of instruction, no fewer than four of whom shall hold professional titles of any rank. The committee members shall be chosen from two or more departments. At least two members shall represent academic specialties that are different from the student’s major department, and one of the two must be a tenured UCSD

faculty member.” Refer to the attached “Doctoral Committee Membership Chart” (exhibit 1).

- Graduate Council Action 6/9/88: “A faculty member with a regular appointment in one department and an adjunct appointment in another department may be an inside or an outside member of the committee for either department. Only one such member is accepted per committee. There must also be one person with no connection to the student’s department. The tenured outside member may be either the adjunct or outside person.”
- Graduate Council Action 4/8/93: “A professor who leaves UCSD may continue to be on the committee and may serve as co-chair, but may not continue as chair.”
- “A committee chair and/or co-chair from outside the department may not also serve as the tenured, outside member.”
- “A professor from another UC campus may be an inside or an outside member.”
- An additional member (non-adjunct, outside the university) can be included if the expertise of that member is especially relevant and unique to the dissertation project. However, such members serve as an extra (i.e., sixth or seventh member)
- The committee must be approved by the student’s department chair.

Doctoral Committee Membership

Title	Professorial Title	Senate Member	Officer of Instruct	Tenured Outside Member	Chair	Co-Chair	One of Five Members	Sixth Member
PROFESSOR SERIES:								
Full & Associate	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Assistant	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y
IN-RESIDENCE PROFESSOR SERIES:								
Full & Associate	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Assistant	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y
ACTING PROFESSOR SERIES:								
Full & Associate	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y
Assistant	Y	N	Y	N	N	Y	Y	Y
ADJUNCT SERIES*:								
All Ranks	Y	N	Y	N	Y#	Y#	Y	Y
PROFESSOR OF CLINICAL "X" SERIES:								
Full & Associate	Y	Y	Y	N	N	Y	Y	Y
Assistant	Y	N	Y	N	N	Y	Y	Y
CLINICAL PROFESSOR SERIES:								
All Ranks	Y	N	Y	N	N	N	N	Y
VISITING PROFESSOR SERIES:								
All Ranks	Y	N	Y	N	N	N	N	Y
PROFESSOR EMERITUS SERIES:								
All Ranks	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
PROFESSOR FROM ANOTHER UC CAMPUS**:								
All Ranks	Y	Y	Y	N	N	Y	Y	Y
LECTURER SERIES:								
Lecturer & Sr. Lecturer	N	N	Y	N	N	N	N	Y##
LSEO & Sr. LSEO	N	Y	Y	N	N	N	Y	Y
RESEARCH SCIENTIST/ SCHOLAR W/LECTURER APPOINTMENT:								
All Ranks	N	N	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y
RESEARCH ASSOCIATE, RESEARCH FELLOW & PROJECT SCIENTIST/ SCHOLAR:								
All Titles	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	Y##

* Only one person in this category per committee unless there are more than five members.

** May serve as inside or outside member

Adjunct professors of all ranks may serve as chairs of doctoral committees as long as a ladder rank faculty member serve as a co-chair

May serve as an inside or outside member

APPENDIX V: ADVANCEMENT TO CANDIDACY

FORM: REPORT OF THE QUALIFYING EXAMINATION AND ADVANCEMENT TO CANDIDACY FOR THE DEGREE OF DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY (APPENDIX V, EXHIBIT 1)

(GD Form: Obtain from the Graduate Program Coordinator)

PROCEDURES

1. At the completion of your Qualifying Examination, the Doctoral Committee members will signify their approval by signing their names to this form directly following the exam.
2. The student also must sign the form where indicated and add the quarter/year planned to complete dissertation.
3. The Neurosciences Program Director must also sign the form. Either drop it off to the graduate program office or take it directly to the Director.
4. Once all the signatures have been obtained, the student must take the form to the Cashiers Office and pay the \$50.00 candidacy fee. They will stamp the form. The fee is required, in advance, to complete the paperwork. The Neurosciences Graduate Program will not cover this fee, however the student may request reimbursement from their doctoral advisor or thesis lab.
5. Finally drop off the completed form to the Neurosciences Graduate Program Coordinator. She will make a copy for your file and mail it to GD for final approval and signature.
6. Advancement to Candidacy becomes official when the final approved form is filed with GD, provided that the student is enrolled that quarter. Advancements occurring during the summer or between quarters will be posted in the next quarter of enrollment.

