

**UC DAVIS**



**GRADUATE GROUP in  
NUTRITIONAL BIOLOGY**

Survival Guide for  
Graduate Students

2023-2024

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## I. Introduction

Welcome to the Graduate Group in Nutritional Biology!

Research activities in nutrition include work with humans, laboratories, and domestic and wild animals. Graduate group strengths include nutritional biochemistry, human/clinical nutrition, animal nutrition, nutrition and development, nutrient bioavailability, nutrition and behavior, nutritional energetics, maternal and child nutrition, nutrition and endocrinology, community and international nutrition, obesity and body composition, physiology, nutrition and chronic disease, culture and nutrition, nutrition and gene expression, nutrition and aging, food preferences, nutrition and immunology, diet and exercise, dietary assessment, protein and lipid metabolism, food intake regulation, nutrition and the gut microbiome, and nutrition education.

Important websites include:

**GGNB:** <http://ggnb.ucdavis.edu>

**Office of Graduate Studies:** <https://gradstudies.ucdavis.edu>

**Office of the Registrar:** <http://registrar.ucdavis.edu>

**UC Davis policies and protocols regarding COVID-19:** <https://campusready.ucdavis.edu/>

## **GRADUATE PROGRAM STAFF**

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### **Graduate Studies Staff Liaisons:**

UC Davis Graduate Studies Advisors: <https://grad.ucdavis.edu/senior-academic-advisors-graduate-studies>

**DISCLAIMER**

**The information in this publication is a guide meant to serve as an overview for students in the Graduate Group in Nutritional Biology. Every effort has been made to include accurate information and to precisely interpret material found in the Graduate Group in Nutritional Biology Degree Requirements, Bylaws, and policies of the Office of Graduate Studies. The *Survival Guide* is not the final authority on any matter. All changes to degree requirements and policies will be made available on the Graduate Group in Nutritional Biology website.**



## II. Graduate Group Details

### ADVISORS and COMMITTEES

This section contains information on the various advisors and committees of the Graduate Group in Nutritional Biology. Your advisors and committees will help support you in meeting your degree requirements. An initial overview understanding of these is good at the start of your training in the GGNB but refer to this guide as you progress towards your degree. Different committees are involved in the various stages of your graduate education experience.

Talk about the membership of your committees with your Major Professor. Be proactive about confirming the members of your committees early and meet with them regularly.

All students will select a **Major Professor** and be assigned a **Graduate Program Advisor**.

- M.S. students will work closely with the members of a single committee, their **Thesis Committee**. See section IV. *Master's Program of Study* for more details.
- Ph.D. students will work with four different committees over the course of their academic career:
  1. **Academic Guidance Committee**
  2. **Preliminary Examination Committee**
  3. **Qualifying Examination Committee**
  4. **Dissertation Committee** - See "*PhD Program of Study*" below for more details.

### MAJOR PROFESSOR

Many students have determined their Major Professor at the time of acceptance into the Graduate Group in Nutritional Biology. Alternatively, you may opt to spend your first year rotating through different labs if arranged during the application process with the Graduate Group Chair prior to admission. You may have contacted a faculty member in the Graduate Group directly before you came to UC Davis who agreed to serve as your Major Professor, or a Major Professor was assigned to you based on your research interest as indicated in your application's statement of purpose.

**It is possible to change your Major Professor if you find that the two of you are not well matched in terms of research goals, personality, or other reasons.** While this is best done as early as possible, it can be done after the first year. You should inform your Graduate Program Advisor and the Graduate Program Staff Coordinator, **Alisha Bartolomucci in 1249 Meyer Hall**, of the change as soon as possible. If you need advice about finding a replacement, consult the Chair of the Graduate Group in Nutritional Biology or the Master Advisor. Their contact information is included on page 6 of this guide.

Your Major Professor is the single most **important** person that you will work with while at UCD. Your Major Professor may be referred to as your "*research professor*" or "*principal investigator*"

or “PI” because they are the person you will work with while you conduct your graduate research. Review the discussion points in [Appendix 2](#) with your major professor when you start at UCD.

#### **YOUR MAJOR PROFESSOR’S ROLE IS TO:**

- Mentor you and serve as your resource for information on research projects.
- Guide your course selection and academic progress. Your Major Professor, in consultation with your Academic Guidance Advising Committee, may require you to take specific coursework to design a program that is best suited to your academic research and professional needs.
- Chair your Academic Guidance Committee (PhD students only) and your PhD Dissertation/MS Thesis Committee. After consultation with you and your Academic Advising Committee, your Major Professor determines with you and your Graduate Program Advisor when you are prepared to take your qualifying examination.

Even though your Major Professor plays a very important role in providing guidance to you regarding your research projects, they may not be as familiar with current academic requirements. Therefore, you should consult your Graduate Program Advisor on a regular basis (quarterly recommended) to report your academic progress. An annual online Student Progress Assessment must be completed with both your Major Professor and Graduate Program Advisor at the end of each academic year.

#### **GRADUATE PROGRAM ADVISOR**

Graduate Program Advisors are officially appointed by the Dean of Graduate Studies to serve in matters affecting graduate students in their academic program. Your Graduate Program Advisor's signature is the only signature officially recognized by Graduate Studies on a variety of graduate student forms and petitions.

In general, your Graduate Program Advisor acts as your first source of academic information and assists with the details of the program. You should meet with your Graduate Program Advisor on a regular basis and keep them up to date on your progress. It is your responsibility to seek out your Graduate Program Advisors as needed. **Be proactive!**

#### **YOUR GRADUATE PROGRAM ADVISOR’S ROLE IS TO:**

- Assist you in forming your Academic Guidance Committee (Ph.D. students only) and review and approve your course of study.
- Review and approve your petitions to drop or add courses, take courses on an S/U (satisfactory/unsatisfactory) basis, and late schedule adjustments.
- Review and approve your Candidacy application for the MS degree and make recommendations for the composition of your MS Thesis Committee (MS only).

- Provide official recommendation of your Qualifying Examination Committee and Dissertation Committee members to the Dean of Graduate Studies upon consultation with you and your major professor Academic Guidance Committee (PhD only).
- Periodically review degree progress. Your Graduate Program Advisor electronically completes your Student Progress Assessment with you and your Major Professor at least annually for submission to the Dean of Graduate Studies.
- Approve any Planned Educational Leave (PELP) you might request if needed.
- Serve as your advocate if you have conflicts with your Major Professor or any other faculty member. Your Graduate Program Advisor should be your first contact in cases where you have differences of opinion with faculty and feel that you must seek outside guidance. For this reason, it is optimal to match a student with a Graduate Program Advisor that is not a close collaborator with their specific area of research.

## DEPARTMENTAL RESOURCES AND INFORMATION

The Graduate Group in Nutritional Biology is your graduate group/program. The Graduate Group is responsible for your curriculum, including coursework requirements, and the constitution of the committees that assess your performance and mark your milestones. Your major professor's home department provides your physical workspace and, often, your financial support. Your home department will provide your mail, office, lab, and funds for research. If you do not know whom to contact in your home department, you can talk to Alisha Bartolomucci or the Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) of the Nutrition and Animal Science Departments Kelly Wade, 530-752-4512, [kswade@ucdavis.edu](mailto:kswade@ucdavis.edu).

### KEYS

You will need a key for the building your laboratory is housed in, a key or key card to your lab, and perhaps an animal room key. Most departments may charge a nominal deposit fee. In most cases, you will only be able to get keys to the building where your lab is located. However, you would be able to get keys for Meyer Hall if you have animals housed there or require access to the TA office.

### MAIL

Departments generally provide some form of mailbox for their students, either as a folder with your name on it or a mail cubby or box. In Meyer Hall, each GGNB student has a folder with their name on it in the third-floor mailroom. Both campus and US mail can be delivered here. Mail to UC Berkeley can go through campus mail but be sure to mark it clearly and put it in the correct outbox. If you are a TA for a department outside of Nutrition, you might ask to have a mailbox there as well so that your students can leave messages for you.

NOTE: University policy prohibits use of outgoing US Mail service for personal mail items. There is a blue USPS mailbox available west of Meyer Hall for mailings with postage paid.

## **PAYROLL, FELLOWSHIP PAYMENTS, and TAX DOCUMENTS**

Payroll is handled through the UCPATH system. Everyone who is being paid from a teaching assistantship or a graduate student researcher position will be paid through UCPATH. While choosing to receive paper checks is an option, it is strongly recommended that you establish direct deposit to receive your monthly stipend, which can be done through UCPATH. More information can be found here: <https://ucpath.ucdavis.edu/>

Fellowship stipends and funds are processed through Student Accounting. You can choose to receive this money through direct deposit or pick up a physical check monthly at Dutton Hall. If you wish to sign up for direct deposit for your fellowship stipends, you can follow the instructions at the following website: <https://afsapps.ucdavis.edu/direct-deposit/>

When filing taxes, some useful financial information is available online related to your student employment, tuition, and fees, as well as fee remission and health insurance if applicable. Your "Account Activity" available through Student Accounting shows charges for tuition, fees, and health insurance and credits for fee remission and any emergency relief grants issued through the university. Teaching assistants and graduate student researchers may enroll to receive their W-2 online via UCPATH.

## **TRAVEL AWARDS**

If you have been awarded a fellowship or travel award that includes conference travel funding, you must follow specific procedures to request these funds. One key tip: SAVE ALL YOUR RECEIPTS! They must be presented to your departmental contact when you return.

## **GENERAL SUPPLIES**

Policies regarding the purchasing of general office supplies (transparencies, paper, stationery, envelopes, file folders, etc.) differ by department. Check with your major professor for policies and ordering instructions.

## **PHOTOCOPYING**

Most departments assign students an account number to be used on the departmental copier; students are then billed for that usage monthly. TAs for specific classes and GSRs working on certain grants will have additional account numbers for use in those cases. For copying and printing done at Shields Library or the Health Sciences Library, your student account will be charged.

## **AUDIO/VISUAL EQUIPMENT**

To checkout Nutrition Department data projectors, laptop computers, laser pointers, slide and overhead projectors for student use when making presentations for journal clubs, seminars, or other classes, visit <http://nutrition.ucdavis.edu/about/admin/reservations> or email the Administrative Assistant for the Department of Nutrition at [nutrfrontdesk@ucdavis.edu](mailto:nutrfrontdesk@ucdavis.edu).

## **CONFERENCE ROOMS**

For reservations of Nutrition Department Meyer Hall conference rooms, visit <http://nutrition.ucdavis.edu/about/admin/reservations>. These rooms can be reserved for most class-related purposes, qualifying exam practices, lab/group meetings, or study sessions.

