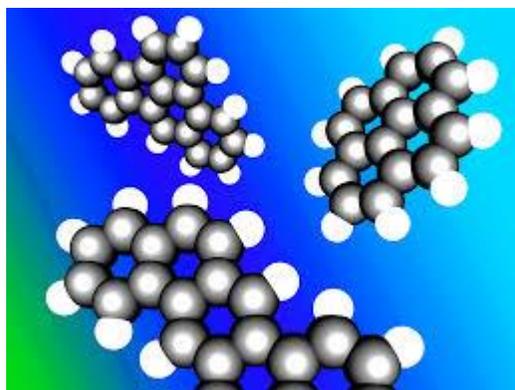


Student Handbook



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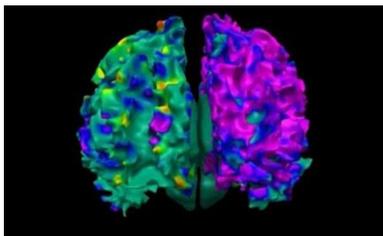
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Introduction:

The thirty Faculty members of our interdepartmental program come from sixteen different departments in the School of Medicine, the School of Public Health and the College of Letters and Science at UCLA. Members of our faculty also participate in the activities of the UCLA Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center, and the newly established California Nanosystems Institute. A major advantage of UCLA is that the above entities are all in close proximity to one another on campus, providing our students with a wide range of educational and research opportunities. Our students also participate in many of the activities of the other biomedical science doctoral programs at UCLA. Areas of particular strength in our program include chemical carcinogenesis, repair of DNA damage, air pollution toxicology, nanotoxicology, and the environmental causation of Parkinson's disease. The program is supported by a training grant from the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS). Our program is now in its fourteenth year. Students from our first nine years (2001-2009) have all graduated.

Scope & Objectives:

The mission of the UCLA Molecular Toxicology Interdepartmental Program is to train doctoral students to perform cutting edge research on the mechanisms whereby exogenous chemical and physical agents cause disease.



Research: Please see our website, <http://www.ph.ucla.edu/moltox/faculty.php> for information about research activities of our faculty, and other relevant information.

Career Opportunities:

All Molecular Toxicology students admitted in 2001 to 2009 have graduated, attesting to the effectiveness of our program at graduating students in a timely fashion. One of our graduates is an Assistant Professor at a major research university (Northwestern), twelve are pursuing postdoctoral studies, eight are scientists in major biotechnology companies, and one works for the US FDA.

Academic Information:

Admissions Requirements:

In addition to the [University's minimum requirements](#) and those listed above, all applicants are expected to submit the departmental application through the Schools of

Public Health Application Service (SOPHAS] and a statement of purpose.

Applicants should have an excellent record, perform satisfactorily on the Graduate Record Examination (GRE), have completed a minimum of a four-unit undergraduate course in statistics, and be acceptable to the admissions committee. Students who have not completed a statistics course may do after being admitted.

The ideal preparatory training is either a major in chemistry or biology and a solid background in both of these disciplines. Courses of value for toxicologists include the following: calculus, statistics, cell biology, genetics, physiology, microbiology, molecular biology, inorganic chemistry, organic chemistry, biochemistry, and physical chemistry. However, excellent students from all disciplines are considered for admission, and if admitted, there is the opportunity to make up deficiencies during their graduate study.

A master's degree is not a prerequisite for admission.

For application materials, go to the Fielding School of Public Health Student Affairs website at: <http://ph.ucla.edu/prospective-students>.

All application materials for the School's graduate programs are available online for electronic submission at <http://www.gdnet.ucla.edu> and at www.sophas.org. Students are admitted in the Fall Quarter only.

Standards and Procedures for Graduate Study at UCLA:

General regulations concerning graduate courses, standards of scholarship, disqualifications, appeals, leaves of absence, normal progress toward degree, withdrawals and other matters can be found at: <http://www.gdnet.ucla.edu/gasaa/library/spintro.htm>. The site also provides detailed information and sets forth general policies regarding completion of degree requirements, master's and doctoral committees, examinations and foreign language requirement.

Doctoral Degree Program Requirements:

Please refer to the [UCLA General Catalog](#), and the [Graduate Division website](#) for more detailed information regarding the degree requirements for the Ph.D. in Molecular Toxicology.

Time-to-Degree:

The normative time for the degree is 18 quarters (six years). It is expected that required coursework and the written and oral qualifying examinations are completed within nine quarters (three years). Students who fail to complete the dissertation within 18 quarters are placed on probation within the program.

Foreign Language Requirement: There is no foreign language requirement.

Teaching Experience:

All students obtain instruction in teaching skills by serving as teaching assistants or readers for one quarter, typically one quarter during the second or third year. Exceptions to the timing of teaching are considered by the program's Steering Committee.

Course Requirements:

Requirements for 1st Year Students:

Fall & Winter: First year Molecular Toxicology students can either take:

- Molecular Biology 254A & 254B in the fall and Molecular Biology 254C & 254D in the winter

OR

- Molecular and Medical Pharmacology M252A & M252B in the fall and Molecular, Cellular and Integrative Physiology M262A & M262B in the winter. Students should select between these two series in consultation with their graduate advisor.

Spring: First year Molecular Toxicology students take Environmental Health Sciences (EHS) C240 and Microbiology, Immunology and Molecular Genetics (MIMG) C234 in the spring quarter.

In all quarters of the first year students take a six-unit laboratory rotation (Molecular Toxicology 596) with their Faculty sponsor. The basis of grading for this course (letter grade or S/U) is determined by the advisor and should be discussed prior to enrolling.

In addition all Molecular Toxicology students enroll in the internal seminar series (Mol Tox 211A, B, & C) every quarter. Your grade in these courses will not be available until you have completed the last course in the series (211C) in the spring quarter.



Requirements for 2nd Year Students:

In the second year students take Molecular & Medical Pharmacology 237 in the fall quarter and Environmental Health Sciences M242 in the winter (this course can be taken in the third year if it is not offered in the second).

Starting with the second year, students spend most of their time on dissertation research. In addition

to the course requirements listed here, students are expected to complete Molecular Toxicology 596, and/or 597 during quarters in which research (596) or study for written or oral examinations (597) is part of the program. Molecular Toxicology 596 is for students who have not passed their oral examinations; 599 is for those who have passed their oral examinations and advanced to candidacy. Beginning in year 2, students also must enroll in Molecular Toxicology 296 each quarter. They may enroll in their advisor's section. If their advisor does not have a section on the schedule, then they should enroll in Dr. Hankinson's section (Mol Tox 296B).