SAMPLE FORM ONLY:

STUDENT TO OBTAIN MULTI-CARBON COPY FORM TO FILL OUT FROM THE GRADUATE PROGRAM COORDINATOR

Office of Graduate Studies and Research
University of California, San Diego
La Jolla, CA 92093



REPORT OF THE QUALIFYING EXAMINATION AND
ADVANCEMENT TO CANDIDACY FOR
THE DEGREE OF DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY

◆ DEPARTMENT/GROUP/SCHOOL

Name: _____ PID#: _____
(Print candidate's name as it is to appear on the diploma)

Mailing Address: _____ Department/
Group/School: _____
Number and Street
City/State/Zip

TO THE DEAN OF GRADUATE STUDIES AND RESEARCH:

The members of the Doctoral Committee report that the candidate has completed all pre-dissertation requirements in the major and has taken the qualifying exam on: _____
Date

Approved of Qualifications
(Yes or No)

Signatures of Committee Members

_____, Chair
_____, Co-chair
(if applicable)

The Committee recommends advancement to candidacy for the Doctor of Philosophy degree in:

(Give exact title of degree.) / /

Approved: _____
Chair of Department/Group/School Date

◆ CASHIER The candidacy fee (\$65) has been paid.

Validated by Cashier Date

◆ STUDENT I request advancement to candidacy. I plan to complete my dissertation by:

Quarter/Year Signature: _____
Student Date

◆ OGSR Advancement to Candidacy.

Approved: _____
Dean of Graduate Studies Date

OGSR Form: \publications\formphdq.p65

DISTRIBUTION: White-Registrar, Pink-OGSR, Green-Student, Canary-Major Department

REV: 3/01

APPENDIX VI: DEGREE INFORMATION & COMPLETION

Prior to scheduling your thesis defense and dissertation filing contact the Graduate Program Coordinators for specific instructions.

Degree Completion

Filing between Quarters (General Petition)

Registration will be waived for a student completing between quarters if registered in previous quarter. The Degree will be conferred at the end of the following quarter.

Filing Deadlines

The deadlines for filing dissertations and theses is on the Friday before the last day of Fall and Winter quarters, and one week earlier for spring quarter. Students seeking to meet this deadline **MUST** have a preliminary appointment for a formatting check prior to their final appointment and submission of the dissertation with GD and Geisel Library.

Filing Fee (General Petition)

A student on an approved leave of absence who has completed all requirements except the final defense of the dissertation or thesis or taking of the final examination, may petition to pay a filing fee (one half of the registration fee) in lieu of full registration fees. Cashier validated petition must be submitted with student's Final Report form. The Filing Fee is one half of the Education Fee, or approximately \$188.

Participation in Commencement

UCSD Graduate Division conducts one commencement ceremony each year at the end of spring quarter. Only students who have completed ALL degree requirements, including filing of the thesis or dissertation, may participate in commencement.