## **POSTER PRINTING**

*Reminder:* Use of the Official UCD Seal is reserved exclusively for the office of the Chancellor. For research posters and most other uses, only the official UCD Wordmark should be used. The UCD Wordmark can be located here: <https://marketingtoolbox.ucdavis.edu/brand-guide/logos/uc-davis-wordmark>

## **CAR PARKING PASSES**

UC Davis uses a pay-to-park service through AggiePark via the AMP Park app on your phone. Be sure you are registered with your UC Davis email address to access affiliate rates. More information can be found online: <https://taps.ucdavis.edu/aggiepark>

If you are a bicycle commuter, you can learn more about the UC Davis Transportation Services Bicycle Program at <https://taps.ucdavis.edu/bicycleprogram>

## **DEPARTMENTAL LIBRARIES**

Some departments make copies of completed theses and dissertations available for students to check out. Some also maintain journal subscriptions. Check-out procedures vary by department. Many can also be found through ProQuest and the UC Davis library website via <https://library.ucdavis.edu/>

### III. GGNB Coursework Recommendations

#### Course Prerequisites

If you have any remaining program prerequisite courses before attending UC Davis, a small number can be completed concurrently with your degree coursework. All entrance requirements must be completed before graduation and do not count toward the unit requirements for your graduate degree. UCD course equivalents used to satisfy these requirements are shown in parentheses.

1. **Biochemistry:** General Biochemistry (Biological Sciences (BIS) 102 and 103 OR Animal Biology (ABI) 102 and 103)
2. **Chemistry:** General Chemistry (Chemistry (CHE) 2A, 2B, and 2C) AND Organic Chemistry (CHE 8A and 8B)
3. **Mathematics/Statistics:** General Statistics (Statistics (STA) 13 OR Plant Sciences (PLS) 120)
4. **Nutrition:** Nutritional biochemistry (Animal Biology (ABI) 102 and 103)
5. **Physiology:** Mammalian or other advanced course requiring prerequisite knowledge in biology (Neurobiology, Physiology, and Behavior (NPB) 101).

The following courses are highly recommended but not required:

- a) **Calculus:** (Math 16A, 16B, and 16C)
- b) **Physics:** General physics with laboratory (Physics 7A and 7B)
- c) **Microbiology:** General microbiology with laboratory (Microbiology 102 and 103L)

\*Summer courses are offered and generally cover most of the lower division prerequisites if additional prerequisites are needed and there are scheduling conflicts. The general catalog (<https://catalog.ucdavis.edu/>) is an excellent source for this information. Schedule Builder will be helpful for schedule planning and registering for courses: <https://my.ucdavis.edu/schedulebuilder>

#### Degree Requirements

Official degree requirements are found on the GGNB website at <https://programs.gs.ucdavis.edu/api/doc/3752> and the Grad Studies website at <https://grad.ucdavis.edu/programs/gnub>.

## IV. Master's Program of Study

The following is a summary of a typical master's program of study in the GGNB.

Students working toward a master's degree must be registered full time in residence for at least three quarters. Two regular six-week Summer Sessions may count as the equivalent of one quarter. Usually, all work for the master's degree is done in residence on the Davis campus. However, with the consent of your Major Professor, Graduate Program Advisor, and the Dean of Graduate Studies, courses completed elsewhere may be credited toward your degree by petition. The normal limit for transfer credits is 6 units from another institution and 12 UC Davis units (taken as a non-student) not used to satisfy requirements for another degree.

The Graduate Group in Nutritional Biology designates its master's degree as a Master of Science (M.S.). The majority of M.S. students are admitted to complete a thesis (Plan I), but the completion of the M.S. by comprehensive examination (Plan II) is possible as well. Plan I or Plan II is chosen during the application process; by exception changing from one degree option to the other is possible during graduate study.

### PLAN I

**This plan requires a minimum of 30 units of graduate and upper division courses (the 100 and 200 series only), of which at least 18 units must be graduate work in the major field. In addition, a thesis is required. The research thesis serves as the capstone degree requirement.**

#### Requirements:

- a. Thesis committee meetings: You and your Major Professor must meet at least once a year with the other members of the thesis committee to discuss progress and any changes in research objectives.
- b. Thesis: Research for the master's thesis must be carried out while you are enrolled in the program, under the supervision of a faculty member of the graduate group, and must represent an original contribution to knowledge in the field. Your thesis must be submitted to the thesis committee **at least one month before** you plan to make requested revisions. All committee members must approve the thesis and sign the title page before you submit it to Graduate Studies for final approval. **The master's thesis must be filed in a quarter in which the student is registered or on filing fee.** Instructions on preparation of the thesis and a schedule of dates for filing the thesis in final form are available from Graduate Studies at <https://grad.ucdavis.edu/preparing-filing-your-thesis-or-dissertation>. The dates can also be found in the UC Davis General Catalog and in the Class Schedule and Registration Guide issued each quarter. A student must have a GPA of 3.0 for the M.S. degree to be awarded.

Should the student fall short of making satisfactory progress on the thesis at any point, the Major Professor or the Graduate Advisor shall submit one or more interim assessments to Graduate Studies describing the marginal (or unsatisfactory) assessment of the student's progress. Should the committee determine at any point that the student's progress is unacceptable for

continuation in the program, even with substantial revisions to the work, the program may recommend to the Dean of Graduate Studies that the student be disqualified from the program.

## PLAN II

This plan requires a minimum of 36 units of graduate and upper division courses (the 100 and 200 series only), of which at least 18 units must be graduate courses in the major field. No more than 9 units of research (299 or equivalent) may be used to satisfy the 18-unit requirement. A comprehensive oral final examination in the major subject is required of each candidate. No thesis is required. Instead, the capstone requirement is fulfilled by the comprehensive oral examination and the submission of a technical written report on an appropriate topic, or on work completed for the maximum of 9 research (NUT/NUB 299) units. This report may include results of original research and/or a critical review of scientific literature. A committee of two faculty members appointed according to the [Policy on Service on Advanced Degree Committees GC1998-01](#) must approve the written report.

### Requirements:

- a. Comprehensive Examination: You may take the comprehensive examination once you have advanced to candidacy. However, it is important that this capstone requirement be completed at or near the end of the coursework for the master's degree; for most students, the exam will be taken during, or immediately following, the 6th quarter. This includes 2 parts:
  - i. Written technical report: Written under the direction of the faculty mentor, who must be a member of the graduate group.
  - ii. One-hour oral examination: Encompasses information from your coursework and the written technical report. This will be administered by a committee of three graduate group faculty.

The exam committee's unanimous vote is required to pass a student on the exam. If a student does not pass the exam, the committee may recommend that the student be reexamined a second time. The second exam must take place **within one quarter of the first exam**. The format of the second exam is the same as that of the first exam and may include the submission of an amended version of the technical report. The examination may not be repeated more than once. A student who does not pass on the second attempt is subject to disqualification from further graduate work in the program.

Once passed, the [Master's Report Form](#) Report Form is signed by the GGNB Graduate Advisor and then forwarded to Graduate Studies. The deadlines for completing this requirement are listed each quarter in the [Academics section of the Graduate Studies website](#).i. A candidate must be a registered student or in Filing Fee status at the time the program submits the form, with the exception of the summer period between the end of the Spring Quarter and the beginning of Fall Quarter. The program must file the report with Graduate Studies **within one week of the end of the quarter** in which the student's degree will be conferred.



## SUGGESTED COURSEWORK

The following is an outline of suggested courses for the M.S. degree in Nutritional Biology. Where a determination must be made of the adequacy of your background in a particular subject, this will be done by your Graduate Program Advisor in consultation with you and your Major Professor.

All entrance requirements must be completed before graduation.

- a. **GGNB Core Classes** (NUB 210A (Fall), NUB 210 (Winter), NUB 210C (Spring), 5 units each). The core courses will be taken during the first year.
- b. **Beginning Nutrition Seminar and Presentation Course** (NUT 290, 2 units). This seminar will be taken in the Fall Quarter of your first year.
- c. **Advanced Nutrition Seminar** (NUT 291, 1 unit). The GGNB seminar must be taken at least two quarters per year.
- d. **Advanced Statistics Course** (units vary, minimum of 3 units). See APPENDIX 3 for example courses that meet the GGNB statistics recommendations.
- e. **Elective and Research Units** (Nutrition 299, various units). Additional undergraduate or graduate level coursework as required by the major professor in consultation with the graduate advisor will formulate the program that is best suited to an individual student's academic and professional needs. These courses should be chosen to achieve academic excellence and bring the unit total of electives to a minimum of 10 units for Plan I, or 16 units for Plan II. At least 3 of the elective units should be in statistics unless the student has already taken one or more upper division statistics courses prior to entry into the program.
- f. **English Language Requirement:** Students who have not obtained an undergraduate or graduate degree at an approved English-medium institution, or who have not demonstrated strong English language proficiency through the TOEFL or IELTS exam are required to take appropriate English language courses, as described in [Graduate Student Course Requirements – English as Second Language \(GC-2018-02\)](#). Courses taken in satisfaction of this requirement do not count towards the (total 30 or 36 units) units required for graduation.
- g. **Exit Seminar:** It is expected that Plan I (thesis) M.S. students present their research in an exit seminar during their last year in the NUT/NUB291 Advanced Nutrition Seminar course. You and your Major Professor will schedule the seminar with the Seminar Committee.
- h. **Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics (ACEND) didactic program in dietetics (DPD) courses** (units vary and are optional): You may elect to add courses necessary to earn a DPD verification statement needed to pursue a supervised practice dietetic internship program as required to sit for the Registered Dietitian credentialing examination with the support of your Major Professor (most often these are faculty who are Registered Dietitians). Information about these courses and other requirements are available from the Undergraduate Staff Advisor for Nutrition. To learn more about how to become a Registered Dietitian, review <https://www.eatrightpro.org/about-us/become-an-rdn-or-dtr/high-school-students/5-steps-to-become-a-registered-dietitian-nutritionist>. Information about these courses and other requirements are available from the Undergraduate Staff Advisor for Nutrition and the DPD Director.

## THESIS COMMITTEE OR COMPREHENSIVE EXAMINATION COMMITTEE

**Thesis Committee:** The thesis committee consists of 3 members and includes the major professor, who serves as Chair of the committee and must be a member of the graduate group, and two additional faculty chosen in consultation with the student's major professor and graduate advisor. These nominations are submitted to the Office of Graduate Studies for formal appointment in accordance with Graduate Council policy.

**Comprehensive Examination Committee:** The Comprehensive Exam Committee chair is appointed by the Curriculum Committee Chair and will administer the examination. It consists of the Comprehensive Exam Committee Chair and two additional graduate group faculty.

In order to submit your thesis or take your comprehensive exam, you must either be enrolled or on filing fee (with the exception of the Summer quarter provided you were registered in the preceding Spring quarter).

