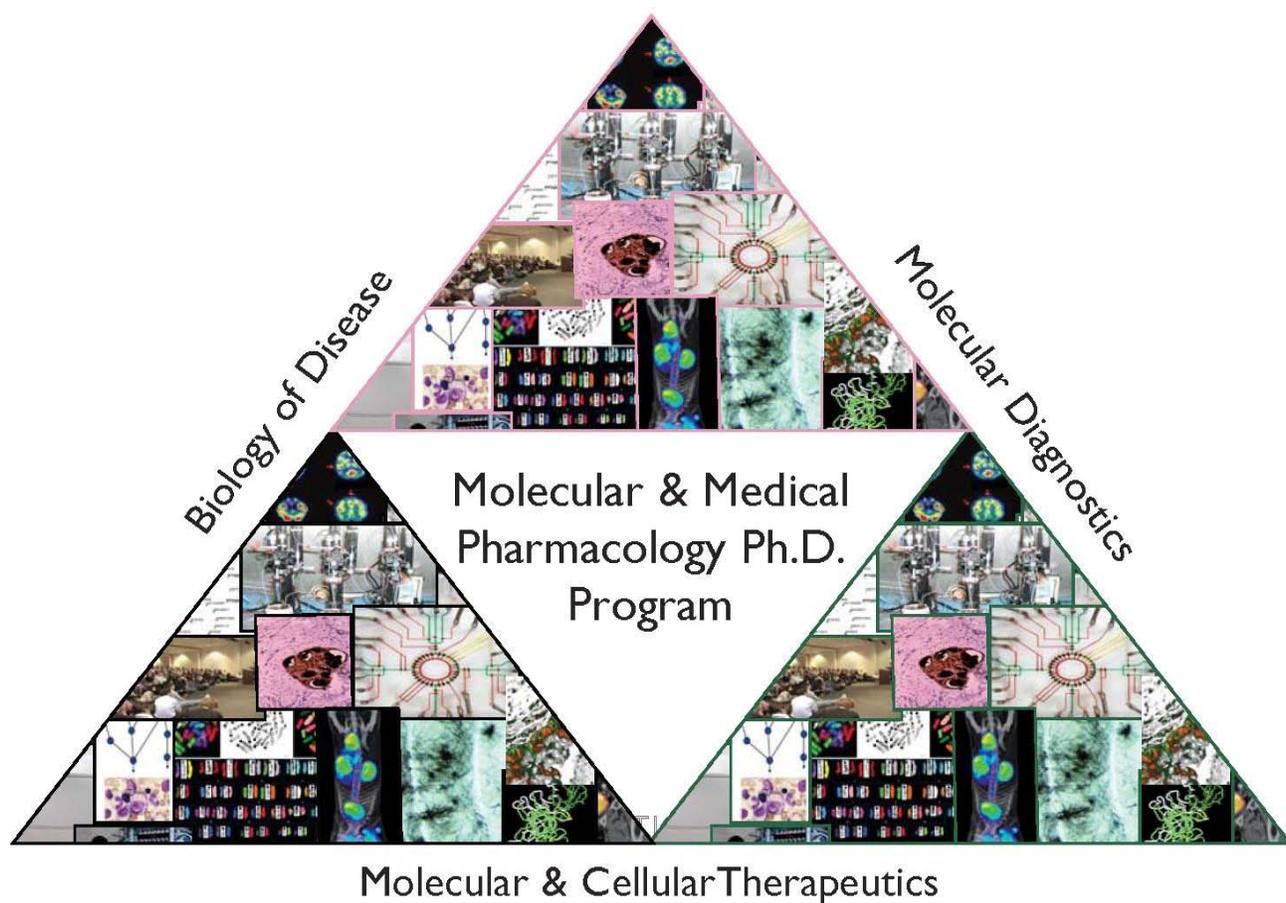


UCLA

DEPARTMENT OF

MOLECULAR AND MEDICAL

PHARMACOLOGY



GRADUATE STUDENT HANDBOOK

UCLA Molecular and Medical Pharmacology Graduate Student Handbook 2016-2017

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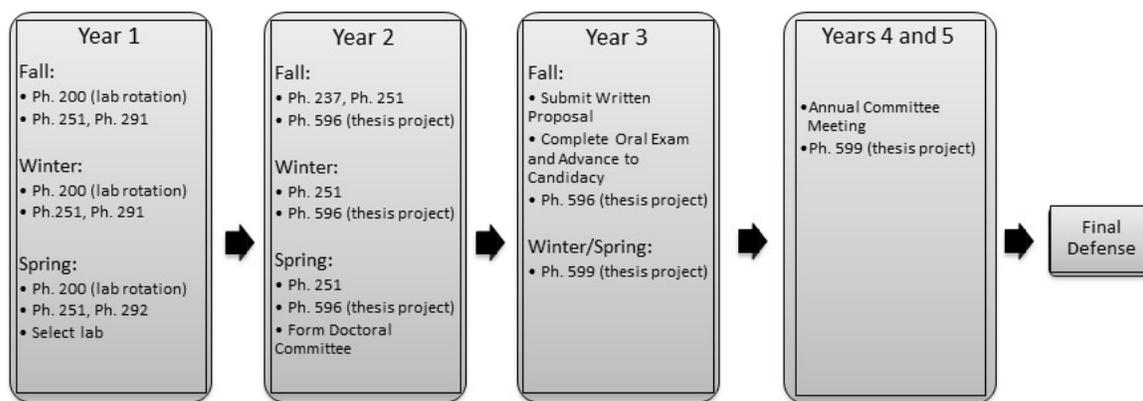
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UCLA Molecular and Medical Pharmacology Ph.D program Program Requirements

Advising: A graduate adviser is assigned for new entering graduate students or students in their first year of study. Students must obtain approval from this adviser for enrollment in courses each quarter. The adviser also is available to discuss their overall academic program. By the beginning of the second year, students choose a faculty sponsor to serve as their main adviser for dissertation research.

Course Requirements: Students are required to maintain a grade point average of 3.0 in all coursework and to achieve grades of B or better in all Molecular and Medical Pharmacology courses. One grade of less than B in a required Molecular and Medical Pharmacology course results in probationary status; the course must be repeated with a grade of B or better. Students are required to earn a B or better in M Pharm 292 qualifying class. Students who do not earn a passing grade in M Pharm 292 will be dismissed from the Ph.D program.

Molecular and Medical Pharmacology Graduate Program Requirements



See course descriptions on Page 4

Rotations: The department requires students to participate in three laboratory rotations (Molecular and Medical Pharmacology 200), one per quarter, during the first year in order to familiarize students with a variety of pharmacological research areas and techniques. During the first year in the department, students participate in projects of the laboratories of their and the faculty's choosing. Students also become familiar with the literature relevant to the various research projects and thus establish a basis for the selection of their own research areas. At the end of the three rotations, students are required to join a laboratory, where they will conduct their graduate research.