Summer Degrees

- Students completing terminal degrees during the summer and who were enrolled in the previous spring quarter do not pay any additional fees but must file a General Petition to waive registration between quarters.
- Students completing terminal degrees during the summer who were on leave of absence in the previous spring quarter will pay the filing fee for completion and will also need to file a General Petition to complete between quarters.
- Continuing Ph.D. students who complete a master's degree during the summer will have the degree awarded in the fall quarter.
- GD publishes a schedule of specific deadline dates for summer degrees at the end of each spring quarter

SAMPLE FORM ONLY:

STUDENT TO OBTAIN MULTI-CARBON COPY FORM TO FILL OUT FROM THE GRADUATE PROGRAM COORDINATOR

Office of Graduate Studies and Research
University of California, San Diego
La Jolla, CA 92093



FINAL REPORT OF THE FINAL EXAMINATION AND
FILING OF THE DISSERTATION FOR
THE DEGREE OF DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY

◆ DEPARTMENT/GROUP/SCHOOL

Name: _____ PID#: _____
(Print candidate's name as it is to appear on the diploma)
 Mailing Address _____ Department/
 for Diploma: _____ Group/School: _____
Number and Street

City/State/Zip

TO THE DEAN OF GRADUATE STUDIES AND RESEARCH:

The members of the Doctoral Committee report on the candidate's final examination:

Approved for the Degree
(Yes or No)

Signatures of Committee Members

_____	_____, Chair
_____	_____, Co-chair <small>(if applicable)</small>
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

The Final Examination and Dissertation are UNANIMOUSLY NOT UNANIMOUSLY approved, and the candidate is
 RECOMMENDED NOT RECOMMENDED for the award of the Doctor of Philosophy in:

_____ (Give exact title of degree.)
 in the Department/Group/School of _____ as of: ____/____/____
Date
 Dissertation title: _____

Approved: _____ / /
Chair of Department/Group/School Date

◆ OGSR The candidate has fulfilled all academic and registration requirements for the degree. Dissertation to be deposited with the Archivist.

Approved: _____ / /
Dean of Graduate Studies Date

◆ UNIVERSITY ARCHIVIST Dissertation accepted for deposit.

Approved: _____ / /
University Librarian Date

◆ OGSR The candidate has completed all necessary requirements for conferral of the degree is recommended as of:

_____ Approved: _____ / /
Quarter/Year Dean of Graduate Studies Date

OGSR Form: \publications\formphd.fpm DISTRIBUTION: White-Registrar, Green-OGSR, Canary-Student, Pink-Major Department, Goldenrod-Librarian
 REV: 10/02

APPENDIX VII: ADDING & DROPPING CLASSES

Graduate students may add or drop classes without GD approval through the second week of the quarter on TritonLink, WebReg. All adds after the second week will require departmental and GD approval. GD approval is also required to drop a class after the end of the second week; approval by the department is also required.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR ADD/DROP BEFORE 4TH WEEK OF CLASSES

- To Drop a class without a "W" on your record or Add a class you must do so before the end of the 4th week of classes.
- To Add or Drop a class after the 2nd week students will submit a request through the Enrollment Authorization System (EASy) at:
<https://academicaffairs.ucsd.edu/Modules/Students/PreAuth>
- The request will be routed to the Graduate Coordinator and Instructor, if required, for approval.
- If you will fall below 12 units after you drop the class, you'll need to fill out a 2nd [EASy](#) request to add the extra units to your NEU 296 or 299 Research Section.
- Deadline to drop a class without penalty of an "F" grade, is the end of 9th week of the quarter. Student will receive a "W" on his/her transcript indicating a withdrawal from the class.
- Students are only permitted one "W" per course at UCSD. Please contact the Graduate Program Coordinator for additional information.

APPENDIX VIII: GENERAL PETITION

Used for requesting various changes in student academic status and seeking exceptions to policy to university academic policy.

FORM:

GRADUATE STUDENT GENERAL PETITION (APPENDIX VIII, EXHIBIT 1)

STUDENT OBTAINS FORM FROM GRADUATE COORDINATOR

PROCEDURES BY REQUEST AND SECTION

Upon completion of appropriate sections as described below, petition must be signed by specified faculty as noted in approval section.