## ADVANCEMENT TO CANDIDACY

You must file an official application for Advancement to Candidacy after completion of at least **one-half of the course requirements** for the degree and **at least one quarter before** completion of all degree requirements; this is typically prior to the Fall quarter of the second year of study (4th quarter). Graduate Studies recommends early advancement so that actual or potential issues can be solved to avert any crises. The Candidacy for the Degree of Master form can be found online at: <https://grad.ucdavis.edu/forms>.

After the form has been signed by your Graduate Program Advisor and Thesis Chair (**Plan I, Thesis Plan only**), it is submitted to the program's Graduate Coordinator for signature and submission to Graduate Studies. Once advancement is approved, formal notice of Advancement to Candidacy is sent to you and your Graduate Program Advisor. If you are not eligible for advancement, you and the program will be informed that action on your application has been deferred and the reason why (e.g., grade point average below 3.0, missing coursework, etc.).

On the candidacy application, you and your Graduate Program Advisor agree on and submit a statement of how you will complete the requirements for the degree. If you must make changes in your program after Advancing to Candidacy, recommendations for such changes must be made to Graduate Studies with approval of your Graduate Program Advisor.

When the Candidacy application is approved by the Dean of Graduate Studies, you will get a copy of it with information that includes instructions on thesis preparation and submission (Plan I students). The instructions are included in the Graduate Studies pages entitled "[Graduate Degree Requirements](#)" and "[Filing Your Thesis or Dissertation](#)." There you will find the forms you need to complete and submit to file your thesis with Graduate Studies. If you have any questions, contact the Office of Graduate Studies.

## V. Ph.D. Program of Study

There are six major areas that you should be familiar with when planning your PhD: 1) courses fulfilling the Core Requirements, 2) courses for your Area of Specialization, 3) Advising structure and mentoring, 4) the Preliminary Examination, 5) Qualifying Examinations, and 6) the Dissertation. The requirements are covered in more detail below.

Ph.D. students will work with three different committees over the course of their academic career: (1) **Preliminary Examination Committee**, (2) **Qualifying Examination Committee**, and (3) **Dissertation Committee**.

### SUGGESTED COURSEWORK (Assumes entry at BS level)

- a. **GGNB Core Classes** (15 units total – 5 units each): NUB 210A (Fall), NUB 210 (Winter), NUB 210C (Spring). The core courses will be taken during the first year.
- b. **Beginning Nutrition Seminar and Presentation Course** (NUT 290, 2 units): This seminar will be taken during Fall Quarter of your first year.
- c. **Advanced Nutrition Seminar** (NUT 291, 5 units): The GGNB seminar must be taken at least two quarters per year until you have passed your Qualifying Exam. While not required, continuing enrollment is **strongly** encouraged every quarter after Advancing to Candidacy.
- d. **Elective Courses** (minimum 28 units):
  - i. Statistics (4 units): One undergraduate or graduate level statistics course is required. The specific course would be one chosen by the student and major professor which will best address the skills needed for the individual student's research study. See **Appendix 3** for example courses.
  - ii. NUT/NUB 2XX (6 units): At least two graduate level nutrition (or related field of study) formal courses of at least 3 units each for a combined total of 6 units.
  - iii. Area of Specialization (6 units): At least 6 additional units of upper division undergraduate or graduate level elective courses beyond the core requirements should make up the Area of Specialization. These courses are to be selected in consultation with the student's major professor and graduate advisor to compliment the chosen nutrition research focus area.
  - iv. Research Units (Nutrition 299, minimum 12 units required): NUT 299 taken as necessary to total 12 units per quarter.
- e. **Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics (ACEND) didactic program in dietetics (DPD) courses** (units vary and are optional): You may elect to add courses necessary to earn a DPD verification statement needed to pursue a supervised practice dietetic internship program as required to sit for the Registered Dietitian credentialing examination with the support of your Major Professor (most often these are faculty who are Registered Dietitians). Information about these courses and other requirements are available from the Undergraduate Staff Advisor for Nutrition. To learn more about how to become a Registered Dietitian, review <https://www.eatrightpro.org/about-us/become-an-rdn-or-dtr/high-school-students/5-steps-to-become-a-registered-dietitian-nutritionist>. Information about these courses and other requirements are available from the Undergraduate Staff Advisor for Nutrition and the DPD Director.

- f. **Exit Seminar:** It is expected that Ph.D. students will present their research in an exit seminar during their last year as part of the NUT/NUB 291 Advanced Nutrition Seminar course. The Major Professor and student will coordinate with the Seminar Committee to schedule the seminar.

NUT/NUB 2XX	Course number (units)	Quarter Offered
International Nutrition	NUT 219 A, B (3, 3)	Winter*, Spring*
Nutrition and Immunity	NUT 251 (2)	Winter*
Nutrition and Development	NUT 252 (3)	Winter
Developmental Nutrition	NUT 294A (2)	Fall
International Nutrition Methods	NUT 258 (3)	Spring**
Nutrition During Pregnancy	MCN 260 (6)	Fall*
Lactation and Infant Nutrition	MCN 261 (6)	Winter*
Child and Adolescent Nutrition	MCN 262 (6)	Spring*
Maternal and Child Research Methods	NUT 263 (4)	Fall
Control of Energy Balance	NUT 253 (3)	Spring
Lipids	FST 211 (3)	Winter
*offered every other year, check current UC Davis General Catalog		
** check current UC Davis General Catalog or Graduate Group websites for current listings		

## AREA OF SPECIALIZATION

A minimum of 6 upper division undergraduate or graduate level elective units beyond the core requirements should make up the Area of Specialization. Consult with members of your Academic Guidance Committee and Academic Advisor when deciding your Area(s) of Specialization so that you can select the courses that best suit your academic and career goals.

UC Davis offers many areas of graduate level coursework, including but not limited to: Physiology, Endocrinology, Metabolism, Food Science and Technology, Microbiology, Public Health, Education, Immunology, Genetics, Neuroscience, Epidemiology and Statistics, Molecular Biology and others.

The following table provides a selection of courses according to several potential Areas of Specialization. This list **should not** be considered exhaustive; check the [UC Davis General Catalog](#) to see more options and course descriptions.

Course	Course number (units)	Quarter Offered
<b>Education</b>		
Educational Research	EDU 200 (4)	Fall
Qualitative Research in Education	EDU 201 (4)	Winter
Quantitative Methods in Educational Research: Analysis of Correlational Designs	EDU 204A (4)	Winter
Quantitative Methods in Educational Research: Experimental Designs	EDU 204B (4)	Fall
Concepts of the Curriculum	EDU 207 (4)	**
Psychological Perspectives of School Learning	EDU 210 (4)	Spring
Special Topics in Education	EDU 292 (2)	Winter**
<b>Epidemiology and Statistics</b>		
Quantitative Epidemiology I	EPI 202 (5)	Fall
Principles of Epidemiology	EPI 205A (4)/ MPM 405 (4)	Fall
Epidemiologic Study Design	EPI 206 (4)/ MPM 406A (4)	Winter
Advanced Epidemiologic Methodology	EPI 207 (4)	**
Medical Statistics I	MPM 202 (4)	Summer II
Medical Statistics II	MPM 203 (4)	Fall
<b>Food Science and Technology</b>		
Food Chemistry and Biochemistry	FST 201 (4)	Fall
Chemical and Physical Changes in Food	FST 202 (4)	Spring*
Advanced Food Microbiology	FST 204 (3)	Spring
Lipids: Chemistry and Nutrition	FST 211 (3)	Winter
Food Perception and the Chemical Senses*	FST 227 (2)	Winter
<b>Gut Physiology and Microbial Ecology</b>		
GI Physiology	NPB 114 (3)	Fall
Microbial Biology	MIB 200A (3)	Fall
Microbial Diversity	MIC 105 (3)	Winter
Human Immunology	MMI 188 (3)	Winter, Spring
Mechanisms for Microbial Interactions w/ Hosts	MMI 200D (3)	Winter
Microbiota and Health	MMI 280 (3)	Spring

<b>Immunology</b>		
Nutrition and Immunity Introductory Immunology Immunotoxicology Seminar Current Concepts in Immunology Topics in Immunology Mucosal Immunology Fundamentals of Immunology Immunology Laboratory Advanced Immunology	NUT 251 (2) IMM 201 (4) IMM 292 (2) IMM 293 (4) IMM 296 (2) IMM 297 (2) PMI 126 (3) PMI 126L (2) PMI 270 (3)	Winter* Fall Fall Winter Fall Spring* Winter Winter Spring
<b>Metabolism</b>		
Endocrinology Advanced Physiology (Systemic emphasis)	NPB 130 (4) MCP 210C (5)	Fall Spring
<b>Molecular Biology</b>		
Recombinant DNA Advanced Molecular Biology Human Genetics and Genomics Molecular Genetics and Genomics Macromolecular Structure & Interactions Developmental Biology Molecular Biology	MIC 215 (3) MCB 121 (3) MCB 162 (3) BCB 210 (3) BCB 211 (3) BCB 213 (3) BCB 214 (3)	Fall Fall, Wtr, Spr Fall Fall Fall Winter Spring
<b>Public Health</b>		
Obesity Prevention in Community Settings Health Communication International Health	SPH 223 (3) SPH/CMN 232 (4) SPH 495 (2)	Winter Spring** Spring
<b>Physiology</b>		
Advanced Physiology (Neuroscience emphasis)	MCP 210A (4)	Fall

Advanced Physiology (Systemic emphasis)	MCP 210B (6)	Winter
Advanced Physiology (Systemic emphasis)	MCP 210C (5)	Spring
Exercise Metabolism	EXB 110 (3)	Spring
Cellular Neuroscience	NSC 221 (4)	Fall

  

<p>*offered every other year, check current UC Davis General Catalog</p> <p>**check current UC Davis General Catalog or Graduate Groups</p> <p>BCB: Biochemistry, Molecular, Cellular and Developmental Biology Graduate Group</p> <p>EDU: Education</p> <p>EPI: Epidemiology Graduate Group – School of Veterinary Medicine</p> <p>EXB: Exercise Biology</p> <p>FST: Food Science and Technology</p> <p>IMM: Immunology</p> <p>NPB: Neurobiology, Physiology, Behavior</p> <p>MCB: Molecular and Cellular Biology</p> <p>MCP: Molecular, Cellular, and Integrative Physiology</p> <p>MIB: Microbiology</p> <p>MIC: Microbiology</p> <p>MMI: Medical Microbiology</p> <p>MPM: Preventative Veterinary Medicine (Veterinary Medicine)</p> <p>NSC: Neuroscience</p> <p>PMI: Pathology, Microbiology, and Immunology (Veterinary Medicine)</p> <p>SPH: Public Health</p>
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## ACADEMIC GUIDANCE COMMITTEE AND YOUR ACADEMIC ADVISOR

This is an optional three-member committee which consists of your Major Professor (as the chair) and two other faculty members and is most helpful if it is formed during your first quarter at UC Davis. At least one of your Committee members should have expertise related to your Area(s) of Specialization. Your assigned Graduate Program Advisor can serve on your Academic Guidance Committee, or attend your Committee meetings, but this is not required.