Teaching Experience: Students are required to serve as teaching assistants for one quarter. MSTP students are not subjected to the TA requirement.

Written and Oral Qualifying Examinations (Advancement to Candidacy Exam):

Please refer to the ATC Guidelines for additional details, important deadlines, and proposal format. This exam will be a two-step process.

1. The first step will be the M Pharm 292 course on proposal writing. All first year Pharmacology Home Area students matriculating towards a Ph.D. degree in Molecular and Medical Pharmacology are required to enroll in M Pharm 292 in their first year. Students will learn to write and orally defend a proposal. The proposal shall be on a topic unrelated to any of their rotation projects. Specifics for preparation of the proposal, evaluation of the written document, and nature of the oral defense will be discussed during the M Pharm 292 course. Students who do not earn a passing grade in M Pharm 292 will be dismissed from the Ph.D program.
2. The second step of the qualifying exam will be on the thesis topic. Students will prepare a written proposal, and defend the proposal in an oral exam. Students must pass this exam by December 1st of the third year.

Doctoral Committee: Students will form their Doctoral Committee during Spring Quarter of their second year. The committee should include one Graduate Training Committee (GTC) member. The Doctoral Committee must have a minimum of four members, including one faculty member who does not have an appointment in the MM Pharmacology department. See the DMMP Student Affairs Officer (SAO) for all forms.

