

PhD-Program in Physiology, University of Zurich

I. Aims

The PhD program is based on the guidelines for dissertations and the Studienordnung of the Mathematisch-naturwissenschaftliche Fakultät (MNF, Faculty of Science) from July 8, 2002. The present guidelines will be effective during the interim time before the final installation of a PhD program within the Center of Competence for Integrated Human Physiology.

The requirements for the successful completion of the PhD program are the practical work in the laboratory, the collection of 12 credit points (CP) and the writing of a thesis. A final presentation of the work and an oral exam must be given.

The aim of the program is to broaden the basic knowledge in Physiology, to foster one's own initiative and to establish a transparent system of credit points.

This regulation applies for all internal and external PhD-students at the Institute of Physiology. The participation of PhD-students within the guest groups in the Institute of Physiology is welcomed.

PhD-students under the supervision of a professor at the ETH or another University will complete their studies as started and comply with the respective programs.

II. General requirements

Prior to the admission to the program, internal and external students have to submit their diploma to a commission which will evaluate the diploma for equivalence. The commission can decide on additional requirements to be fulfilled during the first year of the PhD such as additional courses and exams.

The commission consists of R. Wenger, L. Borsig, C. Wagner.

III. Credit points

Credit points have to be collected both in an obligatory and an optional category. A total of **12 CP** has to be obtained from both categories.

III.1 Obligatory credit points

- | | | |
|--|------|-----------|
| - Progress report in the Institute seminar | 1 CP | max. 2 CP |
| - Active participation in the practical course for students
(4 places, 4 semesters) | 2 CP | |
| - Intermediate exam | 2 CP | |

5 (max. 6) CP

External PhD-students have to take part in the practical course in the Institute or in an equivalent course at their home institution.

Intermediate exam

- After completion of the 2nd year, and not later than 2.5 yrs. after beginning.
- Oral exam, 1 hour
- Examinators are the members of the thesis committee
- 2 topics: 1st in the field of the dissertation, 2nd context of the 4 places supervised during the practical course.
- Is precondition for the submission of thesis and final presentation.

III.2 Optional category

6 or 7 CP have to be obtained from courses and other work under this category.

- | | | | |
|---|--|-----------|-----------|
| - | Presentation of a poster/ oral presentation at a national/ international meeting | 1 CP | max. 2 CP |
| - | Writing of a scientific publication as first author | 1 CP | max. 2 CP |
| - | External seminars, minimum 2 days | 1 CP | max. 3 CP |
| - | Participation in Institute seminar (Tuesday, 20 x) | 1 CP | max. 2 CP |
| - | Journal Club (2 Presentations) | 1 CP | max. 1 CP |
| - | Lectures in the field of Life Sciences
(the number of CP depends on the number of hours of the lecture) | 1 CP/2 CP | max. 4 CP |

IV. Documentation of work

Students will receive forms to be signed in the lectures/ by the group leaders which will be submitted to the responsible persons for the PhD program (see below).

V. Start of program

The program starts September 1, 2004 (deadline for calculation of status within program).

PhD students in their 2., 3. or 4. year receive a reduction in the number of CP collected (pro rata) in 2 CP/ 6 months.

In general, there will be no CP for retrospective work prior to Sept 1, 2004.

Exception: A maximum of 2 CP can be taken into account for participation in courses or scientific meeting or the writing of a scientific publication.

For advanced PhD-students the following rules apply:

- ? 4. year: no CP necessary
- ? 3. year: 4 CP, no intermediate exam
- ? 2. year: 8 CP, intermediate exam covering only 2 topics of the practical course plus topic of dissertation

VI. Responsible persons for PhD program

In case of questions and problems, please contact:

Carsten Wagner
Lubor Borsig