You are required to meet with your Academic Advisor to complete the annual Student Progress Assessment, and it is also recommended that you meet with your Academic Guidance Committee at least once per year.

The Academic Guidance Committee retains its responsibilities until Advancement to Candidacy. The goals of meeting with your Academic Guidance Committee are:

- To help you identify your academic interests and determine which you might need further preparation
- To assist you in planning a program of study that will meet the general requirements of the Graduate Group and help prepare you for the Preliminary Exam, and

- To evaluate your progress and to determine when you are ready to take your Qualifying Examination.

The Academic Guidance Committee retains its responsibilities until your Qualifying Examination is successfully passed and you have advanced to candidacy. You have the right to request that the academic advisor attend any of the advising meetings if needed.

## **PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION**

After you have completed the core course requirements, you will take your Preliminary Exam. This usually occurs in the two weeks immediately following the completion of Spring quarter and must be completed no later than the end of the 4th quarter of study. The Preliminary Exam is an oral examination by a faculty committee and is approximately 1 hour long.

A pool of questions, designed to serve as a study guide, will be distributed at least one quarter prior to the exam. These study guide questions will also be distributed to members of the Curriculum Committee for input. Exam committee members may ask other questions during the exam. The examination will assess the ability of the student to integrate nutritional knowledge across the breadth of the field.

The purpose of the Preliminary Exam is to assess your (1) general nutrition knowledge, (2) ability to present verbally and on the white board, (3) and reason through questions.

You should have a solid understanding of core nutrition topics, such as:

- Macronutrients: lipids, carbohydrates, proteins, fiber
- Micronutrients: vitamins, minerals, phytochemicals
- Energy & metabolism

You should also be familiar with the following additional topics:

- Nutrigenomics
- Nutrient interactions
- Chronic Disease
- Dietary Reference Intakes
- Nutrition Assessment
- Nutrition research models
- Translational Science
- Individual vs. Population assessment
- Federal Nutrition Assistance Programs and Public Policy
- Host-microbiome interactions
- Current nutrition topics/controversies

Tips for Preparing for the Preliminary Exam:



- Make a **Preliminary Exam Binder** and fill it with information as you learn it from class. For example, a page for vitamin A should contain information such as: (1) The vitamin A requirements across the lifespan, (2) signs and symptoms of deficiency/toxicity, (3) food sources, (4) diagram of ADME (absorption, distribution, metabolism, and excretion) including enzymes, transporters, and carrier proteins
- **Form study groups early** and **practice speaking and writing at the white board**. Invite people from previous years who have taken the prelim exam and invite your major professor or other faculty members. Practice answering questions on the white board, especially hard questions that you don't know the right answer to, so that you get comfortable thinking on your feet.
- Be able to describe/draw what happens when you eat a piece of white bread starting from digestion in the mouth to metabolism in liver in the healthy vs. diabetic state. This is a good test to see if you can clearly and concisely explain a complex process.
- You may not always have the "right" answer or there may not even be one "right" answer, but if you can calmly and logically work your way through a question, you will do great.

## QUALIFYING EXAMINATION COMMITTEE

Your Qualifying Examination (QE) Committee acts as a guide to evaluate progress toward your degree and assess your ability to propose independent, ethical, and rigorous research contributing to your field of study. You are able to suggest the members of your Qualifying Examination Committee.

To be eligible to take the Qualifying Examination, you must have satisfied all core requirements, removed all deficiencies, and have at least a "B" average in all coursework. You must be enrolled all quarters in which you take any portion of the Qualifying Examination. More information about the Qualifying Examination can be found on the Graduate Studies webpage entitled "[Doctoral Qualifying Exam](#)" and the full list of policies can be found on the Graduate Studies website (<http://grad.ucdavis.edu/policies>).

Following advice from your Academic Guidance Committee, your Graduate Program Advisor will recommend to the Dean of Graduate Studies the appointment of a final Qualifying Examination Committee via your Qualifying Examination Application.

This Committee will consist of **five** members whose expertise can adequately assess your area of research included in the examination. You may include at least one member of your Academic Guidance Committee if desired. One of your members must be from **outside of the Graduate Group in Nutritional Biology**, and if you are doing a designated emphasis a member of the DE must be on your committee. A minimum of three of the five members of the committee must be Academic Senate (titles such as Assistant, Associate, or Professor) members. Your Major Professor does not serve as a member of your QE Committee.

The Qualifying Examination Application can be downloaded from the Graduate Studies Web site: <https://gradstudies.ucdavis.edu/forms/>. This form must be submitted to Graduate Studies at

least **4 to 6 weeks prior** to the exam. As soon as your committee is confirmed, you should fill out the form, obtain the signatures, and submit it to the Graduate Coordinator. Graduate Studies does not need the exact date of your exam; the month or quarter in which you expect to take the exam is sufficient. If you are completing a designated emphasis (such as Global Nutrition or Biotechnology), the director of the designated emphasis must sign the application in addition to your Graduate Program Advisor. **The form and date/time/location of the exam must be provided to the Graduate Program Staff Coordinator for final signature and submission.**

In general, all members of the Qualifying Examination Committee should have achieved a degree at least equivalent to the Ph.D. All members must also meet the qualifications stated in the UC Davis Graduate Council Policy on Service on Advanced Degree Committees [https://grad.ucdavis.edu/sites/default/files/upload/files/grad-council/gc1998-01\\_policy\\_on\\_service\\_on\\_advanced\\_degree\\_cmt.pdf](https://grad.ucdavis.edu/sites/default/files/upload/files/grad-council/gc1998-01_policy_on_service_on_advanced_degree_cmt.pdf).

If the appointment of a Committee member from outside the University of California is necessary, please consult with your Graduate Program Advisor. You'll need to complete an "External Committee Membership Application" form (link below), along with the suggested Committee member's CV, and submit to the Office of Graduate Studies for approval: <https://ucdavis.app.box.com/v/ExternalCommitteeMembershipApp>

The primary objective of the PhD Qualifying Examination is to assess whether you are suitably qualified and prepared to undertake independent research. It also evaluates your knowledge of your secondary field (your area of specialization). You are expected to have a broad understanding of the field of Nutritional Biology and one or more areas of specialization.

The main purpose of the examination is not to test you for factual information, but to evaluate your ability to apply scientific reasoning to the solution of nutrition problems. There may not be any single "right answer" to the questions posed to you. The Committee members are often more interested in the reasoning process you use to develop an answer than in the answer itself. Once the Committee is appointed you are advised to meet with the individual members to discuss their philosophy and general expectations regarding the Qualifying Examination. Also, you should have some idea of the members' areas of research, and you certainly may request some suggested reading materials from each Committee member. After the examination date is set, you should contact the individual Committee members at least once. It's a good idea to meet with each member in person about 4 weeks prior to the exam to discuss their expectations, especially if you have never met them before; this will allow you to be more comfortable the day of the exam.

A week before the examination date, you may wish to meet with the chair of the Qualifying Examination Committee to discuss the details necessary for the examination, e.g., the room set-up, the order of the examiners, etc. Also, you or your chairperson should notify the Committee members reminding them of the date, time, and location of the examination. **IMPORTANT: Please inform your Graduate Program Staff Coordinator of your exam date, time, and location.**

The date of the examination will be arranged between you and your Committee. The Committee will conduct the examination and will submit the report of each of its members to Graduate Studies in one of the following outcomes:

- ◆ **PASS;**
- ◆ **NOT PASS;** with the option to retake all or part of the examination within a specified time period or to satisfy specific requirements, or;
- ◆ **FAILURE.**

In cases where your Committee reports a Not Pass or Fail, the chair shall inform you of your right to appeal the Committee's decision for cause. Appeals cannot be based on the academic judgment of the Committee. The appeal is directed to the Associate Dean of Graduate Studies, who submits the matter to the Administrative Committee of the Graduate Council for review and recommendation. The chair of the Qualifying Examination Committee is responsible for reporting the votes and supplying other information to Graduate Studies within 72 hours of the examination.

The findings of the Qualifying Examination Committee, and especially its overall vote, are given to you immediately after the Examination so that you can know whether you performed acceptably. You should be aware that the final decision is made by the Graduate Council and that one or more negative votes does not necessarily mean a failure. When the decision is unanimous, the Graduate Council has delegated decision authority to the Qualifying Examination Committee itself.

Upon recommendation of the Qualifying Examination Committee and with the approval of the Dean, you may repeat the Qualifying Examination once. The exam must be held by the same Committee, however members may be replaced with the approval of your Graduate Program Advisor and the Dean for causes such as extended absence from the campus. Failure to pass the examination on the second attempt will result in disqualification from further study for the doctoral degree at UC Davis. Upon successful completion of the Qualifying Examination, the chair of the Qualifying Examination Committee will report this information to Graduate Studies.

## **ADVANCEMENT TO CANDIDACY**

After passing your Qualifying Exam, you must complete the Candidacy for the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy Plan B form (<https://ucdavis.app.box.com/v/DoctoralCandidacy-PlanB> ). You should meet with your major professor to discuss who you would like to serve on your dissertation committee, described in more detail below. The candidacy form should be signed by you, your Major Professor, and your Graduate Program Advisor (no signature from the QE committee chair necessary). When it is filled out and signed, you must pay a candidacy fee (approx. \$90.00) online at the [GS Forms Store](https://marketplace.ucdavis.edu/C21642_ustores/web/store_cat.jsp?STOREID=17&CATID=110&SINGLESTORE=true) ([https://marketplace.ucdavis.edu/C21642\\_ustores/web/store\\_cat.jsp?STOREID=17&CATID=110&SINGLESTORE=true](https://marketplace.ucdavis.edu/C21642_ustores/web/store_cat.jsp?STOREID=17&CATID=110&SINGLESTORE=true)) and then submit proof of payment and the completed form to the Graduate Coordinator to sign and file with Graduate Studies.

Note that for international students, NRST fees are waived in the 9 quarters following that in which the candidacy form is approved by Graduate Studies. NRST fees will be reinstated for international students if they do not complete their degree within 3 years of advancing to candidacy. However, the Graduate Studies Post-Candidacy Non-Resident Supplemental Tuition Fellowship program may help offset these costs. Eligible students will directly receive information from Graduate Studies annually.

