Department of Biological Sciences
Graduate Program in Biology

Summary of Degree Requirements for Ph.D.

- 72 credit hours beyond BS degree
- Take two-semester Core Course and maintain 3.0 GPA
  - Passing of core course meets qualifying exam requirement
- Completion within 7 years (5 years if entering with a MS)
- Be a teaching assistant for undergrad course (1 semester required)
- Register as a full-time student
- Attend weekly Biology Seminar Series
  1. Rotate in 3 research labs. Upon completion of third rotation, join a lab for PhD research before end of first year
  2. Select a thesis committee (Spring of year 2)
  3. Pass qualifying exam (core course)
  4. Pass written and oral candidacy exam
  5. Present department seminar (approximately once per year)
  6. Co-author a manuscript in a journal or proceedings
  7. Complete a single-author thesis and successful public oral defense