

Requirements for Modules

1. Departmental regulations require PhD students to participate in four (4) modules (5 for students enrolled prior to January 2012), including at least one experimental and one tutorial module, in specialized areas of Pharmacology unrelated to your specific research interest.
2. Students should select their modules from the department Module List (available on the Departmental website), in consultation with their supervisors and supervisory committee members **within the first eight months of their PhD program**, and these should be recorded on a “*Planned PhD Module Sessions*” form. Approval of both your Supervisor and the Graduate Coordinator is required.
3. A half course (which is IN ADDITION TO your required minor subject) may be counted in lieu of a maximum of one of the modules. Prior approval of the supervisor, supervisory committee and Graduate Coordinator is required.
4. The satisfactory completion of each module will be recorded for departmental files by return of the signed “*Completion of PhD Tutorial Session*” form (see Welcome Package).

GUIDELINES FOR COMPREHENSIVE MODULES

Ph.D. students in the Department of Pharmacology & Toxicology are required to complete four (or five) comprehensive modules. These modules are to be in different areas of basic pharmacology under the tutelage of staff members (other than the student's own supervisor).

Objectives

- To assure the student's competence in each module area at a level suitable for a Ph.D. in Pharmacology, but less than that of a specialist course.
- To provide the student with a personalized approach to the subject matter through experimentation, discussions with the module leader, independent study and directed reading.
- To give the student exposure to the expertise and research of staff members other than his/her supervisor.
- To fill deficits in the student's pharmacology education.

Module Content

The expectations of both student and module leader are outlined in the module description.

A written timetable or schedule for the session is highly recommended. The session should normally take place over a period of one month or less.

For tutorial modules, the tutor may choose any appropriate combination of responsibilities for the student (readings, writing, preparation of presentations, etc.) within the constraints of time and the objectives of the module. At least one of the required modules must be a tutorial.

For experimental modules, students may be asked to perform or observe experiments, participate in laboratory meetings, write reports in addition to appropriate background reading. At least one of the required modules must be experimental.

The student may choose to satisfy the requirements for a maximum of one module with an appropriate half course. Prior permission of the supervisor, supervisory committee and Graduate Coordinator is required.

Completion of each module will depend upon the module leader's satisfaction that the student has achieved the necessary level of competence in the area, including its relation to the broad area of Pharmacology.

Procedure, Duration

Following initial registration, the student is referred to the Departmental website, which lists the specific modules offered by Faculty members.

Within **eight months** of registration, the student must select, with the advice and approval of his/her Supervisor, Supervisory Committee and Coordinator of Graduate Studies, modules within areas of pharmacology that exclude his/her own research specialty.

In the initial interview between student and module leader, the module leader seeks out and indicates the student's area of weakness. The student and module leader then each prepare independently, and schedule meetings when ready.

Each module will likely require no more than one month, unless a course is substituted.

Students must complete their Module requirements by the end of their 3rd year of enrolment in the PhD program. It is strongly recommended that students schedule and complete these requirements in a timely fashion.

The student is responsible for reporting the beginning and completion of the module to the Coordinator of Graduate Studies. The following should be submitted to the Graduate Education Committee for approval:

1. New module areas or module leaders other than those listed;
2. A change of selected modules;
3. A module in the student's major area of interest or expertise, with reasons why this is appropriate;
4. Unusual tutorial formats;
5. Any other exceptions to the guidelines.