



Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst
German Academic Exchange Service



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Doctorate



GGNB Neurosciences — IMPRS (MSc/PhD/MD-PhD)

University of Göttingen • Göttingen

Overview

Degree	Master of Science PhD (Division of Mathematics and Natural Sciences) or, alternatively, Dr rer nat MD-PhD (for medical students)
In cooperation with	Max Planck Institute for Multidisciplinary Sciences (MPI-NAT), Max Planck Institute for Dynamics and Self-Organization (MPI-DS), European Neuroscience Institute Göttingen (ENI-G), German Primate Center (DPZ), German Center for Neurodegenerative Diseases Göttingen (DZNE)
Teaching language	<ul style="list-style-type: none">English
Languages	English
Full-time / part-time	<ul style="list-style-type: none">full-time
Programme duration	8 semesters
Beginning	Winter semester
Additional information on beginning, duration and mode of study	After one year of intensive coursework, students of this integrated Master's/PhD programme can continue with a six-month thesis to obtain a Master of Science degree, or they can join the PhD part directly (fast-track option).
Application deadline	15 January of the year of enrolment
Tuition fees per semester in EUR	None
Combined Master's degree / PhD programme	Yes
Joint degree / double degree programme	No
Description/content	Study concept The integrated Master's/PhD programme offers excellent study and research conditions to prepare aspiring young scientists for professional careers in academia or science-related professions in the private or public sector. At every stage, the students are exposed to a broad spectrum of theoretical and practical training, individual counselling and guidance to prepare for taking well-informed

decisions on their next career steps.

Study content

In 36 lecture weeks (accompanied by tutorials), 20 methods courses during the first three months of the Master's programme, and three eight-week research projects (lab rotations), students gain in-depth knowledge in the following subject areas of neurosciences:

Molecular Biology, Neurogenetics, Physiology, Neuropharmacology, Neuronal Development, Neuroanatomy, Sensory, Motor and Clinical Neurosciences, Higher Brain Functions, Computational Neurosciences, Statistics.

Professional skills like good scientific practice, scientific writing, presentation techniques, design of scientific illustrations, and handling of experimental animals are taught in workshops and applied during lab rotations and reporting seminars.

All foreign students can participate in optional free German language courses, offered at different levels as introductory intensive courses and evening courses throughout the programme.

During the PhD studies, students benefit from the wide range of activities (scientific methods courses, professional skills workshops, industry excursions, language courses, etc.) offered by the [GAUSS](#) Graduate School and the [GGNB](#) Graduate Center.

Neuroscience programme annual retreats, the [Neurizons](#) student-organised international symposium and regular cultural nights add to a close personal and scientific exchange.

Financial Support

All MSc students receive a stipend from the Max Planck Society, with additional funds available during the doctoral studies.
For more info, see "Funding".

Counselling & support

Newly admitted students receive info letters in preparation for their studies, advice, and administrative support as part of a two-week orientation programme prior to the first year of study. Throughout their studies, students receive individual counselling from programme members regarding their course of study and the advancement of their skills, interests, and personal development.

Awards

The programme is regularly evaluated by independent external reviewers and has been rated as a model best practice example several times. Together with the Molecular Biology programme, it received the 2004 prize for excellent support services for foreign students by the Federal Foreign Minister and was awarded the label of "Top 10 International Master's Degree Courses Made in Germany" by "Stifterverband für die Deutsche Wissenschaft" and the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) in a national contest.

Course Details

Course organisation

The international programme is a joint venture of the University of Göttingen, the University Medical Center, the German Primate Center, the Max Planck Institute for Multidisciplinary Sciences and the Max Planck Institute for Dynamics and Self-Organization. Leading scientists of all partners offer research-oriented training across a broad spectrum of modern molecular life sciences with access to their state-of-the-art laboratories during methods courses and individually supervised research projects.

Intensive course programme in the first year

During the first year of research-oriented training, students earn 90 credits (ECTS) in a combination of theoretical and practical modules between October and July:

- [Lectures and Tutorials](#) (October to July)
- [Methods courses](#) (October to December)
- [Short presentations](#) by research groups (October to November)
- [Professional skills](#) (November to January)
- [Research projects / lab rotations](#) (January to June)
- [Master's seminar](#) (March to June)

The first year of study concludes with a written and two oral Master's examinations in August.

Integrated Master's/PhD concept

After successful completion of the Master's examinations, a six-month Master's thesis (30 credits ECTS) leads to the award of the Master of Science degree concluding the Master's programme after 18 months. The majority of students continues in the Molecular Biology programme with their PhD research without the need for panel-based admission interviews.

Alternatively, students who have passed the Master's examinations at the end of the first year with good or excellent results qualify for direct admission to a three-year doctoral project in one of the participating research groups without being required to complete a Master's thesis first (fast-track option).

