

Graduate Program Requirements

A. Requirements for the Degree of Master of Science (M.S.) in Endocrinology and Animal Biosciences (16:340)

Thirty (30) credits of graduate work must be completed for the M.S. degree, including at least 6 credits of graduate research (*Research in Endocrinology and Animal Biosciences* 16:340:701,702) culminating in an M.S. research thesis. Courses should be taken in the core areas of Endocrinology, Physiology, Molecular Biology and Biochemistry, and Statistics and Experimental Design. A final research seminar that is open to the Rutgers community is given prior to the thesis defense, which is conducted by the student's committee.

B. Requirements for the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) in Endocrinology and Animal Biosciences (16:340)

Seventy-two (72) credits of graduate work must be completed for the Ph.D. degree, including a minimum of 24 credits of graduate course work in the following areas: Endocrinology; Physiology; Molecular Biology and Biochemistry; and Statistics and Experimental Design. The remaining credits should be graduate research (*Research in Endocrinology and Animal Biosciences* 16:340:701,702).

Satisfactory attainment of proficiency in each of the four areas will ultimately be determined in the Advancement to Candidacy examination (i.e., Ph.D. qualifying exam). The Ph.D. qualifying exam is comprised of three parts:

- (1) a written, take-home exam composed of open-ended essay questions designed to test the four core competency areas and evaluated by program faculty and the Academic Standards Committee;
- (2) an NIH-style research proposal that will form the basis of the dissertation work (see http://animalsciences.rutgers.edu/graduate/guidelines_phdproposal.pdf); and
- (3) an oral proposal presentation in our weekly seminar series and defense of the proposal before the student's graduate committee.

Once all degree requirements, including a written dissertation, have been completed, a final research seminar that is open to the Rutgers community is given prior to the dissertation defense, which is conducted by the student's committee.

C. Graduate Committees

Each graduate student will select the members of their committee in consultation with their graduate advisor and with the approval of the graduate program director.

- **Ph.D. Committee** – Minimum of 4 members:
 - Dissertation advisor (serves as chair of the committee)
 - At least two other members of the EAB Graduate Faculty
 - One committee member from outside the program

- **M.S. Committee** – Minimum of 3 members:
 - Thesis advisor (serves as chair of the committee)
 - At least two other members of the EAB Graduate Faculty
 - One non-program member is permitted with the approval of the Graduate Program Director but is not required.

D. Graduation Requirements for M.S. and Ph.D. students

All students nearing the end of their graduate studies are encouraged to attend a “Thesis and Dissertation Workshop” hosted by the Rutgers School of Graduate Studies (SGS). Check their website (<http://gsnb.rutgers.edu/resources/thesis-and-dissertation-workshops>) for upcoming dates.

All students planning to graduate must complete all items on the appropriate checklist:

- SGS “Master’s Degree with Thesis Checklist” (<http://gsnb.rutgers.edu/academics/master%E2%80%99s-degree-thesis-checklist>)
- SGS “Checklist for Ph.D. Degree” (<http://gsnb.rutgers.edu/academics/checklist-phd-degree>)

These lists include items to be submitted to the School of Graduate Studies for approval before graduation.

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