

## University of California at Berkeley

## **Course Requirements for Graduate Students**

Required course work includes: a) specific classes in which all entering MCB graduate students must enroll; b) three graduate courses which must be completed during the first three semesters chosen from a list compiled by the department; and, c) additional seminar coursework following Advancement to Candidacy. Most courses are taken for a letter grade and must be passed with a grade of B or better in accordance with University rules governing graduate students. Courses taken as Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory must be passed with a satisfactory grade in order to fulfill the requirement.

- A) The specific, required classes include: MCB 200A-B (Fundamentals of Molecular and Cell Biology), 291A-B (rotation research), 293A (FERPs), and 293C (Ethics). In addition, students must enroll in two Advanced Topics courses, MCB380 (a Pedagogy course for GSIs) and three MCB 290s (graduate seminars).
- B) First year students should consult with their adviser on appropriate Advanced Topics courses in late Fall prior to Spring registration. The Advanced Topics courses must completed with a grade of B of better by the end of the first year. In some instances, there will be divisional course requirements above and beyond the Department course requirement, and it is the responsibility of the student and the adviser to ensure that all course requirements are met. Substitutions to Departmental course requirements must be approved by the Head Graduate Adviser.

On a case by case basis an advisor may approve an additional semester for a student to complete course work. Students needing a stronger background in a subject area might be advised to take an advanced undergraduate course before taking the graduate level course. In such cases, the Qualifying Exam will be deferred until the completion of the three required courses but no later than the Fall semester of the third year.

C) Following Advancement to Candidacy, all students must take and pass three 290 seminar courses. Between 4 and 8 of these literature-based seminar courses are offered by individual faculty each semester.

## **Typical Course Registration During Graduate Program**

First Year

Fall: Fundamentals of Molecular and Cell Biology (MCB 200A-B), FERPS(293A), and

Rotations(291A)

Spring: Advanced Topics (2 courses), Rotations(291B), MCB 293C(Ethics-5 wks)

2nd Year

Fall: GSI Pedagogy (MCB 380), Research (MCB 292), Lab Group Meeting

Spring: Research (MCB 292), Lab Group Meeting

3rd Year

Fall: Research (MCB 292), Lab Group Meeting, Seminars (MCB 290) Spring: GSI Pedagogy (MCB 380), Research (MCB 292), Lab Group Meeting,

Seminars (MCB 290)

4th Year and Beyond

Fall: Research (MCB 292), Lab Group Meeting, Seminars (MCB 290) Spring: Research (MCB 292), Lab Group Meeting, Seminars (MCB 290)