A. READMISSION

- A student whose status had lapsed due to an interruption in registration must petition for readmission.
- A student must submit supplementary transcripts of all academic work undertaken since last enrollment at UCSD, pay the readmission fee of \$60.00, and submit a statement of activities and a General Petition.
- A Statement of Legal Residence (OAR form) is required for all students returning after an absence of two or more quarters.
- After an absence of one year or longer, PhD candidates will be required to reapply.
- Students must have been in good standing (GPA 3.0 or higher with no more than 8 units of U or F) at time of withdrawal.
- Cashier validated petition and other forms, as required, must be submitted to GD prior to the first day of the quarter.

B. LATE ENROLLMENT

- Use General Petition for enrolling students after the end of the second week of the quarter. GD approval required.
- Must submit letter(s) from course instructor(s) stating student will complete full quarter's worth of work, or has been attending class since quarter began.
- Applicable late fees will be assessed, including late payment of fees, regardless of the funding source or prepayment.

C. REPETITION OF COURSES

- A graduate student assigned a grade of D, F, or U may petition to repeat the course on the same grading basis for which it was first taken.
- Degree credit for the course will only be given once, but the grade assigned for each enrollment shall be permanently recorded.
- The grade assigned for each enrollment shall be used in calculating the grade-point average.
- Petition must be submitted to GD for approval prior to enrollment in course to be repeated for credit. Contact the graduate coordinator for the form and information.

D. WAIVING ACADEMIC RESIDENCY

- Residence requirements between advancement to candidacy and completion of the degree may be waived under special circumstances.
- Justification must be given under "Other" section of petition.
- Ph.D. residence requirements are: minimum of 6 quarters, at least three of which must follow advancement.

E. FILING BETWEEN QUARTERS

- Registration will be waived for a student completing between quarters if they were registered in the previous quarter.
- Degree will be conferred at the end of the next quarter.

F. FILING FEE

- A student on an approved leave of absence who has completed all requirements except for the final defense of the dissertation/thesis or taking of the final examination, may petition to pay a filing fee (one half of the Educational Fee) in lieu of full tuition/fees.
- Cashier validated petition must be submitted with student's Final Report.

G. OTHER GENERAL PETITION REQUESTS:

- Use the remarks section when justification or clarification is required for other petitioned items.
- May also be used when requesting exceptions to academic policy not covered in other petition sections.

- Retroactive course/grade changes must be listed on “Other” section of petition, however: **No grade or course add/drops may be changed after one calendar year from the time the error was recorded.**
- Requests must include all information necessary for posting. For every course, this includes: course/course number/section ID/grading option/number of units/quarter for each change requested.
- Justification and/or explanation must be given.
- Course instructor must sign petition.
- Extension of an incomplete grade must be just and requested on a general petition.
- Extension considered only in extenuating circumstances considered beyond the student’s control.
- Request must be filed before the incomplete lapses to a permanent F or U.

All petitions must include: Course/Course Number/Quarter in which the course was taken, reasons for requesting the extension, and how/when the “I” is to be completed.

SAMPLE FORM ONLY:

STUDENT TO OBTAIN MULTI-CARBON COPY FORM TO FILL OUT FROM THE GRADUATE PROGRAM COORDINATOR

Office of Graduate Studies and Research
University of California, San Diego
La Jolla, CA 92093-0003



GRADUATE STUDENT
GENERAL PETITION

◆ **STUDENT**

Name: _____ PID#: _____
Last First Middle
 Mailing Address: _____ Department/
Number and Street Group/School: _____
City/State/Zip Degree Aim: Master's M.Eng. Ph.D.
 M.F.A. M.A.S. D.M.A.
 M.P.I.A. M.Ed.