Additional Course Requirements to be completed by the End of Year 2:

- All students are required to take one epidemiology course, unless the student has passed a course in epidemiology while an undergraduate or Master's student. This course can be Epidemiology 100 or another epidemiology course that is relevant to the student's area of research interest.
- Students who have not previously taken and passed a course in Public Health at the undergraduate or graduate level are required to complete one of the following options:
 1. Complete PH 150 (Contemporary Public Health Issues)
 2. Complete HPM 242 (Determinants of Health); or
 3. Attend 6 Grand Rounds presentations over the first two years. Students choosing this option can select the Grand Rounds they want to attend, but need to submit a brief written report to the Student Affairs Officer that includes the date and title of the Grand Rounds attending and a brief summary of its content. These reports should be submitted shortly after the Grand Rounds presentation so the department has a record documenting that this requirement has been met.

Requirements for 3rd, 4th & 5th year students:

Students take the Mol Tox 211 series, Mol Tox 296 (with their advisor), and Mol Tox 599 (after they have advanced to candidacy) each quarter during their third, fourth and fifth year. If the student has not advanced yet, then they should enroll in 596.

Molecular Toxicology Internal Seminar Series- Mol Tox 211A-C:

Students enroll in the Molecular Toxicology 211 (A-C) seminar series every year. 211A is offered each fall, 211B in the winter, and 211C in the spring. Each student must give a seminar to present their research once a year as part of the 211 requirements. Your grade in these courses will not be available until you have completed the last course in the series (211C) in the spring quarter.

Students must attain a grade of B- or better in all core courses and a B average overall and must pass all core courses (excluding courses offered every other year)

within two years of entering the program, unless there are mitigating circumstances that prevent this; such cases are reviewed by the Faculty Advisory Committee

Research Credits:

The student enrolls in Mol Tox 596 for research before the Written Qualifying Examination under the Advisor during quarters acceptable to both student and Advisor. After the student has come into doctoral candidacy, the appropriate course for credit is Mol Tox 599.

The conduct of the research must meet the current UCLA regulations relative to human subjects, animal experimentation, radioactivity, and chemicals/physical/biological hazards as appropriate. Interdisciplinary research is encouraged.

Representative Electives:

Neuroscience M201: Cell, Developmental, and Molecular Neurobiology (6): (Same as Molecular, Cell, and Developmental Biology M220 and Neurobiology M200B.) Lecture, six hours. Fundamental topics concerning cellular, developmental, and molecular neurobiology, including intracellular signaling, cell-cell communication, neurogenesis and migration, synapse formation and elimination, programmed neuronal death, and neurotropic factors. Letter grading.

Epidemiology 100: Principles of Epidemiology (4)

Lecture, two hours; discussion, four hours. Preparation: one full biological sciences course. Not open for credit to students with credit for course 200A, 200B, or 200C. Introduction to epidemiology, including factors governing health and disease in populations. Letter grading.:

Pathology and Laboratory Medicine 294- Basic Concepts in Oncology (4): Lecture, three hours. Fundamental biological, genetic, and molecular process involved in genesis and growth of cancer cells, and diagnosis, characterization, and treatment of cancer. Letter grading.

Written and Oral Qualifying Examinations: Academic Senate regulations require all doctoral students to complete and pass University written and oral qualifying examinations prior to doctoral advancement to candidacy. Also, under Senate regulations the University oral qualifying examination is open only to the student and appointed members of the doctoral committee. What follows in this section is how students are required to fulfill all of these requirements for the Molecular Toxicology doctoral program.

Written Qualifying Exam:

This examination will usually typically be taken towards the end of the student's second year at UCLA. Both a written and oral qualifying examination is required. The format for the written qualifying examination will consist of a NIH-style research proposal on a

topic which is approved by members of the Thesis Committee. The Thesis Committee will consist of four faculty members including the student's advisor, who will serve as the Chair.

The written proposal will be an original research proposal consisting at a minimum of the following sections:

1. **Statement of the Proposal:** A concise statement should be given regarding the aims and goals of the proposal. This will provide the committee with a clear understanding of the proposed studies and rationale (approximately 1 page).
2. **Background and Significance:** This section will cover the background and significance of the research topic. This should not be a comprehensive review of the research area. It should, however, provide enough background on the subject to allow the committee to evaluate the relevance and novelty of the proposal. Key references should be included (approximately 4 pages).
3. **Methods:** In this section, the student should state the specific questions being asked and describe experimentally how these questions will be addressed. Sufficient experimental detail should be provided such that the committee can evaluate the student's understanding of the techniques. A brief discussion of the legitimacy and appropriateness of the proposed methods (versus others) should be provided, and the merits and limitations of the methods are should be discussed (this may not be necessary for routine or widely utilized techniques). This section should also include a discussion of the interpretation of the possible results of the proposed experiments (approximately 5 pages).

Conclusion: A brief discussion of how the results of the proposed studies may further the field of Molecular Toxicology should be provided (approximately 1 page).

Nomination of Doctoral Committee:

A doctoral committee, consisting of at least four faculty members who hold professorial appointments at UCLA, is nominated when students are ready to take the University Oral Qualifying Examination. The student's adviser serves as the chair. At least two of the faculty must be tenured. Three of the four must hold appointments in the Molecular Toxicology IDP; one must be an outside member. After passing the University Oral Qualifying Examination, students may be advanced to candidacy and commence work on a dissertation in the principal field of study. The doctoral committee supervises the progress toward completion of the dissertation.

Specific Regulations for IDP Committees:

1. The three committee members from the student's "department" must be selected from a list of faculty members who actively participate in the program. This list will be

prepared by the Chair of the Interdepartmental Degree Committee and submitted to the Graduate Division at the beginning of each fall term.

2. The one "outside" member will be selected from eligible UCLA faculty whose names do not appear on the list of faculty members who actively participate in the interdepartmental program.

3. Two different departmental affiliations must be represented among the four members of the doctoral committee.

Oral Qualifying Exam:

The oral examination of the written proposal will allow the Thesis Committee to fully evaluate the ability of the student to discuss the subject matter in a scholarly fashion. The student must be able to defend the validity and importance of the proposed research as well as the experimental approaches taken. The oral qualifying examination also provides the Thesis Committee the opportunity to specifically address perceived weaknesses in the student's educational background as well as evaluate the student's communication skills. Thus, it is expected that students will be able to both write about and verbally discuss his/her research proposal and experiments in a manner commensurate with someone receiving a Ph.D. in Molecular Toxicology.