The GTC member will chair the ATC oral exam administered by the student's doctoral committee. The faculty mentor is present only to provide answers to questions asked of him/her by the other committee members, for clarification of student comments when asked by the other committee members, and to address other concerns of the committee members.

Annual Committee Meeting: After passing the ATC, students are required to hold an annual committee meeting each winter or spring quarter and present a progress report to the committee. Students must submit the progress report to the committee two weeks prior to the meeting. These annual meetings should focus on accomplishments and roadblocks in the past year. The annual committee meeting is chaired by the student's faculty mentor, who is an active, engaged participant at these meetings. At the end of the annual meeting, each committee member must complete a brief evaluation form and return it to the faculty mentor. The faculty mentor will then go over the feedback with the student, and submit a brief committee meeting report to the Student Affairs Officer.

Publications: After passing the ATC, it is strongly recommended that students complete at least one or two first-authored papers before finishing their studies.

Pre-Defense Meeting: Prior to scheduling the final oral examination, each student must have a pre-defense meeting. After this meeting the committee members should give their approval for a defense within a certain time frame.

Final Oral Examination (Defense of Dissertation): Students are required to have a public oral defense and submit a written dissertation to the Graduate Division.

Termination of Graduate Study and Appeal of Termination

A student who fails to meet the above requirements may be recommended for termination of graduate study. A graduate student may be disqualified from continuing in the graduate program for a variety of reasons. The most common is failure to maintain the minimum cumulative grade point average (3.00) required by the Academic Senate to remain in good standing. Other examples include failure of examinations, lack of timely progress toward the degree and poor performance in core courses. Probationary students (those with cumulative grade point averages below 3.00) are subject to immediate dismissal upon the recommendation of their department. University guidelines governing termination of graduate students, including the appeal procedure, are outlined in Standards and Procedures for Graduate Study at UCLA.

Graduate Course Descriptions

- **200. MM Pharm Introduction to Laboratory Research (4-8 units).** Individual projects in laboratory research for beginning graduate students. At end of each term students submit to their supervisor a report covering research performed. Pharmacology graduate students must take this course three times during their first two years in residence. Letter grading. (Fall, Winter, Spring)
- **237. MM Pharm Integration of the Biology of Disease, Molecular Diagnostics and Therapeutics (6 units).** Detailed examination of principles of pharmacology and mechanisms of drug action at organismal, tissue, cellular, and molecular levels, with emphasis on pharmacodynamics and pharmacokinetics, and drug discovery and development process. In-depth discussion of certain therapeutic agents will be done to illustrate the fundamental concepts. Letter grading. (Fall)
- **M248. MM Pharm Introduction to Biological Imaging (4 units).** Same as Biomedical Physics M248. Lecture three hours; laboratory one hour; outside study, seven hours. Exploration of role of biological imaging in modern biology and medicine, including imaging physics, instrumentation, image processing, and applications of imaging for a range of modalities. Practical experience provided through a series of imaging laboratories. Letter grading. (Winter)
- **M251. MM Pharm Seminars (MM Pharm Fridays) (2 units)**
DMMP graduate students present and discuss their research progress in a seminar format. The objectives of M251 are to highlight the science done in DMMP and to help students improve their presentation skills by providing them with the opportunity to speak to a diverse audience. M251 is mandatory for all 1st and 2nd year students. Letter grading. (Fall, Winter, Spring)
- **252 A. MM Pharm Molecular Mechanism of Human Diseases I, Concurrent with 252 B (4 units).** (Same as Molecular, Cellular, and Integrative Physiology M252A.) Lecture, four hours. Preparation: prior satisfactory molecular biology coursework. Co-requisite: course M252B. Fundamental concepts and methodologies in modern biology, with emphasis on implications and relevance to human disease and integration of biology with mechanisms underlying disease development and applications in therapy as they apply to cancer biology, infectious disease, and modern biological approaches. Letter grading. (Fall)
- **252 B. MM Pharm Molecular Mechanism of Human Diseases I, Concurrent with 252 A (2 units).** (Same as Molecular, Cellular, and Integrative Physiology M252B.) Seminar, two hours. Co requisite: course M252A. Reading, review, and discussion of primary research literature addressing fundamental concepts and methodologies in modern biology, with particular emphasis on implications and relevance to human diseases of topics presented in course M252A. Letter grading. (Fall)
- **254 A. Biological Chemistry Concepts in Molecular Biosciences, Concurrent with 254 B (3 units).** Lecture, three hours; discussion, two hours. Five-week course covering four basic experimental approaches of biochemistry and molecular biology in context of various specific topics, including (1) structural biology, with protein and nucleic acid structure and molecular recognition, (2) use of cell-free and purified in vitro systems to dissect reaction mechanisms, (3) biochemical approaches to dissecting complex reactions/pathways in cells, and (4) enzymology and protein chemistry. Letter grading. (Fall) (Section C Winter)
- **254 B. Biological Chemistry Concepts in Molecular Biosciences, Concurrent with 254 A (3 units).** Five-week course. Lecture, three hours; discussion, two hours. Enforced requisite: course 254A. Important biological problems that have been genetically analyzed in different organisms or small number of related problems. Major genetic approaches used in relevant organisms, including both forward and reverse genetic approaches, genetic interactions between genes (genetic enhancers and suppressors), transgenic technology, and systematic genomic strategies. Letter grading. (Fall) (Section D Winter)