## **DISSERTATION COMMITTEE**

The function of this committee is to direct you in your research and to guide you in the preparation of your dissertation. The chairperson of the Dissertation Committee is your Major Professor. The other members of the Committee are nominated by you, your Major Professor, and your Graduate Program Advisor, and appointed by the Dean of Graduate Studies. At least one faculty member must be a member of the Academic Senate, and at least one member should represent your area of emphasis. Once the Dissertation Committee is appointed, its composition can only be changed by petition to Graduate Studies. However, it is advisable for you to meet with the members individually before submitting the Advancement to Candidacy form.

The Dissertation Committee is charged with three responsibilities:

1. To approve your dissertation topic and the plan that you have developed for independent study.
2. To advise you during your research. You are responsible for informing the Committee of your progress.
3. To evaluate your dissertation and your defense of the research, to recommend further research if desirable, and finally, to determine the acceptability of your thesis and to recommend to the Dean that you have satisfactorily fulfilled the dissertation requirement.

Detailed instructions on the format of dissertations (theses) can be obtained from the Graduate Studies Office (<http://gradstudies.ucdavis.edu/students/filing.html>). There are forms you must complete and submit with your dissertation. If you have any questions, please contact Graduate Studies.

After submission of the dissertation, the candidate is expected to present the results of this research in a graduate group seminar. Please note that to file your dissertation, you must either be enrolled or on filing fee (except during Summer term).

## **DESIGNATED EMPHASIS (OPTIONAL)**

GGNB PhD students may participate in a Designated Emphasis, a specialization that might include a new method of inquiry or an important field application. The Designated Emphasis is awarded in conjunction with the PhD degree and is signified by a transcript designation; for example, a “PhD in Nutritional Biology with a Designated Emphasis in Biotechnology.” The GGNB is currently associated with two Designated Emphasis programs. Please see below for more details on each

of these programs or visit <https://grad.ucdavis.edu/designated-emphases> for a listing of all Designated Emphases at UC Davis.

Please note that a Designated Emphasis is separate from an “Area of Specialization” for GGNB students.

### **Designated Emphasis in Global Nutrition (IGN)**

Students admitted to the Graduate Group in Nutritional Biology are eligible to participate in the activities of the Institute for Global Nutrition (IGN), including the weekly seminar and lab group meetings. Doctoral students can elect to complete the Designated Emphasis in Global Nutrition. There is some overlap between courses for the Designated Emphasis and the doctoral degree/area of specialization. All students will be required to take a minimum of 12 units of coursework in the DE and participate in 4 quarters of the IGN seminar. For more information, refer to the IGN website [https://globalnutrition.ucdavis.edu/academics/designated\\_emphasis](https://globalnutrition.ucdavis.edu/academics/designated_emphasis) or contact program director Dr. Reina Engle-Stone, [renglestone@ucdavis.edu](mailto:renglestone@ucdavis.edu).

### **Designated Emphasis in Biotechnology (DEB)**

This inter-graduate group program provides PhD students with training in biotechnology and includes exposure to bioethics, the business and legal aspects of biotechnology, and a 3–6-month internship at a biotechnology company or research laboratory in another college or national laboratory. For more information, refer to the DEB website <https://deb.ucdavis.edu/>.

## VI. Funding Graduate School

Financial support for graduate study at UC Davis is available in several forms: 1) financial aid, 2) fellowships, scholarships, grants, and travel awards, and 3) teaching and research assistantships. Talk with your major professor to determine what funding is available to you and how they expect your graduate studies to be funded.

Each type of financial support requires a different application process. The best resources to assist with this are 1) your Major Professor, 2) GGNB graduate staff coordinator & Graduate Program Advisors, 3) Office of Graduate Studies website: <https://grad.ucdavis.edu/financial-aid>

### IMPORTANT NOTES:

\*\*\*Taxes may not be withheld from the funds listed below. You may need to set money aside each month to pay for your taxes.

\*\*\***Fall stipends will disburse in four payments so that your first payment will be the last week of September, and you will not** will be in school for over 1 month without receiving any form of money. Fall is the only quarter with four payments in the quarter. Winter, Spring, and Summer stipends will dispense in three monthly payments. Fellowship disbursement dates are posted annually at <https://grad.ucdavis.edu/fellowship-stipend-disbursement-dates>

### FEDERAL FINANCIAL AID

All graduate students (US citizens and permanent residents) are **REQUIRED** to file a “Free Application for Federal Student Aid” (FAFSA) as early as possible, but **no later than March 1st**. This form, submitted directly to the Federal Student Aid Program Office, Iowa City, Iowa, is used to determine financial need only. Financial need is a component of the eligibility criteria for many fellowships, and for all forms of financial aid. The FAFSA may be obtained from the Financial Aid Office or online: <https://studentaid.gov/h/apply-for-aid/fafsa>

### FELLOWSHIPS, SCHOLARSHIPS, AND TRAVEL AWARDS

Complete Regulations for Graduate Students Receiving Fellowships can be found at the Office of Graduate Studies at <https://ucdavis.app.box.com/v/838700460707>

### INTERNAL FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

A variety of fellowships and other research and travel awards are awarded internally within the University. Fellowships typically cover tuition and provide a stipend to help cover living expenses. Research awards typically are solely dedicated to research expenses such as lab supplies, relevant software, and study participant compensation, although some awards may cover other costs such as travel to conferences (if you are a presenter) and other forms of professional development. Travel awards are available to cover the cost of conferences (if you are a presenter).

Three ways to apply for these funding sources are: (a) through the university’s annual internal fellowship application (b) through university-wide travel award applications, and (c) through opportunities specific to GGNB students.

### Internal fellowship application

Internal fellowships are awarded once per year for the following year based on academic and professional promise and merit. Applications are available online at <https://grad.ucdavis.edu/financial-support/internal-fellowships>. The application deadline is January 15 annually for funding awarded for the following academic year. While filling out this application, you will have the option to choose to apply to each of several fellowship and research awards. The same application will be submitted for consideration of multiple awards, although some awards may require additional materials (e.g., a 250-word response to one additional essay question).

Descriptions of available fellowships: <https://gradstudies.ucdavis.edu/annual-internal-fellowship-competition-continuing-graduate-students>

Examples of internal fellowships:

- **DISSERTATION YEAR FELLOWSHIP** is open to domestic graduate students, in their final stages of doctoral work, who demonstrate strong potential for university teaching and research. It includes a stipend of ~\$25,000 plus fee remission for the dissertation year, a research allowance of \$500, and \$500 for travel to other UC/CSU campuses to present their research.
- **DRAKE FELLOWSHIP IN ENVIRONMENTAL DESIGN** is a nine-month fellowship open to continuing students studying Art Studio, Environmental Design, *Human Nutrition*, and Aeronautical Engineering. One or two fellowships will be awarded.
- **UCD HUMANITIES GRADUATE RESEARCH AWARD** gives up to \$1,500 for financial support of research for masters or doctoral students. This is usually applied for within the Internal Fellowships Application, due during the fall quarter.

### University-wide travel awards

**GRADUATE STUDIES TRAVEL AWARD.** Covers up to \$500 within CA, up to \$1000 within the rest of the contiguous US, and up to \$1500 for international travel and travel to Alaska and Hawaii. There are fall and spring application deadlines. <https://grad.ucdavis.edu/current-students/financial-support/internal-fellowships/travel-awards>

**GRADUATE STUDENT ASSOCIATION (GSA) TRAVEL AWARD.** Covers up to \$500 of travel expenses. There are winter and summer application deadlines. <https://gsa.ucdavis.edu/funding-opportunities>

### GGNB-specific awards

The GGNB Graduate Coordinator will periodically send out information about additional awards. One of the most popular research awards that is available on an annual basis is the Jastro (see below).

**JASTRO SHIELDS GRADUATE RESEARCH AWARD** program provides annual awards to students with outstanding research proposals who are either in the College of Agricultural and Environmental Science or who are working with a major professor

with an appointment to the Agricultural Experimental Station. Award applications are available annually. The amount of the award is based upon the allocation given to the group by the College of Agricultural and Environmental Science, up to \$3,000. Award applications are reviewed at the graduate group level, and nominations are forwarded to the College for final approval.

Other internal fellowships include the Nutritional Biology Endowed Graduate Student Fellowships. These fellowships are typically open for application in the Fall quarter. Funds may be used for tuition and fees, living expenses, or research-related expenses:

- **Kirvin Knox Fellowship** – Priority consideration given to students actively involved in the GGNB
- **Rucker Family Fellowship** – Fellow must be conducting research in nutritional biochemistry
- **Mar Family Fellowship** – Preference will be given to PhD students who are in their final dissertation quarter or year, and who demonstrate financial need.

## EXTERNAL FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

In addition to internal fellowships, there is a wide variety of external funding opportunities available. Grad Studies is a great resource to learn about many opportunities: <https://grad.ucdavis.edu/financial-support/external-fellowships>.

You can subscribe to receive email alerts about external funding opportunities using the UC Davis sympa system for all list servs: <https://lists.ucdavis.edu/sympa>. After logging into sympa using your Kerberos ID, search for “external funding” or the list serv titled “gradfund@ucdavis.edu.”

Examples of some external funding sources relevant to GGNB students are listed below (not an exhaustive list):

- American Society for Nutrition (ASN) research awards for students. <http://nutrition.org/about-asn/awards/>
- American Heart Association (AHA) predoctoral fellowships. Multiple funding cycles each year. [https://professional.heart.org/professional/ResearchPrograms/ApplicationInformation/UCM\\_431626\\_MedicalGraduate-Student-Fellowship.jsp](https://professional.heart.org/professional/ResearchPrograms/ApplicationInformation/UCM_431626_MedicalGraduate-Student-Fellowship.jsp)
- NIH F31 predoctoral fellowships. Multiple funding cycles each year. <https://researchtraining.nih.gov/programs/fellowships/F31>
- National Science Foundation (NSF) Graduate Research Fellowship Program (GRFP). Deadline in the fall. <https://www.nsfgrfp.org/>

## ADDITIONAL WEBSITES

Resource	Website
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Direct Deposit	<a href="https://financeandbusiness.ucdavis.edu/student-resources/accounting/dd">https://financeandbusiness.ucdavis.edu/student-resources/accounting/dd</a>
Loans (emergency, short-term, and assistance)	<a href="https://financialaid.ucdavis.edu/loans/short-term">https://financialaid.ucdavis.edu/loans/short-term</a>
Residency and Tuition	<a href="http://registrar.ucdavis.edu/html/slr.html">http://registrar.ucdavis.edu/html/slr.html</a>
Student Accounting	<a href="http://studentaccounting.ucdavis.edu/">http://studentaccounting.ucdavis.edu/</a>

## TEACHING AND GRADUATE STUDENT RESEARCH ASSISTANTSHIPS

**Graduate Student Research Assistantships (GSRs)** are an excellent opportunity to gain invaluable experience in areas important to your graduate education and to receive financial support at the same time. Information and application materials for GSRs are available from the department in which you want to work.