Advancement to Candidacy:

After successful completion of coursework and written and oral examination requirements, students are advanced to candidacy and begin work on a dissertation based on original research.

Final Oral Examination (Defense of Dissertation):

A final oral examination is required of all candidates.

Required Forms and Timing:

Action	Form to File With Student Affairs Officer	When to File Form
Report on Written Qualifying Exam & Completion of PhD Coursework	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See Department SAO 	Notify SAO of date of exam and it will be provided to your Committee
Nomination of Doctoral Committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See Department SAO 	Must be submitted at least 4 weeks before oral qualifying exam

Report on Oral Qualifying Exam & Advancement to Candidacy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See Department SAO 	Request from SAO prior to exam. Submitted by SAO after completion of exam
Report on Final Oral Examination	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See Department SAO 	Notify SAO of date of exam and it will be provided to your Committee
File Dissertation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See Graduate Division Website 	By May 31 to participate in Commencement

Financial Support and Funding:

The Molecular Toxicology IDP is responsible for providing the stipend and fees for all incoming students for the first nine months of their first year. Students will receive a stipend (currently \$31,500/year) plus fees. The Molecular Toxicology IDP payments for the first nine months will come from Graduate Division funds, the NIEHS training grant, and certain other funds. From month 10 onwards, the stipend and fees for each student are the responsibility of the student's thesis mentor, and will be obtained from training grants, teaching assistantships, grants to the mentor, and other sources.

If during the first nine months, a student does not receive his/her monthly stipend, he/she should pursue the following process in an attempt to get the problem resolved.

- (i) He/she should first speak to the Mol Tox SAO (Rebecca Greenberg) to ascertain whether a lack of payment is due to an administrative glitch.
- (ii) If this does not solve the problem he/she should discuss the matter with the Molecular Toxicology Graduate Student Advisor (currently Professor. Michael Collins) and/or the Chair of Mol Tox (Professor Oliver Hankinson).
- (iii) If this does not solve the problem, he/she should go to the Chair of EHS (Professor Michael Jerrett).

Academic Apprentice Personnel:

“Academic apprentice personnel” are academic student employees (Readers, Tutors, and Teaching Assistants) and Graduate Student Researchers (GSRs). These apprenticeships

are intended to provide qualified students with relevant training experience for academic and academic-related careers in teaching and research and to augment limited resources from within the University for graduate student support. As a matter of University policy, academic apprentice personnel are considered primarily as students being professionally trained, and graduate student status takes precedence over University employment.

Many students obtain part time academic personnel positions as Special Readers, Teaching Assistants or Graduate Student Researchers with faculty either at the Fielding School of Public Health or elsewhere on campus. Students who are appointed to academic personnel positions for at least 25% time and enrolled in a minimum of 12 units may be eligible to receive fee remissions.

Please refer to the [Academic Apprentice Personnel Manual](#) or the following site for detailed information on employment opportunities, policies and benefits, including fee remissions: <https://grad.ucla.edu/funding/working-at-ucla/>.

Working over 50% time:

Graduate Students must have approval from the Department to work over 50% time. Students will need to coordinate with the Department Student Affairs Officer to file the appropriate paperwork. A letter of support from the Faculty Advisor is required to work over 65% time. Approval from the Graduate Division is required to work over 75% time.

****It is the student's responsibility to inform the Department of any campus positions that they have accepted and any funding that they are receiving. You must provide this information to the Department's Student Affairs Officer****

Please click on links below for specific information:

- [Support for Continuing Students](#)
Brochure & application forms.
- [ASE Appointment Opportunities](#)
Anticipated student employee openings & union agreement.
- [Summer Research Mentorship](#)
Summer support for doctoral students in the humanities & social sciences.
- [Funding Opportunities](#)
Extramural support, online funding databases, & proposal consultants.
- [Graduate Work-Study Program](#)
Support for academic research projects.
- [Bruin Direct Deposit](#)
Authorization form for direct deposit of stipend payments.
- [Tax Information & Forms](#)
UCLA tax information and forms for fellowship recipients



Student Affairs:

Student Services/Advising:

An academic adviser is assigned to each new student. The adviser meets with the student each quarter to discuss academic progress. Once the student is accepted into the laboratory of one of the participating faculty within the program, that faculty member then becomes the student's adviser.

- *Molecular Toxicology IDP*: Rebecca Greenberg is the Student Affairs Officer for the Molecular Toxicology IDP. Her contact information is as follows:

Office: 56-085 CHS

Phone: (310) 206-1619

Email: rgreenberg@ph.ucla.edu

- *The Fielding School of Public Health Student Affairs Office* provides oversight and guidance of school-wide and departmental graduate program affairs, including admissions processing, degree processing, class scheduling, funding, orientation and graduation preparations, and general counseling to prospective, new and continuing students.

Location: A1-269 CHS

Hours: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday 10am-3pm (closed Wed)

Phone Number: (310) 825-5524

- *Faculty Advisor*: Dr. Michael Collins is the Faculty Advisor for those students who have not been assigned to a lab.

Official Materials from the University:

You will receive many documents from the University stating deadlines, offering opportunities, etc. It is your responsibility to observe the deadlines, and take any action that is required. This is especially important for work-study, financial aid, traineeships, filing deadlines, etc. For the most current deadlines, go to the online schedule and calendar at <http://www.registrar.ucla.edu/calendar/>.

Registration:

Registration consists of paying fees and enrolling in classes.

1. Registration fees and other University charges are due the 20th of each month. BAR (Billing and Receivable) accounts can be viewed through www.my.ucla.edu.
2. Enrollment in classes is completed via MyUCLA at www.my.ucla.edu.

Students must complete both processes by the established deadlines to be officially registered and enrolled for the term.

Graduate students must be either registered & enrolled or on an official leave of absence every term until their degrees are awarded. As an exception, certain graduate students may be eligible to pay the filing fee (see below). Failure to register or be on an official leave of absence for any term constitutes withdrawal from UCLA.

Paying Fees:

Your registration fees (and non-resident tuition, if applicable) are due via your BAR account by

September 20 (Fall quarter), December 20 (Winter quarter) and March 20 (Spring quarter). Credit card payments may be made online using MyUCLA online. If registration fees are not paid in full by the payment deadline, a \$50 late registration fee is assessed and classes are dropped in accordance with the drop class deadline. If you enroll in classes and pay registration fees after Friday of the second week of classes, both the \$50 late registration fee and a \$50 late Study List fee are assessed.

Details on fee payment, enrollment procedures, and deadlines are in the Schedule of Classes at <http://www.registrar.ucla.edu/schedule/>.

