

# Microbiology PhD

\*90 total credit hours. 22.5 hours from Core Program course work. 6 credit outside minor. All remaining credits earned through M800 Research.

[Biology Graduate Bulletin](#)

\*Please note that as long as you are supported you must always be registered in a minimum of 6 to a maximum of 12 credits in each fall and spring semester.

\*This document will serve as a guide. Your path may be slightly different based on your circumstances! Please reach out to your Program Director and Graduate Advisor if you have any questions.

## Year 1

Fall semester – 12 credits

- BIOL-M585 Microbial Genetics and Pathogenesis (3.0 cr)
- BIOL-L523 Critical Analysis of Scientific Literature (1.5 cr)
- BIOL-M500 Research rotations (3.0 cr)
- Elective Advanced Course work - Z620, one or more biochemistry course, one or more bioinformatics courses, or other relevant coursework (0 – 4.5 credits)
- BIOL-M800 Research (any remaining credits to get to 12 total)

Spring semester – 12 credits

- \*BIOL-M511 Molecular Biology of Prokaryotes (3.0 cr)
- \*BIOL-M541 Virology and Host Responses (3.0 cr)  
*\*only one of these is required for the major. Many students will take both to prepare for prelims. See Micro GPD for exceptions*
- Remaining credits this semester should be electives and/or minor courses and/or M800 Research

**\*At end of 1<sup>st</sup> year- form Advisory Committee. Committee must be formed and eDoc submitted *before* August of this year.**

- [General Requirements for PhD Advisory Committee](#)
- [Advisory Committee for the PhD eDoc](#)

## Year 2

Fall Semester – 12 credits

- BIOL-L500 Independent study (3.0 cr)
- Remaining credits this semester should be electives and/or minor courses and/or M800 Research

*\*Hold first committee meeting this semester*

*\*Receive paper list for Prelim Part I*

Spring Semester – 12 credits

- BIOL-Z620 Grant Writing (1.5 cr)
- Remaining credits this semester should be electives and/or minor courses and/or M800 Research

*\*Prelims Part I*

*\*Prelims Part II during Summer or in first two weeks of year 3 fall semester. The qualifying exams must be passed **at least eight months before graduation***

## Year 3

Fall Semester – 12 credits

- Credits this semester should be electives and/or minor courses and/or M800 Research

Spring Semester – 12 credits

- BIOL-M800 Research (1 – 12 cr) BIOL-Z620 Ethics and Career Development (1.5 cr)
- Remaining credits this semester should be electives and/or minor courses and/or M800 Research

## \*All course work completed

*\* Once you've completed your coursework and passed your prelim exams, submit your Nomination to Candidacy eDoc. **This form takes several months to approve, and is an important step to graduation. Submit this eDoc as soon as possible!***

- [General Requirements for Admission to PhD Candidacy](#)
- [Nomination to Candidacy for the Ph.D. Degree Application eDoc](#)

## Year 4

Fall Semester – 12 credits

- BIOL-M800 Research (12 cr)

*\*Once your candidacy has been approved by the University Graduate School, submit your Nomination of Research Committee eDoc. **This eDoc must be approved by the University Graduate School at least six months before you defend your dissertation.***

- [General Requirements for Dissertation Research Committee](#)
- [Nomination of Research Committee eDoc](#)

Spring semester – 6 credits

- BIOL-M800 Research (6 cr)

## Year 5+

- At this point you will most likely have completed 90 credit hours. If you have completed 90 credits and your PhD Candidacy has been approved by the University Graduate School, you may register for [BIOL-G901 Advanced Research](#) each semester. You are allowed 6 semesters of G901 registration. G901 registration allows you to pay just \$150 per semester instead of the normal ~\$700.
- When you're ready, and all other eDocs have been completed, submit your PhD [defense announcement](#). **This announcement must be approved by UGS at least 30 days prior to your defense.** To allow time for processing, please submit this no later than **45 days before your defense date**. Your announcement will go to your department graduate office for approval, and then to your research chair for approval, and finally to the University Graduate School for processing.
- If you plan to defend and graduate in the summer, you must register for summer G901 credits. These credits require special administrative permission, so let your Graduate Advisor know.
- Once you have defended your dissertation, you will receive more instruction on how and where to submit your official dissertation, and the specific monthly deadlines depending on which month your actual graduation will occur.

Congrats on completing your PhD!

Other Helpful websites:

[College of Arts and Sciences- Information for Graduate Students](#)

[University Graduate School- Timeline for Graduation](#)

[University Graduate School Bulletin- Biology](#)

[Dissertation and Thesis Resources – Biology](#)