A limited number of federally partially funded work-study GSRs are awarded by the GGNB to offset costs to your GSR funding source. Please indicate to the GGNB Financial Support Committee Chair or graduate staff coordinator your interest in obtaining a work-study GSR appointment; you must be a Citizen or Permanent Resident who has filed a FAFSA to be eligible.

Holding a **Teaching Assistantship (TA)** is a great way to help fund your graduate education. As a TA, you will be responsible for assisting the instructor of record with undergraduate courses and have responsibilities such as teaching discussion sections, holding office hours, and grading. TA positions will cover the cost of your in-state tuition and fees, and will provide either a 25% or 50% FTE (full-time equivalent) salary. TA appointments of 25% require no more than 10 hours of work per week while 50% TAs require no more than 20 hours of work per week. There are also specific eligibility criteria that must be met to hold a TA position. Please see the Grad Studies page on [Student Teaching and Research](#) for more information on job description, general eligibility and restrictions, tuition and fee remission, and salary scales.

GGNB students may apply for Teaching Assistantships in any department in which the individual believes they are qualified. Every department has its own hiring process, so we encourage you to reach out to the department in which you wish to gain an appointment directly. The Nutrition department coordinators disseminate applications for TA positions and preferences typically before the start of the academic year. Please see the following links for more information on TAs in other departments:

- [Nutrition](#) (scroll to the bottom of the page)
- [Neurobiology, Physiology, and Behavior \(NPB\)/Molecular and Cellular Biology](#)
- [Animal Science](#)
- [Food Science and Technology](#)

**Research Mentorship Program** provides research assistant support to PhD students who are in the early stages of their graduate research. Recipients will hold a 50% research assistant appointment for up to one year (you may apply for a second year). You may download and print the application for the Research Mentorship Program or obtain one from the Office of Graduate Studies ([here](#)).

## **VII. Graduate Student Resources**

### **PEER MENTOR PROGRAM – Assorted Development, Mentorship, and Exploration (ADME)**

GradSAC is constantly developing the peer mentor program, which is affectionately called ADME, for Assorted Development, Mentorship and Exploration Series. This program meets for an hour weekly to discuss a variety of topics related to the graduate student experience, to hold workshops to benefit students, and to host guest speakers. The peer development series is open to students of any level within the GGNB. The program was introduced in 2017 and includes components such as writing retreats, talks and mentorship from past GGNB students regarding how they came to their current career, University guest speakers on imposter syndrome and GradPathways resources, and preliminary exam practices.

### **RECOMMENDED UNIT LOAD**

No more than 16 units of upper division (100 level) and graduate (200 level) courses should be taken in combination per quarter. Normally, no more than 12 units of 200 level coursework should be taken per quarter. All full-time students must be enrolled in at least 12 units per quarter.

### **SATISFACTORY/UNSATISFACTORY GRADING OPTION**

The purpose of satisfactory/unsatisfactory (S/U) grading option is to allow graduate students the opportunity to explore areas unrelated to the student's academic discipline. No program core requirements may be taken S/U unless prior approval has been granted by the Graduate Council. Only one graded course per quarter may be taken S/U. In lower or upper division work (courses numbered 1-199) S means a grade of C- or better; in graduate work (courses numbered 200) an S requires a B- or better.

### **STUDENT PROGRESS**

Student progress is reviewed annually by the student's GGNB Graduate Program Advisor. If progress is unsatisfactory, an electronic notice will be sent to the student and to the Dean of Graduate Studies; receipt of such notice is regarded as being on academic probation. The Dean of Graduate Studies will provide notification to the student, indicating a time limit and work required for completion to attain a satisfactory evaluation. If the student fails to meet the requirements specified, the student will be subject to disqualification from further graduate study in the program.

### **NORMATIVE TIME**

It is within the degree requirements that you will finish the MS program within three years and the PhD program within five years. Further, it is expected that you will complete your PhD Qualifying Examination within the first three years (nine quarters of residency plus the intervening summer sessions). Those who complete an MS degree in Nutritional Biology at UCD

and then transfer to the PhD program are strongly suggested to complete your Qualifying Examination within your first year in the PhD program.

Any deviations from or problems you might have in meeting the normative time guidelines should be discussed with your Graduate Program Advisor and then filed with the Executive Committee of the Graduate Group.

If you fail to provide a timetable or program plan that addresses any problems you may have with completing your degree within the normative time, your Graduate Program Advisor is obligated to file an Unsatisfactory Progress Report with the Dean of Graduate Studies which will be prevented from receiving any further institutional funding.

Full details of Doctoral Time to Degree Completion Guidelines from the Office of Graduate Studies, and correlating policies can be found at <https://grad.ucdavis.edu/academics/degree-requirements/normative-time>

## **ESTABLISHING CALIFORNIA RESIDENCY**

Full guidelines for establishing California Residency can be found on the Office of the Registrar website (<https://registrar.ucdavis.edu/tuition/residence>). In general, to be considered a resident you must prove the following:

- Minimum of 366 days of physical presence in California
- Intent to remain in California
  - Obtain California driver's license or California Identification card
  - Register to vote in California
  - File taxes as California resident
- Financial independence (see below)

You are considered financially independent if you are over the age of 24 by December 31 of the year resident classification is sought. If you are under the age of 24 and your parents qualify as California residents, you do not have to verify that you are financially independent. If your parents are not California residents, you must demonstrate that you were not claimed as dependents for the tax year immediately preceding the term for which a resident classification is sought. If you are a graduate student instructor, teaching or research assistant, or teaching associate employed at 49% time or more (or awarded the equivalent in University-administered funds, e.g., grants, stipends, fellowships) in the term for which resident classification is sought, you may be exempt from the financial independence requirement.

California residence is difficult to establish if you have legal connections to another state or country (e.g., state tax liability, driver's license, voter or vehicle registration). If you moved to California primarily for educational purposes, you are not eligible for a resident classification for purposes of tuition and fees.

## FILING FEE STATUS

Filing fee was established to assist you when you have completed all requirements for your degree except to take the M.S. comprehensive examination, file your MS thesis, or PhD dissertation. Filing fee is a one-time fee of \$192.00. Filing fee status is for **one quarter only**.

To be eligible for filing fee status you:

- Must have advanced to candidacy
- No longer require university facilities including lab space. (You can buy library access, ARC privileges, and SHIP health insurance)
- Cannot use faculty time other than the time involved in the final reading of the thesis or dissertation or in holding the MS comprehensive exam
- Cannot receive a fellowship or financial aid

Filing fee applications are available in the Graduate Studies office. There is more information on the form and online on the Graduate Studies website <https://grad.ucdavis.edu/filing-fee>. The form requires the signature of your Graduate Faculty Advisor and the chair of your thesis/dissertation committee (for MS Plan I and PhD candidates). The fee must be paid before Graduate Studies will process the form.

You must either be registered or on filing fee when you submit your dissertation or thesis or take your MS comprehensive exam.

If for some reason you must return to registered status after going on filing fee, you will have to complete the readmission application.

**NOTE: Do not go onto filing fee unless you are certain this will be the last quarter you are enrolled at Davis. You are only eligible for one quarter of filing fee and cannot return as a graduate student after that quarter.**

## PLANNED EDUCATIONAL LEAVE PROGRAM (PELP)

The [Planned Educational Leave Program](#) is designed to allow you to suspend your program of study for good cause (illness, temporary departure from the University, financial problems, etc.). You can leave the campus and return at the end of your PELP to enroll and continue your study and research.

PELP is recommended if you are certain which quarter you will return and if you will be away a maximum of 3 quarters. If you are not certain of your return date, it is suggested that you use the readmission application when you are ready to continue your study. The form requires the approval of your academic advisor, graduate program staff coordinator, Student Accounting, SISS (for international students), and a \$70 non-refundable fee.

Your PELP can be lengthened or shortened with the approval of those listed above and the Dean of Graduate Studies. Extension of PELP is considered based on extenuating circumstances. More information about PELP is available from your Graduate Program Advisor and your Graduate Program Staff Coordinator.

## **WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN PELP AND FILING FEE?**

PELP is for those students who have not completed all their requirements and will be away from campus up to 3 quarters. This is for students who intend to return to campus and enroll in classes. Filing fee is for students who have advanced to candidacy, no longer need University facilities, and only need to take their MS comprehensive exam or submit their thesis or dissertation.

## VIII. Academic Campus Programs and Resources

### SAFETY SERVICES and OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY

Students have the right and responsibility to know what hazards they may encounter while pursuing their education and what measures to take to protect themselves and others. Campus policy requires all UCD employees and students to receive safety information and training from their Major Professor or Supervisor. This training encompasses chemical, biological, animal, physical and radiation hazards, including specific safety training in unit unique protocols and instrumentation. The websites for both Occupational Health (<https://safetyservices.ucdavis.edu/categories/occupational-health>) and Safety Services (<https://safetyservices.ucdavis.edu/>) contain a vast amount of information regarding your rights, lab and office safety, and what to do in case of an emergency.

### UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES

Research can be made easier if you know how to maximize your resources. Did you know that you can connect remotely to the UC Davis library and access research articles from anywhere [by connecting to the library VPN](#)? Additionally, if you can't find the article you are looking for, you may be able to request a copy from another UC library. Check out all the resources on <https://library.ucdavis.edu/>.

### TEACHING ASSISTANT (TA) SUPPORT

Are you serving as a TA during your time in graduate school? The Center for Educational Effectiveness (CEE) offers a variety of resources for getting started or improving as a TA. For new TAs, the CEE hosts a required TA orientation held prior to the start of fall quarter each year. For seasoned TAs, the CEE offers workshops for developing teaching skills and consultations about your classroom teaching technique complete with video recordings of your class. The CEE also provides test analysis support (scoring scantrons from in-class exams). For appointments and for more information about the CEE, visit: <https://cee.ucdavis.edu/>.

### STATISTICAL CONSULTING SERVICES

#### *Statistical Laboratory*

Statistical Consultation: <https://statistics.ucdavis.edu/stat-lab>

Services include providing advice to individual researchers in preparing statistics-related sections of proposals for extramural funding, assisting researchers on the design of prospective experiments or studies, conducting or giving advice concerning statistical data analysis, and planning or executing statistically motivated computation.

Graduate students who have advanced to candidacy may receive consultation at no cost for thesis/dissertation related advice (although there is an additional hourly charge for associated programming or computation). A copy of the Advanced to Candidacy form should be brought to the first meeting.