Miscellaneous Fees: For information on miscellaneous fee charges, such as BruinCard replacement, collection fees, late changes to courses/study lists, etc., visit:

<http://www.registrar.ucla.edu/fees/miscfee.htm>.

eBill

BAR accounts are administered electronically (eBill) through MyUCLA. Monthly financial activity is displayed for the current month as well as past account activity for the last 24 months. MyUCLA also includes a link to the [Student Accounts website](#) where students can find important communications from the University regarding registration and University policies.

Enrollment/ MyUCLA:

Students enroll in classes through MyUCLA, which is accessed at <http://www.my.ucla.edu>. MyUCLA gives students real-time access to their University academic, personal and financial records. Enrollment-related tasks, such as adding,

dropping, or exchanging classes, signing onto the wait list for a class, checking waitlist status, or changing the grading basis for a class can also be done through MyUCLA.

Enrollment Deadlines:

The deadlines are always on Friday of the following weeks of every quarter:

Week 2: Enrollment in all coursework.

Week 3: Fee charged for course changes, such as adding courses, dropping courses, and changing the grading basis for courses.

Week 10: Additional fee charged for adds, drops and grading basis changes.

After week 10: Requesting retroactive adds or drops to any courses after week 10 is a long and complicated procedure with NO guarantee of approval.

Study List:

UCLA refers to your class schedule as a “study list”. All UCLA students are required to have a “study list on file”, which mean that you must be enrolled in at least one unit by the end of the 2nd week of classes. Any student who is not enrolled in at least one unit by the end of the 2nd week of classes will be assessed a \$50 late study list fee when they attempt to enroll. Please be aware that this fee will be charged even if you paid the \$50 late registration fee. After the 2nd week of classes, your student record will be “locked” out of enrollment, and you will have to (1) go to the Student Affairs Office to pick up a form, (2) get written instructors’ permission to enroll in each class at this late date and (3) submit the from, in person, to the Registrar’s Office in Murphy Hall. You will not be able to process any enrollment activities until your student record is unlocked. You can go to [MyUCLA](#) online to view your study list. Note: you can print your study list to provide proof of enrollment in class. You should check your study list each quarter to make sure that you are enrolled in classes.

Normal Progress/Full-time Graduate Program:

A normal load is 12 units per quarter; a minimum of 8 and maximum of 17.5 units are permitted. Students can request permission to take additional units by filing a blue petition. Students are directed by the department to enroll full time whenever possible. Academic student employees (ASEs) and graduate student researchers (GSRs) are required to be registered and enrolled in at least twelve quarter units throughout their appointments. Those assistants who take a leave of absence or withdraw terminate their appointments. Course 375 for teaching assistants, and independent studies at the 500-level for graduate student researchers, may be included in reaching the eight or twelve-unit load. Graduate students holding special fellowships must be enrolled in at least twelve units, both before and after advancement to candidacy. The twelve units required per quarter may include, among others, courses in the 500 series (individual study or research).

Filing Fee:

If a student has completed, while registered, all requirements for a degree except the filing of the thesis or dissertation and/or the final examination (master's comprehensive or doctoral final oral examination), the student may be eligible to pay a Filing Fee during the quarter in which the degree is to be awarded, instead of registering. The current cost for the filing fee is \$170.00. Students must petition and be granted approval to pay the filing fee. The filing fee application must be submitted by the end of the second week of the quarter. For more detailed information on the filing fee requirements, visit:

<https://grad.ucla.edu/gasaa/etd/filingfee.htm>.

- [Filing Fee Application](#)

Students may only pay the filing fee one time. If the student doesn't complete their final degree requirements during the quarter in which they paid the Filing Fee, they will need to apply for readmission to their program. Upon readmission, they will need to register and enroll in order to complete their degree. They will no longer be eligible for a Filing Fee.

Leave of Absence:

Continuing graduate students in good academic standing (3.0 GPA or above) who have completed at least one quarter of academic residence at UCLA, may petition to take a leave of absence. The leave must be approved by the student's home Department and the Graduate Division. Graduate students are allowed a maximum of three quarters of official leave of absence.

Federal policy governing students on F-1 and J-1 visas restricts leaves of absence to certain conditions. Therefore, the Dashew Center for International Students and Scholars, in consultation with the Graduate Division, individually evaluates each international graduate student request for a leave of absence to determine that it meets federal (and University) eligibility criteria.

Students on approved leave of absence are not permitted to use faculty time or make use of University facilities for more than 12 hours since their last registration and are not eligible for apprentice personnel employment or other services normally available to registered students. There is no need to apply for readmission, since the approved leave is for readmission to a specific term. The Registrar's Office notifies students about registration information for the returning term.

To petition for a leave of absence, students must fill out a "[Leave of Absence Request](#)" form, obtain the appropriate signatures, and submit it to the FSPH Student Affairs Office. For more details on the University's Leave of Absence policy, visit:

<http://www.gdnet.ucla.edu/gasaa/library/loa.htm>

Establishing California Residency (US Citizens & Permanent Residents only):

Domestic students who are not California residents will need to establish residency to avoid assessment of nonresident tuition. In order to establish residency, certain requirements must be met. Please refer to the Registrar's web page: (<http://www.registrar.ucla.edu/faq/residencefaq.htm>) or call the Residence Deputy at (310) 825-3447 for complete details on establishing California Residency. This is very important. Otherwise, you may have to pay non-resident tuition during your second year.

Data sheet:

The Fielding School of Public Health requires that a data sheet is completed quarterly. The FSPH Student Affairs Office will send reminders out regarding this. Failure to complete this in a timely manner may result in an academic hold being placed on your record.

Grading:

UCLA grades for graduate students are A, B, C, F, and I. Grade point averages are computed on the basis of 4 points for an "A", 3 points for a "B", 2 points for a "C", and 0 points for an "F". Only courses in which a grade of C- or better is received may be applied toward the requirements for a master's degree.

Once an Incomplete (I) grade is assigned, it remains on the transcript along with the passing grade students may later receive for the course. The instructor may assign the "I" grade when work is of passing quality but is incomplete for a good cause (such as illness or other serious problem). It is the student's responsibility to discuss with the instructor the possibility of receiving an "I" grade as opposed to a nonpassing grade.

If an "I" grade is assigned, students may receive unit credit and grade points by satisfactorily completing the coursework as specified by the instructor. Students should not reenroll in the course; if they do, it is recorded twice on the transcript. If the work is not completed by the end of the next full term in residence, the "I" grade lapses to an F, NP, or U as appropriate.

