

Roadmap for Ph.D. in Neuroscience from Texas A&M University

NRSC curriculum requirements -- 96 credits total required for Ph.D.

Principles of Neuroscience I (NRSC 601) and II (NRSC 602)	6 credits
1 Statistics course	3 credits
1 Professionalism & Ethics course	1 credit
4 Elective courses	12-16 credits
≥2 Laboratory Rotations (NRSC 685)	2 credits
TAMIN weekly seminar (NRSC 681)	1 credit/semester
Research (NRSC 691)	Remaining credits up to 96

Full-time student status = 9 credits in fall/spring, 6 credits in summer

Students must be registered as full-time students to receive funding. If a student registers for more credits than full-time status, they will have to pay the difference in tuition and fees.

Laboratory Rotations: Students must complete at least 2 laboratory rotations (half-semester each) from at least 2 departments by the end of the spring semester in the first year. Laboratory rotations are optional for students who enter the program with a master's degree and have identified a faculty advisor.

Example coursework schedule

Year 1

Fall	Spring	Summer
NRSC 601 - Principles Neuro I (3)	NRSC 602 - Principles Neuro II (3)	NRSC 691 - Research (6)
Elective/Statistics (3)	Elective/Statistics (3)	
NRSC 681 - TAMIN seminar (1)	Ethics (1)	
NRSC 685 - Lab Rotations (2)	NRSC 681 - TAMIN seminar (1)	
	NRSC 685 - Lab Rotations (1)	

Year 2

Fall	Spring	Summer
1-2 Electives (3 each)	1-2 Electives (3 each)	NRSC 691 - Research (6)
NRSC 681 - TAMIN seminar (1)	NRSC 681 - TAMIN seminar (1)	
NRSC 691 - Research (2+)	NRSC 691 - Research (2+)	

Year 3 and beyond

Fall	Spring	Summer
NRSC 681 - TAMIN seminar (1)	NRSC 681 - TAMIN seminar (1)	NRSC 691 - Research (6)
NRSC 691 - Research (8)	NRSC 691 - Research (8)	

Deadlines for program requirements

Year 1

- Complete lab rotations (submit **Rotation Evaluation Forms** to TAMIN)
- Choose thesis advisor (by the end of spring semester)

Year 2

- Form advisory committee and hold first committee meeting (by the end of fall semester) to discuss degree plan, research project, and preliminary exam (submit **Annual Committee Meeting Evaluation Form** to TAMIN)
- Submit online degree plan with OGAPS (before the end of fall semester)

Year 3

- Complete preliminary exam (by the end of fall semester)
 - Submit **Preliminary Exam Checklist** to OGAPS >2 weeks prior to exam
 - Written component of preliminary exam completed >2 weeks prior to oral exam
 - Oral component of preliminary exam before the last day of classes in fall semester
 - Submit **Report of Prelim Exam** to OGAPS, **Annual Committee Meeting Report** to TAMIN
- Once advisory committee has approved the research proposal, submit finalized research proposal to TAMIN and OGAPS
- Apply for admission to candidacy

Year 4 and beyond

- Hold annual committee meetings (submit **Annual Committee Meeting Report** to TAMIN)

Final Examination (Dissertation Defense)

- Permission to defend dissertation (within 3 years of admission to candidacy)
 - Obtain permission to defend from advisory committee
 - Submit **Permission to Defend Thesis** to the OGAPS >2 weeks before defense
- Final Examination
 - Written dissertation submitted to the advisory committee >2 weeks prior to scheduled oral defense
 - Oral presentation and defense of dissertation to advisory committee
- Submit **Report of Final Examination** and finalized dissertation to OGAPS