



Guidelines for the Master's program Neurosciences

Master's curriculum

For a general overview, please carefully read the module handbook which is available at our download area of the LMU GSN homepage ("MSc Modulhandbuch"). In general, students can apply for substituting mandatory courses. Applications have to be approved by Prof. Leibold, Head of the Examination Board, and handed in to the GSN office!

Guided lab work overview

Within the LMU Master program in Neurosciences several courses offer guided lab work. Especially, in modules P3, P7, P8, P9 and P12 students get introduced into all aspects of individual guided research projects. In general, students choose guided lab work courses according to the LMU Online Directory (<https://lsf.verwaltung.uni-muenchen.de>) or contact faculty members (<http://www.gsn.uni-muenchen.de/people/faculty>) directly.

Research Projects (modules P3, P7, P9)

Research Projects (RPs) must be performed in each semester before beginning the MSc thesis project. A RP is worth 6 ECTS (180 hours of workload). The goal is to obtain essential research skills, which include not only experimental skills, but also practice in completing a literature search, producing informative figures from raw data, writing reports in the form of a scientific manuscript. Students should be entrusted with small projects, ideally parts of ongoing research within the lab, which can be dealt with in the given amount of time (one semester). Most RPs will be completed as a full-time lab internship, but other arrangements are possible depending upon the project. In order to certify successful completion of a research project, please download the form sheet "Certificate Research Project.pdf" from the GSN website:

http://www.gsn.uni-muenchen.de/download/study_regs/index.html

Important things to keep in mind regarding Research Projects:

- The project workload should not exceed 6 ECTS! (full time internships: app. 6 weeks; no more than 8 weeks).
- RP lab time should not overlap with other coursework.
- Two consecutive RPs in the same lab are not recommended. (Exception: Preparatory year Fast Track students).

- A report must be delivered at the end of the RP and graded by the project supervisor.

Lab Rotation (modul P8)

According to the standard schedule of the ENB MSc Program in Neurosciences, each student has to perform a lab rotation in his/her 3rd semester. As the course is only worth 3 ECTS (= 90 hours of workload), it should not cover a substantial part of a scientific project, rather the goal is to participate in the daily lab routine. The focus should therefore be on methodical skills. A written protocol must be handed in and will be graded by the supervisor. In order to certify successful completion of a lab rotation, please download the form sheet “ConfirmationCourseParticipationMSc.pdf” from the GSN website:

http://www.gsn.uni-muenchen.de/download/study_regs/index.html

Master’s Thesis (modul P12)

According to the LMU Study Regulations, the master’s thesis should demonstrate a student’s ability to independently cope with an adequately demanding scientific question within a given time frame. **The time frame for a master’s thesis is 24 weeks (6 months).** There is only one examiner (usually the supervisor of the project) and an extension can only be given once upon official request, and only if the student is not responsible for being unable to meet their thesis due date. We will be quite strict regarding this point. Please, also note that you must be officially registered for the semester in which the thesis is submitted to the university.

Students must hand in three printed versions and one pdf of their completed thesis. After the master’s thesis has been handed in to the examination office, the head of the examination board will send a request of assessment to the examiner. Be sure to include the required MSc thesis pages and completed all required forms, which you can download from the GSN website:

http://www.gsn.uni-muenchen.de/download/study_regs/index.html

Next to the thesis lab work, the master student should regularly visit the host lab’s progress report/lab meetings while conducting their thesis work. Students are also required to give an oral presentation of their master’s project (P12.2 “Disputation”). Student performance during this presentation must be graded by the project supervisor, the results of which are reported using the same form as for a lab rotation (“ConfirmationCourseParticipationMSc.pdf”):

http://www.gsn.uni-muenchen.de/download/study_regs/index.html