Academic Probation:

A graduate student may be disqualified from continuing in the graduate program for a variety of reasons. The most common is failure to maintain the minimum cumulative grade point average (3.0) required by the Academic Senate to remain in good standing (note that some programs require a higher grade point average). Other examples include failure of examinations, lack of progress toward the degree, poor performance in core courses, etc. Probationary students (those with cumulative grade point averages below 3.0) are subject to immediate dismissal upon the recommendation of their department. Check the [Standards and Procedures for Graduate Study](#) at UCLA for more information.

English as a Second Language Placement Exam (ESLPE):

The ESLPE (English as a Second Language Placement Examination) is required of all entering UCLA graduate students whose first language is not English and who have not otherwise satisfied the ESL requirement. The “Graduate Admissions Checklist” that comes with the acceptance letter gives a link to information on whether a student needs to take the exam or contains a paragraph instructing the student to take the exam. For more information, visit:

<http://www.internationalcenter.ucla.edu/home/handbook/181/226/eslpe>.

Test of Oral Proficiency (TOP):

Students who plan to work as a teaching assistant (TA) at UCLA and are non-US citizens must pass the TOP before working as a TA in any department at UCLA. All non-citizens are considered international students. This includes permanent residents. However, international students who have earned a bachelor’s degree from a U.S. university are exempt from taking the TOP. If you believe that you should receive an exemption from taking the TOP for any other reason (e.g., native speaker of English), please contact your home departmental Student Affairs Officer/Academic Advisor directly to request an exception from the Graduate Division. For more information, visit:

<http://www.oid.ucla.edu/training/top>.

Student Complaints and Academic Grievances:

A grade may be appealed, on any reasonable grounds, to the instructor, the chair of the department, and the dean of the school or division. If the student believes that the instructor has violated the Faculty Code of Conduct by assigning the grade on any basis other than academic grounds, the matter should first be taken up with the instructor. If the matter is not resolved, the student may go for counsel to the Office of Ombuds Services or may follow the procedures for the formal filing of charges. If a charge is sustained by the Academic Senate Committees on Charges and on Privilege and Tenure, an ad hoc committee is appointed within two weeks to review the disputed grade, and any warranted change is made within four weeks.

Academic Dishonesty:

Some students may incorrectly assume that academic dishonesty is a minor infraction. It is a serious matter that must be dealt with by instructors aggressively. For more information, visit our university’s Academic Dishonesty website:

<http://www.oid.ucla.edu/programs/facultydev/teachersguide/academicdishonesty>

Ordering Transcripts:

Official academic and verification transcripts can be ordered by mail, in person or online through [MyUCLA](#). For more information on ordering transcripts, visit:

<http://www.registrar.ucla.edu/forms/>.

Change of Name or Address:

Students who wish to change their name on official University records should fill out a [UCLA Legal Name Change or Correction form](#) and submit it with the required supporting documentation to the Registrar's Office Student Services. All name changes are recorded on the transcript. If students change their address, they should update their address through [MyUCLA](#).

Student Life & Resources:

2015-16 Academic Calendar:

Fall Quarter 2015

Quarter begins	Monday, September 21
Instruction begins	Thursday, September 24
Study List deadline (becomes official)	Friday, October 9
Veterans Day holiday	Wednesday, November 11
Thanksgiving holiday	Thursday-Friday, November 26-27
Instruction ends	Friday, December 4
Common final exams	Saturday-Sunday, December 5-6
Final examinations	Monday-Friday, December 7-11
Quarter ends	Friday, December 11
Christmas holiday	Thursday-Friday, December 24-25
New Year's holiday	Thursday-Friday, December 31-January 1
Winter campus closure (tentative)	December 28-30

Winter Quarter 2016

Quarter begins	Monday, January 4
Instruction begins	Monday, January 4
Study List deadline (becomes official)	Friday, January 15
Martin Luther King, Jr, holiday	Monday, January 18
Presidents' Day holiday	Monday, February 15
Instruction ends	Friday, March 11
Common final exams	Saturday-Sunday, March 12-13

Final examinations	Monday-Friday, March 14-18
Quarter ends	Friday, March 18

Spring Quarter 2016

Quarter begins	Wednesday, March 23
Cesar Chavez holiday	Friday, March 25
Instruction begins	Monday, March 28
Study List deadline (becomes official)	Friday, April 8
Memorial Day holiday	Monday, May 30
Instruction ends	Friday, June 3
Common final exams	Saturday-Sunday, June 4-5
Final examinations	Monday-Friday, June 6-10
Quarter ends	Friday, June 10

BruinCard (Student ID):

[BruinCard](#) is the official campus identification for UCLA, and is required for all students, faculty, and staff. Your BruinCard also serves as your library card, recreation card, door access card, and much, much more! (www.bruincard.ucla.edu)

MyUCLA:

MyUCLA is a customized portal web page where students can access real-time class schedules, grades, campus appointments, traffic and weather information, check their UCLA e-mail account and link to campus events and resources.
www.my.ucla.edu

International Students:

Federal regulations governing policy and procedure of visa issuance and maintenance for international students and scholars make it especially important for these individuals to maintain contact with international student and scholar counselors and advisers following their arrival on campus. UCLA students, postdoctoral fellows, and visiting scholars from abroad are encouraged to visit the UCLA Dashew Center for International Students and Scholars (<http://www.internationalcenter.ucla.edu>). The Dashew Center for International Students and Scholars provides a mandatory orientation program that helps international students and scholars pursue their goals while at UCLA.

The Dashew Center also provides specialized services, counseling, and programs for all international students and scholars, from the time of their arrival to their departure. They offer services such as orientation for new students, help in locating affordable housing, English conversation classes, programs for the families of international scholars,

assistance with questions regarding immigration issues, employment, financial aid, tax matters, and cultural adjustment, as well as a number of other topics.

Student Mailboxes:

Each student has their own mailbox in the EHS Student Room (56-081). This is to be used for educational and University purposes only.



Student Lockers:

Lockers are available for EHS students in the EHS Student Room (56-081). They are assigned on a first come, first served basis. Students will need to provide their own combination lock and must give the Department's Student Affairs Officer the combination number (for emergency use only). Students are prohibited to store food in their lockers overnight. Any food stored for the day must be sealed.