### **Social Science Data Service**

Statistical Consultation: <https://www.ssds.ucdavis.edu/consulting>

SSDS provides consulting services on a range of software and data sources used in social science research. Staff can help with questions about the use of SSDS computers and statistical and data-related programming. Limited statistical consulting is also available on both basic and intermediate methods including multiple regression, crosstabs, t-tests, and other procedures. In addition, our staff is knowledgeable about social science data sources and provides access to a variety of data sources.

### **Clinical and Translational Science Center (CTSC) Biostatistics**

Statistical consulting: <http://www.ucdmc.ucdavis.edu/ctsc/area/biostatistics/>

The Biostatistics Group assists researchers with all sizes and types of projects, from simple data analyses to large, multi-center clinical trials. Specific services include:

- Grant proposal preparation
- Study design/sample size calculation
- Statistical analysis plan
- Data analysis and interpretation
- Manuscript review and preparation

Students can receive up to two hours of free support. While this time can provide support for various areas listed above, this amount of time is generally not sufficient for conducting analyses unless they are straight-forward.

### **DataLab: Data Science and Informatics**

This program emerged from the Data Science Initiative and facilitates data science methods and best practices to enhance research and learning in all domains across the university. Workshops are periodically offered: <https://datalab.ucdavis.edu/workshops/>

Working groups meet regularly:

- Davis R Users Group (D-RUG): <https://datalab.ucdavis.edu/davis-r-users-group/>
- Meet and Analyze (Biological) Data (MAD): <https://datalab.ucdavis.edu/meet-analyze-biological-data/>

## **ADDITIONAL WEBSITES**

<b>Resource</b>	<b>Website</b>
Fleet Services	<a href="https://facilities.ucdavis.edu/fleet-services">https://facilities.ucdavis.edu/fleet-services</a>
Information Educational Technology (IET)	<a href="http://iet.ucdavis.edu/">http://iet.ucdavis.edu/</a>



Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC)	<a href="https://research.ucdavis.edu/policiescompliance/animal-care-use/iacuc/">https://research.ucdavis.edu/policiescompliance/animal-care-use/iacuc/</a>
IRB Administration	<a href="https://research.ucdavis.edu/policiescompliance/irb-admin/">https://research.ucdavis.edu/policiescompliance/irb-admin/</a>
Occupational Health	<a href="https://safetyervices.ucdavis.edu/categories/occupational-health">https://safetyervices.ucdavis.edu/categories/occupational-health</a>
Office of Research	<a href="https://research.ucdavis.edu/">https://research.ucdavis.edu/</a>
Safety Services	<a href="https://safetyervices.ucdavis.edu/">https://safetyervices.ucdavis.edu/</a>
Student Affairs	<a href="http://success.ucdavis.edu/">http://success.ucdavis.edu/</a>
Student Disability Center	<a href="http://sdc.ucdavis.edu/">http://sdc.ucdavis.edu/</a>
Diversity, Equity, Inclusion Office	<a href="https://diversity.ucdavis.edu/">https://diversity.ucdavis.edu/</a>

## IX. Non-Academic Campus Programs and Resources

The UC Davis campus has a wide range of organizations and activities to complement your academic work, to entertain you, and to give you support. Below is a **small** sample of campus resources that might interest you. All of these organizations and dozens more can be accessed through the UC Davis Web site at <http://www.ucdavis.edu>.

### UC DAVIS STUDENT PARENT CHILD CARE FUNDING PROGRAM

The UC Davis Student Parent Child Care Funding Program has two sources: (1) Community Based Care Grant (CBCG) for undergraduate, graduate and professional students, and (2) Graduate Student Child Care Grant (GSCCG) for graduate and professional students only provides \$900 to \$1,350 per quarter for childcare expenses, regardless of financial need. Apply at: [http://worklife-wellness.ucdavis.edu/family\\_care/children/childcaresub.html](http://worklife-wellness.ucdavis.edu/family_care/children/childcaresub.html)

### CAMPUS SAFETY

UC Davis is not a crime-free zone. The Campus Police Department has many programs to help all members of the campus community be safe. Through the Police Department, the Aggie Hosts offer an Escort Service **530-752-COPS (2677)** for anyone needing to walk to their bike, car, a bus, or to another building for FREE. The service is available 365 days of the year from 5:30 p.m. to 3:00 a.m. 7 days a week, excluding major holidays. For more information about the Campus Police Department visit <http://police.ucdavis.edu/>.

### SERVICES FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS AND SCHOLARS

The best source of information for international students is the Services for International Students and Scholars office (SISS): <https://siss.ucdavis.edu/>. It is important that you contact SISS before Changing Major, Changing Degree Objective, going on PELP (Planned Educational Leave Program), and going on Filing Fee. Changes in your academic status could change your visa.

### YOUR GRADUATE STUDENT ASSOCIATION

The Graduate Student Association (GSA) is the officially recognized student government for UC Davis graduate students. GSA is a vital communications network linking you and other graduate students from all corners of the campus to the UCD administration. GSA provides a place for discussion of any issue affecting graduate student academics and quality of life.

The Graduate Group in Nutritional Biology has two GSA representatives. For GSA to advocate for your concerns effectively, input is needed from the graduate student body. GSA provides advocacy, services, and information to all graduate students, but in turn, needs your participation. To become a GSA representative, contact your GGNB Graduate Student Advisory Committee (information below).

GSA General Assembly meetings are held once a month and are **open to all**. Graduate students are elected to the GSA Executive Council in a variety of positions, mandated to carry out the

policies and/or functions of the organization. A small portion of your registration fees is used to support the activities of GSA. The GSA retains the services of a lawyer and a patient advocate who are available to help graduate students with legal or medical issues. For more information visit <https://gsa.ucdavis.edu>.

## GRADSAC

While the GSA represents all graduate students, the [GGNB Graduate Student Advisory Committee](#) (GradSAC) is the leadership organization specific to GGNB. GradSAC's mission is to facilitate positive communications with the faculty and within students in the graduate group and to develop and manage student-led activities and events. These events include a mentorship program called Assorted Development Mentorship and Exploration (ADME), the Student Research Symposium, recruitment activities, and social events like potlucks, a book club, and other social activities. GradSAC meets three times per quarter during the academic year and over summer break. More information is available in Appendix 5.

GradSAC manages a google calendar containing meetings and social events. To add this calendar follow these steps:

- Go to Gmail on the web
- Open your Google Calendar in a new tab
- On the left panel locate the "Other Calendars" and "+" buttons
- Press "+" followed by "From URL"
- Copy <https://calendar.google.com/calendar/ical/i2hmmadssclntf9ilm4jfehtrc%40group.calendar.google.com/private-1740b479fe5ba0f42ce510e7c3ab7b7b/basic.ics> and paste this link:

Students from all levels of the GGNB are welcome to join at any point during the year! Email us at [ggnbgradsac@gmail.com](mailto:ggnbgradsac@gmail.com).

## ADDITIONAL WEBSITES

Resource	Website
Activities & Recreation Center (ARC)	<a href="https://cru.ucdavis.edu/arc/">https://cru.ucdavis.edu/arc/</a>
Campus Recreation	<a href="http://campusrecreation.ucdavis.edu/">http://campusrecreation.ucdavis.edu/</a>
Center for Advocacy, Resources & Education (CARE)	<a href="https://care.ucdavis.edu/">https://care.ucdavis.edu/</a>
Center for Educational Effectiveness	<a href="https://cee.ucdavis.edu/">https://cee.ucdavis.edu/</a>
Cross Cultural Center	<a href="http://ccc.ucdavis.edu/">http://ccc.ucdavis.edu/</a>
Harassment & Discrimination Assistance and Prevention Program	<a href="https://hdapp.ucdavis.edu/">https://hdapp.ucdavis.edu/</a>
Internship and Career Center	<a href="http://iccweb.ucdavis.edu/">http://iccweb.ucdavis.edu/</a>
LGBTQIA+ Resource Center	<a href="http://lgbcenter.ucdavis.edu/">http://lgbcenter.ucdavis.edu/</a>
Student Parent Resources	<a href="https://studentparents.ucdavis.edu/">https://studentparents.ucdavis.edu/</a>

Transportation and Parking Services (TAPS)	<a href="https://taps.ucdavis.edu/">https://taps.ucdavis.edu/</a>
Whistleblower Process	<a href="http://compliance.ucdavis.edu/complaint_processes/whistleblower.cfm">http://compliance.ucdavis.edu/complaint_processes/whistleblower.cfm</a>
Women's Resources and Research Center	<a href="http://wrrc.ucdavis.edu/">http://wrrc.ucdavis.edu/</a>



## Appendix 1: Mentoring Guidelines

Developed by the UC Davis Graduate Council

### Mentoring Guidelines

Mentoring is defined as a close relationship between a graduate student and a faculty member who provides guidance, support, and research advice in an individualized manner.

Graduate Council recognizes that the mentoring of graduate students by faculty is an integral part of the graduate experience for both. The responsibilities of the faculty mentor are broad and diverse. They include but are not limited to serving as a role model, advising a student as to course work requirements, and providing formal instruction in a given discipline as well as helping students identify and achieve their individual short and long-term educational goals.

While the major professor usually acts as a student's primary mentor, many of the mentoring "functions" described below, may also be performed by other program/group faculty and staff over the course of a student's graduate experience. A corollary to this recognition is that much of the interaction of faculty with all students includes important mentoring components. Similarly, graduate students have important responsibilities to ensure they are open to and accepting of faculty mentoring and articulate their needs effectively. Thus, it is together that faculty and students identify and discuss their goals and expectations for each other, and outline approaches to reach those goals and satisfy those expectations.

Basic mentoring practices include guiding students through program expectations, protocols of academic conduct, degree requirements, research and teaching, capstone work (such as thesis or dissertation research), and professional development.

Mentors and/or the advising system should provide, and students should acquire, a clear map of program requirements from the beginning, making clear the coursework requirements, and expected timelines for completion of all required examinations and capstone requirements.

Mentors are responsible for:

1. Respecting their student, including the student's identity including race, ethnicity, gender and gender expression, age, visible and non-visible disability, nationality, sexual orientation, citizenship status, veteran status, religious/non-religious, spiritual, or political beliefs, socio-economic class, status within or outside the university, or any of the other differences among people.
2. Assisting students in the identification of support networks (people who can help the student for different aspects of their tenure at UCD).
3. Being a student's advocate and assisting the student in a timely manner in finding sources to support dissertation research (teaching assistantships, research assistantships, fellowships, research needs and required resources, including desk and/or laboratory space).