A Diploma supplement will be issued	No
International elements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Language training provided • Training in intercultural skills • Projects with partners in Germany and abroad
Integrated internships	During the Master's year, all students carry out three lab rotations of eight weeks in the research labs of the programme or in research labs of participating local industry. During the doctoral phase, there is the option of research collaboration with other research institutions. A wide range of methods courses are offered in biochemistry, molecular biology, cell staining and imaging, electrophysiology, systems physiology, light and electron microscopy, and genetics.
Special promotion / funding of the programme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DAAD • ERASMUS+ • IMPRS
Name of DAAD funding programme	Stibet
Course-specific, integrated German language courses	Yes
Course-specific, integrated English language courses	Yes

Costs / Funding

Tuition fees per semester in EUR	None
Semester contribution	Fees are around 400 EUR per semester. The fees include a prepaid semester ticket that entitles students to use regional trains and city buses in Göttingen free of charge. Students of the University

of Göttingen receive discounts for cultural events. Meals and drinks are also available at reduced prices at all university canteens.

Fees

Semester ticket

Costs of living

The average cost of living in Göttingen is modest compared to other major university cities in Germany. Currently, expenses for accommodation, food, health insurance and books are approx. 900 EUR per month. Please note that fees for health insurance may vary according to age. Living expenses might be slightly higher. More information can be found at <https://www.uni-goettingen.de/en/the+cost+of+living+in+göttingen/54664.html>.

Funding opportunities within the university

Yes

Description of the above-mentioned funding opportunities within the university

Master's stipends: All students are supported by an International Max Planck Research School Stipend throughout their Master's studies unless they receive comparable scholarships from other sources. This stipend amounts to 934 EUR/month plus a health insurance subsidy of up to 100 EUR/month (in the case that their health insurance is not covered by their home insurance or family insurance).

PhD funding: During their PhD studies, students are usually funded by the supervising institution through work/funding contracts. The programme has a budget available for start-up, bridging, or wrap-up funding as needed.

Student activities: Budgets are available for students to attend international scientific conferences and student-organised, scientific or cultural events.

Requirements / Registration

Academic admission requirements

Previous education

- Bachelor's degree or equivalent
- 120 credits (ECTS or equivalent) at the time of application
- Eligibility: Degree programme in biology, physics, medicine, psychology, or a closely related discipline

Selection

The [online application portal](#) is open for each application round from 15 September to 15 January (start of studies: October).

In addition to the information on personal background and motivation and the upload of all relevant documents, the contact details of two reviewers for letters of recommendation should also be provided. The reviewers should be informed by the students in time about the planned application.

All applicants will be informed in the second half of January whether they have qualified for the second selection round (15-minute online interviews at the end of January).

During a third selection round in mid-February, admission decisions are made on the basis of two personal interviews (30 minutes each).

Applications are welcome even if the required degree has not been awarded by the time of application, as long as this will be conferred before courses start in October.

Language requirements	Very good knowledge of English is required. If English is not the native language, the language skills can be proven, for example, by an internationally recognised language test, an English-language Bachelor's degree or an extended stay in an English-speaking country. Knowledge of the German language is not required.
Application deadline	15 January of the year of enrolment
Submit application to	For online application: https://www.uni-goettingen.de/en/663688.html

Services

Accommodation	<p>The Accommodation Service of the International Office supports international students who are enrolled at the University of Göttingen in finding accommodation and serves as a point of contact for related queries. The Accommodation Service also publishes suitable offers from private landlords in Göttingen and collaborates with the Student Services ("Studentenwerk"). For further information, please see the following link:</p> <p>https://www.uni-goettingen.de/en/617883.html</p>
Structured research and supervision	Yes
Research training / discussion	Yes
Career advisory service	<p>By offering a wide range of services including a tailored workshop programme, the GAUSS Career Service is supporting careers in natural and life sciences – inside and outside of academia.</p> <p>More information about the services, the workshop & event schedule and general information about career planning can be found on the Career Service website.</p>
Support for international students and doctoral candidates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Welcome event • Buddy programme • Tutors • Cultural and linguistic preparation • Visa matters • Pick-up service
General services and support for international students and doctoral candidates	<p>A dedicated team of staff members provides a variety of support, individual counselling and career guidance.</p> <p>The programme offers help in finding accommodation as well as visa support and advice for all international students shortly after admission.</p> <p>A two-week orientation programme is offered prior to the start of lectures and courses. It provides assistance and advice for managing everyday life, including arrangements for bank account, health insurance, residence permit, housing, and enrolment. Students have the opportunity to meet faculty members and visit laboratories of the participating institutions. In addition, the orientation programme informs students about computing and library facilities, the city and university of Göttingen, sports facilities, and cultural events.</p>

Contact

University of Göttingen

MSc/PhD program & IMPRS Neurosciences

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🌐 Course website: <https://www.uni-goettingen.de/en/663688.html>

📘 <https://www.facebook.com/University.of.Goettingen>

🐦 <https://twitter.com/uniGoettingen>

🌐 <https://www.linkedin.com/school/-university-of-goettingen/>

📷 <https://www.instagram.com/unigoettingen>

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International Programmes in Germany - Database

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Disclaimer

The data used for this database was collected and analysed in good faith and with due diligence. The DAAD and the Content5 AG accept no liability for the correctness of the data contained in the "International Programmes in Germany" and "Language and Short Courses in Germany".

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