Graduate Writing Center:

The Graduate Writing Center offers free writing consultation to graduate and professional school students at all levels and in all disciplines, as well as writing workshops on a variety of topics. Meet with a trained and experienced writing consultant to work on writing issues ranging from style and argumentation to grammar and syntax. The graduate writing consultants will work with you to develop your writing confidence and your writing skills. <http://gsrc.ucla.edu/gwc/>

Additional Writing Resources for FSPH Students:

Strong communication skills, including the ability to write clearly and concisely for different audiences, are essential tools for all public health professionals. Click [here](#) for a list of writing resources for FSPH Graduate Students and PH/EHS Minors

Arthur Ashe Student Health and Wellness Center:

All registered graduate students may use the Arthur Ashe Student Health and Wellness Center, an outpatient clinic geared to the special needs of students at UCLA. The Ashe Center offers a full range of clinical and support services, most of which are prepaid by student registration fees. The clinical staff is comprised of highly qualified doctors, nurse practitioners, and nurses. For more information, visit: <http://www.studenthealth.ucla.edu>

Medical Insurance Requirement:

Health Insurance is mandatory for all UCLA registered students and a condition of enrollment. The UC Student Health Insurance Plan (UC SHIP) is a comprehensive medical insurance program offered to UCLA students. All registered students are automatically enrolled in UC SHIP. Students who have comparable insurance and do not want to keep UC SHIP as dual coverage, must submit a request to waive enrollment by the specified deadline. For more information, visit: <http://www.studenthealth.ucla.edu/CustPages/Insurance.aspx>

UCLA Counseling and Psychological Services:

CAPS professionals provide a safe, confidential place to discuss concerns or problems interfering with personal growth and academic achievement. They offer a range of counseling and clinical services designed to meet students' varied mental health needs throughout the year. For more information, visit: <http://www.counseling.ucla.edu/>.

FSPH Career Services Office:

The mission of the Career Services Office is to facilitate the career development process for Fielding School of Public Health students through individual counseling sessions, workshops, employer presentations, career fairs and online job postings. For more information, visit their website at: <http://ph.ucla.edu/current-students/career-development> or contact:

Arlecia Powell-Halley, M.S.
Career Services Office
UCLA Fielding School of Public Health
Box 951772
Los Angeles, CA 90095-1772
Phone: 310-206-7158
Fax: 310-825-0472
Email: aphalley@ph.ucla.edu

UCLA Career Center:

The UCLA Career Center provides a wide range of programs and services exclusively for UCLA students. Your academic studies are based upon the career you want to develop, so discussing options when you arrive will give you the edge in the competitive job market. The Career Center provides services such as: individual career counseling, workshops, and online resume critique. For more information, visit: <http://career.ucla.edu>.

Bruin OnLine (BOL):

Bruin OnLine (BOL) is a collection of services that provides UCLA students, faculty, and staff with e-mail, web hosting services, network connectivity (including wireless), and free software and support. For more information, visit: www.bol.ucla.edu

Walk-in Consulting: Kerckhoff Hall, Suite 124
Telephone Technical Support: (310) 267-HELP (4357)

BruinTech:

The purpose of [BruinTech](#) is to help faculty, students, and staff navigate the diversity of UCLA information technology (IT) services and organizations. The web site reflects the dynamic nature of IT on campus by spotlighting current views and events.

Borrowing a CLICC Laptop:

The Campus Library Instructional Computing Commons (CLICC) offers technology and support for UCLA students, faculty, and staff. CLICC provides services such as laptop lending, printing, study room reservations, projector loans, video kits, computer stations, and a wide variety of instructional software. For more information, visit:

<http://www.clicc.ucla.edu/tiki-index.php?page=Borrow+a+Laptop>.

Office for Students with Disabilities (OSD):

The Office for Students with Disabilities (OSD) is designed to meet the unique educational needs of regularly enrolled UCLA students with documented permanent and temporary disabilities. The philosophy and mission of the program is to encourage independence, assist students in realizing their academic potential, and to facilitate the elimination of programmatic and attitudinal barriers. For more information, visit:

<http://www.osd.ucla.edu/>.

Molecular Toxicology IDP Course Descriptions:

2015-16 Molecular Toxicology IDP Schedule of Classes:

This schedule is subject to change. Please visit the on-line Schedule of Classes for the most up to date course offerings:

<http://www.registrar.ucla.edu/schedule/schedulehome.aspx>

Biological Chemistry 254A: Concepts in Molecular Biosciences (3)

Lecture, three hours; discussion, two hours. Five-week course covering four basic experimental approaches of biochemistry and molecular biology in context of various specific topics, including (1) structural biology, with protein and nucleic acid structure and molecular recognition, (2) use of cell-free and purified in vitro systems to dissect reaction mechanisms, (3) biochemical approaches to dissecting complex reactions/pathways in cells, and (4) enzymology and protein chemistry. Letter grading.

Biological Chemistry 254B: Concepts in Molecular Biosciences (3)

Five-week course. Lecture, three hours; discussion, two hours. Enforced prerequisite: course 254A. Important biological problems that have been genetically analyzed in different organisms or small number of related problems. Major genetic approaches used in relevant organisms, including both forward and reverse genetic approaches, genetic interactions between genes (genetic enhancers and suppressors), transgenic technology, and systematic genomic strategies. Letter grading.

Biological Chemistry 254C: Concepts in Molecular Biosciences (3)

Five-week course. Lecture, three hours; discussion, two hours. Enforced prerequisites: courses 254A, 254B. Molecular mechanisms underlying complex problems in cell biology. Experimental approaches used to define mechanisms involved in protein targeting, cell structure and subcellular organization, cell communication, and

intracellular signaling. Analysis of pathways that connect these cellular processes. Letter grading.

Biological Chemistry 254D: Concepts in Molecular Biosciences (3)

Five-week course. Lecture, three hours; discussion, two hours. Enforced requisites: courses 254A, 254B, 254C. Application of biochemical, molecular biological, genetic, and cell biological approaches to understand specialized topics in life and biomedical sciences, including developmental disease, stem cell biology, synaptic transmission in nervous system, cancer, and heart disease. Letter grading.

Environmental Health Sciences C240: Fundamentals of Toxicology. (4)

Lecture, four hours. Essential aspects of toxicology with emphasis on the human species; absorption, distribution, excretion, biotransformation as well as basic toxicological process and organ systems will be discussed. Letter grading.

Microbiology, Immunology and Molecular Genetics CM234: Ethics and Accountability in Biomedical Research (2)

The course focuses on situations arising in the laboratory that may present ethical dilemmas for graduate students. (Students may take this course any time in their first two years of study.)

