

Cancer Biology Degree Plan

First year DBS students take 12 credit hours in fall and spring, and 6 credit hours in the summer semesters. In subsequent years they are enrolled in 9 credit hours in fall and spring, and 6 credit hours in the summer. Typically, didactic coursework is completed in the first year, and in subsequent years students are enrolled in dissertation research and a Work-In-Progress (WIP) seminar totaling full-time enrollment equivalency. Advancement of the student to Ph.D. candidacy is dependent upon successful completion of all coursework and the qualifying examination, which takes place in the second year.

Year	Term	Half/ Full	Title	Credit Hour	Total Credit Hrs/Term
First Year	Fall	1 st Half	Core Curriculum - Genes	2	
			Core Curriculum - Proteins	2	
		2 nd Half	Core Curriculum - Cells	2	
			Elective Coursework*	2	
		Full	Professionalism, Responsible Conduct of Research, and Ethics I	1	
	Full	Laboratory Rotations	3	Semester Total: 12	
	Spring	1 st Half	Cancer Biology I	1.5	
			Advanced Elective Coursework*	1.5	
		2 nd Half	Cancer Biology II	1.5	
			Full	Professionalism, Responsible Conduct of Research, and Ethics II	1
		Full	Laboratory Rotations	6.5	Semester Total: 12
Summer		Research	6	Semester Total: 6	
Second Year	Fall	Full	Research	7	
			Independent Study: Core Knowledge	1	
			Work-In-Progress Seminar (WIP)	1	Semester Total: 9
	Spring	Full	Cancer Biology III	1.5	
			Research	6.5	
			Work-In-Progress Seminar (WIP)	1	Semester Total: 9
	Summer		Dissertation Research	6	Semester Total: 6
Third Year	Fall	Full	Dissertation Research	8	
			Work-In-Progress Seminar (WIP)	1	Semester Total: 9
	Spring	Full	Dissertation Research	8	
			Work-In-Progress Seminar (WIP)	1	Semester Total: 9
	Summer		Dissertation Research	6	Semester Total: 6
Fourth Year & Beyond	Fall	Full	Dissertation Research	8	
			Work-In-Progress Seminar (WIP)	1	Semester Total: 9
	Spring	Full	Dissertation Research	8	
			Work-In-Progress Seminar (WIP)	1	Semester Total: 9
	Summer		Dissertation Research	6	Semester Total: 6
Minimum Credit Hours for PhD					102

*Students are required to complete a total of 2.5 credit hours of elective and advanced elective coursework that can be chosen from any course within the Division of Basic Science.

For additional listings of elective and advanced elective courses available, see each program's course descriptions webpage.

If necessary, students may take up to a maximum of 3 elective courses in any given half term to accommodate the electives of their choice during the first year.