- **254 C. Biological Chemistry Concepts in Molecular Biosciences, Concurrent with 254 D (3 units).** Five-week course. Lecture, three hours; discussion, two hours. Enforced requisites: courses 254A, 254B. Molecular mechanisms underlying complex problems in cell biology. Experimental approaches used to define mechanisms involved in protein targeting, cell structure and subcellular organization, cell communication, and intracellular signaling. Analysis of pathways that connect these cellular processes.
- **254 D. Biological Chemistry Concepts in Molecular Biosciences, Concurrent with 254 C (3 units).** Five-week course. Lecture, three hours; discussion, two hours. Enforced requisites: courses 254A, 254B, 254C. Application of biochemical, molecular biological, genetic, and cell biological approaches to understand specialized topics in life and biomedical sciences, including developmental disease, stem cell biology, synaptic transmission in nervous system, cancer, and heart disease.
- **262 A. MM PHARM Molecular Mechanisms of Human Diseases II, Concurrent with 262B (4 units).** (Same as Molecular, Cellular, and Integrative Physiology M262A.) Lecture, four hours. Preparation: prior satisfactory molecular biology coursework. Co-requisite: course M262B. Fundamental concepts and methodologies in modern biology, with emphasis on implications and relevance to human disease and integration of biology with mechanisms underlying disease development and applications in therapy as they apply to neurological, cardiovascular, and metabolic diseases. Letter grading. (Winter)
- **262 B. MM PHARM Molecular Mechanisms of Human Diseases II, Concurrent with 262A (2 units).** (Same as Molecular, Cellular, and Integrative Physiology M262B.) Seminar, two hours. Co-requisite: course M262A. Reading, review, and discussion of primary research literature addressing fundamental concepts and methodologies in modern biology, with particular emphasis on implications and relevance to human diseases of topics presented in course M262A. Letter grading. (Winter)
- **286. MM Pharm Business of Science (1 units) Seminar,** one hour. Limited to graduate students. Further exploration of topics discussed in course 287, allowing students to interact with speakers and bring their individual concerns to table. Past and present students encouraged to enroll. S/U grading. (Fall and Spring)
- **287. MM Pharm Business of Science (2 units).** This course introduces students to principles of business and entrepreneurship in technology sectors. The objective is to provide students with the basic business skills and knowledge required to effectively perform in a commercial environment and within an academic environment that is increasingly involved in industry partnerships. (Fall and Spring)
- **288. MM Pharm Gene Therapy (4 units).** Lecture and journal presentation and discussion, two hours per week. Introduction to basic concepts of gene and cell therapy, wherein treatment of human disease is based on transfer of genetic material or transplantation of cells and tissues into an individual. Discussion of molecular basis of disease, gene delivery vectors, stem cells and replacement therapies, and animal models. Pass/Fail. (Spring)
- **291. MM Pharm Special Topics in Pharmacology (4 units).** Examination in depth of topics of current importance in pharmacology. Emphasis on recent contributions of special interest to advanced Ph.D. candidates and faculty. Letter grading. The main objective of the course is to teach students how to read and evaluate scientific articles.(Fall, Winter)
- **292. MM Pharm Research Projects, Proposals and Presentations (6 units).** Critically read primary papers and give formal scientific presentations. This course functions as a qualifying check point for students to prepare them for the PhD qualifying exam. (Spring)

