



Guidelines for Fast-track (Preparatory Year) Students

Students entering the PhD program with a BSc degree are, generally, obliged to participate in a preparatory year program, before starting full-time work on their PhD project. These guidelines elaborate on the process and the obligations for students and thesis committee during this time.

Advisory Committee

All preparatory year (PY) students will have one common advisory committee. The advisory committee will denote the curriculum in the training objectives for each PY student (see below). After two semesters, the advisory committee will perform the mid-term evaluation and determine whether the PY student may continue directly with the PhD work or must change to the master program.

The committee members are:

- Prof. Benedikt Grothe (speaker of GSN-LMU)
- Dr. Alexander Kaiser (teaching coordinator of GSN-LMU)
- Prof. Rüdiger Klein (MPI Neurobiology)
- Prof. Christian Leibold (head of examination committee for the master program Neurosciences)

After the preparatory year the research oriented thesis advisory committee (TAC) will be installed.

Training Objectives

The Training Objectives (TOs) for the first two semesters must be handed in for review by the advisory committee before courses start. A form will be provided during the GSN Orientation Week. After the preparatory year program, the research related TAC will take over and regularly review and update further TOs.

Mid-Term Evaluation

After the second semester, the progress of the student is evaluated. To be able to continue with the PhD program, students must achieve a grade average of 2,0 or better. If this not the case, the student will be transferred to the master program.

Curriculum for the Preparatory Year at GSN-LMU

Students entering the program with a BSc degree are obliged to earn 60 ECTS during their preparatory year, which correspond to the ENB MSc Neurosciences program first year curriculum:

Individual adjustments according to previous education will be made by the Advisory Committee.

After finishing the preparatory year, students must earn another 30 ECTS by curricular events during the further course of their PhD education. These can be achieved by regularly attending progress reports of their host labs, journal clubs, invited scientific talks, conference visits and a variety of courses offered by GSN-LMU or the Graduate-Center LMU. Please read through the “Starting your PhD at the GSN-LMU” form for further clarification.

GSN-LMU Forms

All important GSN PhD and Fast-track student forms may found our website:

www.gsn.lmu.de/download/st_forms_checklists/index.html

Important forms specifically for PhD and Fast-track students are:

- TAC member request form
- Training Objectives