Environmental Health Sciences M242: Toxicodynamics (2)

(Same as Molecular Toxicology M242.) Lecture, one hour; discussion, one hour. Preparation: undergraduate biology and chemistry courses. Requisite: course C240. Examination of recent literature on mechanisms of toxicity or toxicodynamics. Student presentation of papers selected by instructor on various aspects of toxic mechanisms, including free radical mechanisms, mechanisms of cell death, metal toxicity/ion homeostasis, intracellular pH and calcium regulation, stress and adaptive pathways, DNA repair/mutagenesis, carcinogenesis, and teratogenesis. Discussion of various papers. S/U or letter grading.

Microbiology, Immunology, and Molecular Genetics C234: Ethics and Accountability in Biomedical Research (2)

Seminar, two hours. Designed for graduate students and undergraduates who have credit for life sciences or biomedical individual studies 199 course. Responsibilities and ethical conduct of investigators in research, data management, mentorship, grant applications, and publications. Responsibilities to peers, sponsoring institutions, and society. Conflicts of interest, disclosure, animal subject welfare, human subject protection, and areas in which investigational goals and certain societal values may conflict. Concurrently scheduled with course C134. S/U grading.

Molecular and Medical Pharmacology 237: Research Frontiers in Cellular and Molecular Pharmacology (6)

Lecture, six hours; laboratory, five hours total. Detailed examination of principles of pharmacology and mechanisms of drug action at organismal, tissue, cellular, and

molecular levels, with emphasis on receptors, receptor/effector coupling, neurotransmitters, cardiovascular pharmacology, autonomic and central nervous system pharmacology. Letter grading.

Molecular and Medical Pharmacology M252A: Molecular Mechanisms of Human Diseases I (4)

(Same as Molecular, Cellular, and Integrative Physiology M252A.) Lecture, four hours. Preparation: prior satisfactory molecular biology coursework. Corequisite: course M252B. Fundamental concepts and methodologies in modern biology, with emphasis on implications and relevance to human disease and integration of biology with mechanisms underlying disease development and applications in therapy as they apply to cancer biology, infectious disease, and modern biological approaches. Letter grading.

Molecular and Medical Pharmacology M252B. Seminar: Molecular Mechanisms of Human Diseases I (2)

(Same as Molecular, Cellular, and Integrative Physiology M252B.) Seminar, two hours. Corequisite: course M252A. Reading, review, and discussion of primary research literature addressing fundamental concepts and methodologies in modern biology, with particular emphasis on implications and relevance to human diseases of topics presented in course M252A. Letter grading.

Molecular, Cellular, and Integrative Physiology M262A. Molecular Mechanisms of Human Diseases II (4)

(Same as Pharmacology M262A.) Lecture, four hours. Preparation: prior satisfactory molecular biology coursework. Corequisite: course M262B. Fundamental concepts and methodologies in modern biology, with emphasis on implications and relevance to human disease and integration of biology with mechanisms underlying disease development and applications in therapy as they apply to neurological, cardiovascular, and metabolic diseases. Letter grading.

Molecular, Cellular, and Integrative Physiology M262B. Seminar: Molecular Mechanisms of Human Diseases II (2)

(Same as Pharmacology M262B.) Seminar, two hours. Corequisite: course M262A. Reading, review, and discussion of primary research literature addressing fundamental concepts and methodologies in modern biology, with particular emphasis on implications and relevance to human diseases of topics presented in course M262A. Letter grading.

Molecular Toxicology 211A-C: Molecular Toxicology Seminar (1)

All Molecular Toxicology students will be required to attend two toxicology seminar series, each of which will meet once per month during the academic year. The first series consists of presentations by outstanding toxicological researchers from outside UCLA. Collectively, the Molecular Toxicology graduate students are responsible for selecting and inviting one "Graduate Students - Invited Lecturer" each year.

The second series consists of internal seminars presented by toxicology students and postdoctoral fellows. Trainees will be required to both attend this seminar, and give a presentation. Since we anticipate a total of about 18 Molecular Toxicology pre- and post-doctoral students, each trainee will present about once every two years in this series.

Molecular Toxicology 296A-E: Research Topics in Molecular Toxicology (2)

One of sections A to E is chosen. These are research group meetings. Students give presentations to their research group members on their current research. This provides an opportunity for the students to acquire skills presentation skills in a supportive environment, and to receive expert input into the progress of their research. Research group meetings occur weekly for about 1.5 hours. S/U grading:

- 296A. Chemical Toxicology
- 296B. Molecular Carcinogenesis
- 296C. Teratogenesis
- 296D. Molecular Topics in Boron Biology
- 296E. Germ Cell Cytogenetic/Genetic Biomarkers
- 296F. Genetic Toxicology
- 296G. Laboratory Analysis

Molecular Toxicology IDP Faculty Research Interests:

Patrick Allard, Ph.D.

Society and Genetics, Environmental Health Sciences - [Full Biography](#)

In the Allard laboratory, we are using the nematode *C. elegans* to uncover mechanisms of germ cell maintenance and differentiation. By developing and applying novel genetic, cellular and molecular tools in the nematode, we attempt to gain fast mechanistic insight on germline genes and pathways that are disrupted during environmental exposure. We are also interested in exploring environmental influence on other aspects of cellular differentiation and function. For example, we are examining the effect of environmental chemicals on the deregulation of fat homeostasis, in particular exposures to compounds leading to fat accumulation ("obesogens").

Anne M. Andrews, Ph.D.

Psychology and Biobehavioral Science - [Full Biography](#)

Dr. Andrews' research is centered on the investigation of therapeutics, drugs of abuse, neurotoxins, and environmental factors to probe the molecular basis of serotonin system function associated with the etiology and treatment of mood and anxiety disorders.

Jesus A. Araujo, MD, Ph.D.

Medicine, Environmental Cardiology - [Full Biography](#) - In The News: [Article 1](#)

Dr. Araujo's research program focuses on the study of genetic and environmental factors involved in vascular oxidative stress and atherosclerosis, including the dissection of molecular mechanisms responsible for the cardiovascular toxicity of air pollutants.

Jeff Bronstein, M.D., Ph.D.

Neurology

Jeff Bronstein received his bachelor's degree from the University of California, Berkeley and M.D. and Ph.D. from UCLA as a recipient of the Medical Scientist Training Program Award. He completed a residency in Neurology and fellowship training in Movement Disorders at UCLA and at Queens Square in London. Dr. Bronstein also completed a postdoctoral fellowship in molecular biology before being appointed an Assistant Professor of Neurology in 1994 and Director of the Movement Disorders Program in 1996 at UCLA. His clinical interests include the management of Parkinson's disease (PD) and other movement disorders, surgical treatment of PD, and developing new therapies for patients. Dr. Bronstein's research interests include the study of the causes of PD (environmental and genetic) using cell and zebrafish models as well as population-based studies. His research is supported by the NIH, Veteran Administration, and private foundations. Dr. Bronstein is the Principle Investigator of one of 6 National Parkinson's Disease Centers (PADRECC) at the Veterans Administration Medical Center, is a project PI of the UCLA Collaborative Center for Parkinson's Disease Environmental Research (CCPDER) funded by the NIEHS and is an Investigator in the UCLA Udall Center.