4. Addressing problems or challenges that could affect completion of the degree as soon as they become aware of them.
5. Tailoring, modifying, or adjusting the faculty member's mentoring style to the particular needs of each graduate student, to a reasonable extent.
6. Encouraging an open exchange of ideas, including by empowering students to independently follow research ideas of their own whenever feasible.
7. Checking regularly on progress. Graduate Council recognizes each graduate program/group, mentor and mentee should agree upon a reasonable frequency of meetings and communications, which may vary widely by discipline, but should not usually occur less than at least once per quarter.
8. Encouraging and giving feedback on written work, oral presentations and experimental work in a timely manner within a mutually agreed upon time frame, and consistent with Graduate Council policies.
9. Providing and discussing clear criteria for authorship of collaborative research, consistent with Graduate Council policies on co-authorship.
10. Encouraging participation in professional meetings of regional groups as well as of learned societies and facilitating interactions and networking with other scholars, on campus and within the wider professional community.
11. Helping the student in identifying appropriate resources for career guidance, providing help with preparations of CV and job interviews, as well as writing letters of recommendation in a timely manner.
12. Empowering and encouraging the student in seeking their own career paths and supporting the student independent of the chosen career paths they identify.
13. Participating regularly in mentorship training.

As partners in the mentoring relationship, graduate students have responsibilities. These responsibilities include:

1. Respecting their mentor, including their mentor's identity including race, ethnicity, gender and gender expression, age, visible and non-visible disability, nationality, sexual orientation, citizenship status, veteran status, religious/non-religious, spiritual, or political beliefs, socio-economic class, status within or outside the university, or any of the other differences among people
2. Seeking assistance from multiple individuals/organizations to fulfill the mentoring roles described above, because one faculty member may not be able to satisfy all of a student's mentoring needs.
3. Understanding and clearly articulating to their mentors their own mentoring needs and how they change through their graduate tenure.
4. Respecting their mentor's other responsibilities and time commitments.
5. Communicating regularly with their mentors, especially their major professor, including updates on progress, challenges, needs, goals and expected completion timelines.
6. Completing tasks in a timely fashion and following mutually agreed upon timelines and informing mentors about expected absences and delays before they occur.
7. Participating in departmental and graduate program/group community including attending activities, lectures, and events.

8. Acting in a manner that will encourage professors to see them as colleagues. Seeking constructive criticism and feedback on academic work.
9. Seeking information, exploring career options and developing clear career goals.
10. Participating regularly in mentee-ship training.

While we have tried to provide general examples of what mentoring means, we recognize that each discipline has its own special set of mentoring needs and challenges. Therefore, Graduate Programs/Groups may set specific guidelines to further define the individual roles of Graduate Advisors, major professors, faculty supervisors, and staff program/group advisors. Graduate programs/group mentoring guidelines and activities will be reviewed during the program review process.

### **Additional Resources and Guidelines**

(Links active as of August 12, 2023.)

- I. [Mentoring at Critical Transitions \(UC Davis\)](#)
- II. [How to Mentor Students: A Guide for Faculty \(University of Michigan\)](#)
- III. [Research Mentoring: Cultivating Effective Relationships \(University of Wisconsin\)](#)

## **Appendix 2: Discussion points regarding Major Professor's (MP) expectations of graduate students**

1. MP's general philosophy of mentoring - general availability and preferred communication strategy; whom to ask different types of questions
2. Possible research topics and criteria for choosing projects, such as degree of independence of student's research
3. Need for student to seek input from academic guidance and thesis/dissertation committees on a regular basis (at least once a year)
4. Lab group meetings and expectations regarding participation
5. Expected time on research/in lab at each stage - type of research activities (general training vs. student's own work); time spent in courses vs. research
6. Funding arrangements - responsibility of student to apply for fellowships, TA positions, and other sources of support
7. Expectations for 299/230/290C credit (standard is 3 hr/unit)
8. What MP considers "satisfactory progress"
9. MP's responsibility in providing feedback on student's work (type of feedback; timing); how often MP expects to meet with student at each stage
10. Writing skills of the student
11. Student's skills at conducting literature reviews
12. Space for student: desk, lab space, computer access
13. Expected timeline (approximate) for degree (see Survival Guide for normative time)
14. Formation of qualifying exam committee
15. Student's role in writing grant proposals
16. Expectations for the thesis or dissertation and for an exit seminar (typical expectation for PhD dissertation is a literature review plus 3 publishable papers; for MS thesis a literature review and 1 publishable paper)
17. Authorship of publishable papers
18. Student attendance and participation at professional meetings; funding for travel costs; oral vs. poster presentation preference
19. MP's role in career guidance, help preparing student's CV, writing letters of recommendation



### Appendix 3: Recommended Statistics Courses

Below is a list of statistics courses other GGNB students have taken. Note that this list was compiled from students' recollection of the course and may not accurately reflect the current topics covered, units, or prerequisites. Check the course catalogue and talk with your academic advising committee, Major Professor, and labmates about which will be most appropriate for you.

**Basic Statistics.** These are common introductory courses taken by GGNB students. Depending on your research goals, you may find additional classes to be beneficial.

Course Title	Course Number	Units	Prereqs	Offered	Topics Covered
Applied Stats for Biological Sciences	STA 100	4	MAT 16B, 17C or 21B	F,W,S	Provides good foundation, basic stats, R coding
Applied Statistics in Agricultural Science	PLS 120	4	None	F	Basic stats, R coding
Quantitative Methods in Educational Research: Experimental Designs	EDU 204B	4	Intro stats	F,S	ANOVA, fixed vs random effects, repeated measures ANOVA, ANCOVA, MANOVA, chi-sq tests, small sample solutions to t-tests and ANOVA

**Additional Courses.** You may find some of these courses beneficial depending on your needs.

Course Title	Course Number	Units	Prereqs	Offered	Topics Covered
Econometric Theory and Applications	ARE 106	4	ARE 100A, STA 103	F,W,S	
Quantitative Methods in Educational Research: Analysis of Correlational Designs	EDU 204A	4		W	Linear regression using STATA
Foundation of Statistical Models, Methods, and Data Analysis for Scientists	EPI 204A	4	STA 130A, 131A, or 133	W	
Statistical Models, Methods and Data Analysis for Scientists	EPI 204B	4	EPI 204A, STA 108	S	

Experimental Design and Analysis	PLS 205	5	PLS 120	W	
Applied Multivariate Analysis	PLS 206	4	PLS 120, STA 106, 108, or 205	F	Multivariate statistics (multiple regression, discriminant analysis, principal components analysis) and how to apply to R
Statistical Analysis of Psychological Experiments	PSC 204A	5	STA 102	F	
Causal Modeling of Correlational Data	PSC 204B	5	PSC 204A	W	
Advanced Statistical Inference from Psychological Experiments	PSC 204D	5	PSC 204A	S	
Applied Multivariate Analysis of Psychological Data	PSC 205A	4	PSC 204A, 204B, 204D	W	R coding
Factor Analysis	PSC 205B	4	PSC 204A, 204B	W	
Structural Equation Modeling	PSC 205C	4	PSC 204A, 204B		
Multilevel Model	PSC 205D	4	PSC 204A	W	Regression
Intermediate Social Statistics	SOC 106	5	SOC 46B		
Applied Statistics for Business and Economics	STA 103	4	Calculus	F,W,S	
Applied Statistical Methods: Nonparametric Statistics	STA 104	4	STA 100	W	
Applied Statistical Methods: Analysis of Variance	STA 106	4	STA 100	F,W	
Applied Statistical Methods: Regression Analysis	STA108	4	STA 100	F,W,S	

Multivariate Data Analysis	STA 135	4	STA 130B, 131B	S	
Mathematical Statistics: Brief Course	STA 130A	4	Calculus	F	
Mathematical Statistics: Brief Course	STA 130B	4	STA 130A	W	
Fundamentals of Statistical Data Science	STA 141A	4	STA 10, 13, 32, or 100	F	
Clinical Trials	STA/BST 225	4	STA 223 or BST 223 or consent of instructor	Offered in alternate years	

## Appendix 4: Course Related Resources for First-Year Students

Past students compiled this list of textbooks that they have found useful in studying for core courses and the preliminary exam. This is for your reference; it is **not** an all-inclusive list, and you are **not** required to purchase any of these.

- Ferrier, DR. *Lippincott's Illustrated Reviews: Biochemistry*. 2013.
- Food and Nutrition Board. *Dietary Reference Intakes: The Essential Guide to Nutrient Requirements*. 2006.
- Gropper, SG. *Advanced Nutrition and Human Metabolism*. 2012.
  - seems to be students' preference
- Lodish, H. 7<sup>th</sup> ed. *Molecular Cell Biology*.
- Rodwell, Bender, Botham, Kennelly, Weil. *Harpers Illustrated Biochemistry*, 30<sup>th</sup> ed. 2015.
- Salway, JM. *Metabolism at a Glance*. 2004.
- Stipanuk, Martha. *Biochemical, Physiological, and Molecular Aspects of Human Nutrition*, 3<sup>rd</sup> ed. 2012.
  - seems to be faculty's preference
- Zempleni, J. *Handbook of Vitamins*. 5<sup>th</sup> ed. 2013.

## Appendix 5: The GGNB Graduate Student Advisory Committee

The GGNB [Graduate Student Advisory Committee](#) (GradSAC) is a diverse group of students from across the graduate group, representing different research areas, different backgrounds, and different stages in their graduate school careers. GradSAC meets throughout the year to plan and execute a variety of annual programs, as well as to brainstorm and develop new projects and events. Some of these events and projects include:

- Planning and facilitating the Assorted Development, Mentorship, and Exploration (ADME) series, our weekly peer-to-peer mentorship program for graduate students.
- Planning and running the annual GGNB Graduate Student Research Symposium, which gives students the opportunity to present their research to colleagues.
- Making and distributing the ConGrads quarterly newsletter to celebrate personal and professional successes within the graduate group.
- Drafting the GGNB Commitment to Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion statement.
- Planning and holding social events, including book club, the annual Welcome Potluck, the Spring BBQ, and various monthly activities.
- Planning and running the annual GGNB Open House.
- Designing a new logo and GGNB-branded swag.
- Coordinating and publishing a cookbook for the graduate group, *GGNB Eats*.
- Running an educational booth on Picnic Day to fundraise and engage community members to learn about nutrition
- Revising this GGNB Survival Guide annually.

GradSAC provides students with the opportunity and framework to meet needs they see in the graduate group. In response to the difficulties of building community virtually during the pandemic, students proposed and started the book club, which has provided students a place to discuss nutrition and food in society. Likewise, students proposed introducing a summer ADME series to focus on introducing new students to Davis, grad school, and the GGNB.

Within the GGNB, GradSAC members also sit on faculty committees (including the Executive, Curriculum, and Recruitment Committees) as student representatives. GradSAC also interacts with the larger campus community through the Graduate Student Association.