- **375. MM Pharm Teaching Apprentice Practicum (1 to 4 units).** Pharmacology or ACCESS majors.
- **596. MM Pharm Directed Individual Research in Pharmacology (4 to 12 units).** Every quarter after completing rotations.
- **599. MM Pharm Research for and Preparation of Ph.D. Dissertation (4 to 12 units).** Every quarter after passing the qualifying exam and advancing to candidacy.

Undergraduate Course Descriptions

- **99. MM Pharm Independent Studies (2 to 8 units).** Prerequisites: consent of instructor and department chair. Special studies in Pharmacology. May include reading assignments and laboratory work. Designed for the training of students.
- **199. MM Pharm Independent Studies (2 to 8 units).** Prerequisites: consent of instructor and department chair. Special studies in Pharmacology. May include reading assignments and laboratory work. Designed for the training of students.

Pharmacology Graduate Students

Name	E-Mail Address	Phone	Room	Advisor
Abt, Evan	eabt@mednet.ucla.edu	61146	AR-144 CHS	Radu, Caius
Abril Rodriguez, Gabriel	GAbrilRodriguez@mednet.ucla.edu			Ribas, Antoni
Argus, Joseph	jargus@mednet.ucla.edu	61016	251 BSRB	Bensinger, Steven
Bangayan, Nathanael	NBangayan@mednet.ucla.edu	66411	5-720 MRL	Witte, Owen
Bouquio, Danielle	dbouquio@mednet.ucla.edu			Bitan, Gal
Brar, Gurpreet	GBrar@mednet.ucla.edu	45557	10-155 Factor	Wu, Ting-Ting
Capri, Joseph	Jcapri82@gmail.com	61146	AR-144 CHS	Radu, Caius
Cicchetto, Andy	acicchetto@mednet.ucla.edu			Chow, Sam
Dillingham, Ian	idillingham@mednet.ucla.edu			Chow, Sam
Du, Yuchen	yushendu@mednet.ucla.edu	45557	10-155 Factor	Sun, Ren
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Taus, Ellie	etaus@mednet.ucla.edu			Yang, Otto
Thaker, Shivani	SThaker@mednet.ucla.edu	60173	34-115 CHS	Christofk, Heather
Truong, Brian	brtruong@mednet.ucla.edu			Lipshutz, Gerry
Tsai, Wen-Ting	wtsai@mednet.ucla.edu	72838	4335 CNSI	Wu, Anna
Tsang, Jonathan	JTsang@mednet.ucla.edu	56006	23-234 CHS	Nathanson, David
Tsoi, Jennifer	jtsoi@mednet.ucla.edu	67054	4341 CNSI	Graeber, Thomas
Veliova, Michaela	mveliova@mednet.ucla.edu			Shirihai, Orian
Wong, Ryan	rlwong@mednet.ucla.edu			Chow, Sam
Yan, Xiao	xyan@mednet.ucla.edu			Chute, John

Name	E-Mail Address	Phone	Room	Advisor
Yin, Xiang	XYin@mednet.ucla.edu	63619	23-231 CHS	Huang, Jing
Zaretsky, Jesse	JZaretsky@mednet.ucla.edu	63928	9-954 Factor	Ribas, Antoni
Zhou, Quan	Quanzhou@mednet.ucla.edu	61016	251 BSRB	Bensinger, Steven

General Referrals

Graduate Student and Postdoc Representatives

Provide leadership for the culture of the student body, plan meetings, promote interdepartmental relationships and coordinate special events, and participate in departmental planning and decision – making processes (e.g., faculty meetings, student recruitment)

Nisar Farhat Ting-Ting Wu Lab
Amanda Freise Anna Wu Lab
Chris Waldmann, Ph.D Sam Sadeghi Lab