- I REQUEST TO: A. Be readmitted to UCSD for _____ to _____
Quarter/Year Department/Degree Aim
(Obtain copy of Instructions for Readmission and Statement of Legal Residence from your department.)
- B. Change major department/discipline, major code, degree aim, or transfer from non-degree to degree status from _____ to _____
Department/Group/School/Discipline, Major Code, Degree Aim Department/Group/School/Discipline, Major Code, Degree Aim
 effective _____
Quarter/Year
- C. Repeat course number _____ taken _____ in which grade D, F, or U was assigned
Quarter/Year Quarter/Year
- D. Transfer _____ units of credit from _____ to a Master's program
Quarter/Semester Institution
(Must attach transcript and letter from institution stating course work was not used for another degree.)
- E. Waive _____ academic residency after filing advancement and completion of degree requirements
Quarter(s)/Year(s)
- F. Study off campus during _____ at _____
Quarter/Year Location
(Indicate reason(s) for undertaking off-campus study below.)
- G. Waive registration for _____ in which degree will be conferred
Quarter/Year
(Must have been registered previous quarter, but filing between quarters, e.g., summer completion following the end of spring quarter.)
- H. Pay a filing fee _____ to complete requirements for the degree
Quarter/Year
- I. Other: _____

REASON(S): _____

Student Signature: _____ / /
Date

◆ **DEPARTMENT**

Approved: _____ / /
Graduate Adviser/Instructor Date

Approved: _____ / /
Department/Group/School Chair/Dean Date

Approved: _____ / /
Department/Group/School Chair/Dean Date

Petitions involving transfer from one department/group/school require the signature below of the chair of the department or group, or the dean of the school into which the student is transferring.

◆ **CASHIER**

Readmission fee: \$ _____
 Filing Fee: \$ _____
 Late Fee(s): \$ _____

Validated: _____ / /
Cashier Date

◆ **OGSR**

Approved: _____ / /
Dean of Graduate Studies Date

OGSR Form: \publications\formgenpet.pmd
 REV: 10/02

Distribution: White--Registrar, Canary--OGSR, Pink--Student, Goldenrod--Major Department

APPENDIX IX: FORMS

See the following pages for samples of the Rotation Evaluation Form and First Year Spring Evaluation Form

SAMPLE

Neurosciences Graduate Program Rotation Evaluation Form

Student Name: _____
Faculty Member Name: _____
Date of Rotation: _____

Overall Performance:
 Excellent
 Good
 Fair
 Needs Improvement

General Subject of Rotation Project:

Please evaluate the general performance of the above student during his/her rotation in your laboratory. Include what you believe are the student's strengths as well as possible weaknesses and any suggestions you have concerning the student's future training. A copy of the evaluation may be given to the student upon request.

Signature _____ Date _____

SAMPLE
NEUROSCIENCES GRADUATE PROGRAM
2018 First Year SPRING EVALUATION Questionnaire

Student Name: _____

Computation Neurosciences Specialization Yes No

Research Area of Interest: _____

Rotations (if applicable):	Advisor	Quarter
(1)	_____	_____
(2)	_____	_____
(3)	_____	_____
(4)	_____	_____

Courses Taken (please check all courses completed):

- Core Courses**
- NEU 200A - Basic Neurosciences
 - NEU 200B - Basic Neurosciences
 - NEU 200C - Basic Neurosciences
 - Stats Course:
 - NEU 257 - Neuroanatomy
- CN Courses**
- BGGN 260 - Neurodynamics
 - PHYS 278 - Biophysics of Neurons and Networks
 - COGS 118C - Algorithms for the Analysis of Neural Data
- Other Courses**
- NEU 276 - Research Rounds (3 quarters)
 - NEU 241 - Ethics and Survival Skills in Academia
 - Other Ethics Course:

- Elective Courses**
- NEU 231 Data Analysis in MatLab
 - BGGN 20 Methods in Comp Neuro
 - SOMI 226 Scientific Ethics
 - NEU 265 Mechanisms of Pain
 - NEU 222 Neuroendocrinology
 - NEU 270A Neurobiology of Disease
 - NEU 221: Quantitative Behavior
 - NEU 221: Landmark Papers
 - NEU 221: Neurotransmitter-based synaptic plasticity
 -
- Other Electives:** _____

Plans for Teaching Requirement: _____

Thesis Laboratory _____

Proposed Thesis Project: _____