Key Personnel

Chair

Michael E. Phelps x 56539 23-138 CHS

Vice Chairs

Sam Chow x 59600 23-133B CHS
Johannes Czernin x 63226 23-222 CHS
Arion Hadjoannou x 57877 4345 CNSI
Harvey Herschman x 58735 341 Boyer Hall
Caius Radu x 51205 AR-175 CHS

Department Chief Administrative Officer

Christine Wang x 71188 23-148 CHS

Department Chief Financial Officer

Sandy Ma x 53130 23-126 CHS

Graduate Training Committee

Advise graduate students regarding program requirements and research responsibilities. Organize and structure course curriculum and program requirements. Create and develop effective recruitment strategies. Evaluate applications of prospective graduate students. Assure that students are meeting the program requirements to remain in good standing and has the authority to dismiss students who are not.

Sam Chow (Chair) x 59600 23-133B CHS
Thomas Graeber x 66122 4341 CNSI
Harvey Herschman x 58735 341 Boyer
Don Kohn x 41964 3163 TSLB
David Nathanson x 58813 23-214 CHS
Rob Prins x 54207 13-252 Factor
Caius Radu x 51205 AR-175 CHS
Ren Sun x 45557 10-155A Factor
Anna Wu x 45088 4335 CNSI
Ting-Ting Wu x 72218 10-24 Factor

Student Affairs Office

Advising services provided for graduate and undergraduate students. Administration, admissions, enrollment, registration, application processing, academic apprentice appointments, coordination of fellowship and grant programs, and special events.

Emily Fitch	x 50390	23-385 CHS	Student Affairs Officer
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Administrative Support Staff

Bernadette Omote	x 56539	23-132 CHS	Assistant to Chairman Michael Phelps
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Personnel Services

Kelly Roberts	x 74910	B2-049 CHS	Personnel Manager
Gizela Lizares-Ybiernas	x 62719	B2-049 CHS	Academic Personnel Coordinator
Stacey Chiong	x 65016	B2-049 CHS	Payroll/Parking Coordinator

Financial Services

Sandy Ma	x 53130	23-126 CHS	Chief Financial Officer
Suzan Farag	x 55449	23-145 CHS	Purchaser
Caroline Cortez	x 55544	23-145 CHS	Purchaser
Damilya Beckman	x 49471	23-145 CHS	Fund Manager
Melanie Ciampaglia	x 44766	23-170 CHS	Fund Manager
Mei Guan	x 59281	23-145 CHS	Fund Manager
Karen Lum	x 60082	4327 CNSI	Fund Manager, Purchaser
Jessica Wang-Cheng	x 55596	23-145 CHS	Fund Manager

Computer/Internet Services

Jose Alvarez	x 70425	B2-030 CHS	IT Director
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Website: <http://itc.medsch.ucla.edu/pages/contactus>

Pre-Award Services

Ilya Kisel	x 72038	23-385 CHS	Pre-Awards
Karen Lum	x 60082	4327 CNSI	Pre-Awards

Useful resources

Department of Molecular & Medical Pharmacology

23-120 CHS
Box 951735
Los Angeles, CA 90095-1735
Telephone: (310) 825-0390
Fax: (310) 825-6267
Email: efitch@mednet.ucla.edu
www.pharmacology.ucla.edu
<http://www.ctrl.ucla.edu/pharm-homearea/pages/>

Graduate Programs in Bioscience (GPB)

<https://www.ctrl.ucla.edu/bsp/pages/>

Campus Maps:

<http://www.ucla.edu/map>

Career Center:

<http://www.career.ucla.edu/>

Housing:

(310) 206-7011
[UCLA - Graduate & Family Students](http://www.ucla.edu/graduate-family-students)

UCLA Graduate Division

1237 Murphy Hall
Box 951419
Los Angeles, CA 90095-1419
Admissions/Student Academic Services
(310) 825-3819
www.gdnet.ucla.edu

Campus Directory:

www.directory.ucla.edu

Security/Escort Services:

(310) 794-WALK
<http://map.ais.ucla.edu/go/1000806>

Student Health:

(310) 825-4073
<http://www.studenthealth.ucla.edu/default.aspx>

Counseling and Psychological Services:

(310) 825-0768
<http://www.counseling.ucla.edu/>