Gautam Chaudhuri, M.D.

OB/GYN and Pharmacology

Dr. Chaudhuri's research focuses on the mechanism by which estradiol and nitric oxide modulate various physiological functions and the signal transduction pathways involved.

Marie-Francoise Chesselet, Ph.D.

Neurobiology; Charles H. Markham Professor, Neurology - [Full Biography](#)

Dr. Chesselet's laboratory explores molecular mechanisms leading to neurodegenerative diseases of the basal ganglia, such as Huntington's disease and Parkinson's disease. She is interested in the mechanisms by which environmental toxins, specifically agricultural pesticides, may interact with genetic risk factors to cause increased risks of Parkinson's disease. This work is primarily conducted in mouse models of Parkinson's disease but also involves neuronal cultures.

Catherine Clarke, Ph.D.

Chemistry and Biochemistry - [Full Biography](#)

Coenzyme Q (also known as ubiquinone or Q) is a lipid component of cellular membranes that plays an essential role in the respiratory electron transport chain. Dr. Clarke studies the biosynthesis, regulation, and function of Q in the yeast *Saccharomyces cerevisiae*.

Michael Collins, Ph.D.

Environmental Health Sciences - [Full Biography](#)

Research in Dr. Collins' laboratory is concerned with aspects of developmental toxicology or teratology.

Ben J. Glasgow, M.D.

Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine/Ophthalmology
Dr. Glasgow's research focuses on Molecular and Cytogenetic Studies of Ocular Melanoma

Hilary Godwin, Ph.D.

Environmental Health Sciences - [Full Biography](#)
Dr. Godwin's research focuses on the basic chemical and biological mechanisms by which toxic metal ions affect neurological signaling and development and the mechanisms by which nanoparticles enter living systems and impact biological processes.

Oliver Hankinson, Ph.D.

Molecular Toxicology Ph.D. Program Director , and Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine - [Full Biography](#)
Dr. Hankinson's research focuses on the mechanism of carcinogenesis by polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (found in cigarette smoke and smog) and dioxin (a widespread pollutant and related compounds, using molecular biology, cell culture and animal model systems.

Louis J. Ignarro, Ph.D.

Molecular and Medical Pharmacology - [Full Biography](#)
Dr. Ignarro's research is directed toward elucidating mechanisms of regulation of nitric oxide (NO) production and cytotoxicity in macrophages, vascular cells, and tumor cells.

David Krantz, Ph.D.

Psychiatry and Biobehavioral Sciences - [Full Biography](#)
Dr. Krantz uses Drosophila to study how changes in the function of neurotransmitter transporters may influence synaptic transmission and behavior.

Shaily Mahendra, Ph.D.

Civil and Environmental Engineering
Research interests lie in the area of microbial interactions with chemical contaminants and nanoparticles for applications ranging from ecotoxicology to biodegradation to disinfection.

William McBride, Ph.D.

Radiation Oncology - [Full Biography](#)
Dr. McBride's research focuses on degradation of proteins through the proteasome system and the inhibitory effects of exposure to radiation, and other agents.

William Melega, Ph.D.

Molecular and Medical Pharmacology - [Full Biography](#)
Dr. Melega studies the molecular mechanisms of neurodegenerative diseases and drug addiction.

Sabeeha Merchant, Ph.D.

Chemistry and Biochemistry - [Full Biography](#)

Dr. Merchant studies the biochemistry and molecular genetics of metal metabolism.

Jeffrey H. Miller, Ph.D.

MIMG - [Full Biography](#)

Dr. Miller's group is interested in understanding how mutations occur in cells of bacteria, and how cells avoid mutagenesis with different repair strategies. We are also interested in understanding repair systems in humans, and how defects in these systems lead to cancer.

Andre Nel, MD, Ph.D.

Medicine - [Full Biography](#) - In The News: [Article 1](#)

Dr. Nel's research focuses on the adverse effects of particulate pollutants, including manufactured nanoparticles and diesel exhaust particles, to the lung.

Suzanne E. Paulson, Ph.D.

Atmospheric Sciences

Dr. Paulson's group is investigating generation of reactive oxygen species by ambient particulate matter, mapping air pollution in urban microenvironments, and investigating aerosol optical properties.

Srinivasa Reddy, Ph.D.

Medicine and Molecular and Medical Pharmacology- [Full Biography](#)

My laboratory is interested in understanding the expression and regulation of enzymes involved in arachidonic acid (lipid) metabolism, and their role in the development of cardiovascular diseases

Virender Rehan, M.D.

Department of Pediatrics, Harbor-UCLA Medical Center

Research interests include neonatal lung injury/repair with a special emphasis on lung injury repair following exposure to insults such as hyperoxia, infection, and nicotine.

Beate Ritz, MD., Ph.D.

Epidemiology and Environmental Health - [Full Biography](#)

Dr. Ritz's primary research interests are the effects of occupational and environmental toxins such as pesticides, ionizing radiation, and air pollution on chronic diseases including neurodegenerative disorders (Parkinson's disease), cancer, and adverse birth outcomes.

Wendie Robbins, Ph.D.

Nursing/ Environmental Health Sciences

Dr. Robbins' research focuses on the molecular mechanisms of environmentally induced germ cell genetic damage and the development of biomarkers to detect and measure this damage in human sperm cells

Michael Roth, M.D.

Medicine

Dr. Roth's research focuses on the toxicology of inhaled substance abuse.

Robert Schiestl, Ph.D.

Pathology/ Environmental Health Sciences - [Full Biography](#)

Dr. Schiestl's work centers mostly on basic mechanisms, genetic control, and inducibility by environmental carcinogens and nanoparticles of homologous and illegitimate recombination, which are molecular events involved in carcinogenesis.

Ram Raj Singh, M.D.

Medicine-Rheumatology

Dr. Singh's clinical interests include SLE, scleroderma, vasculitis, rheumatoid arthritis, ankylosing spondylitis, and myositis. His research interests include SLE, myositis, scleroderma and autoimmune disease.

Xia Yang, Ph.D.

Integrative Biology and Physiology - [Full Biography](#)

Dr. Yang's research focuses on identifying key regulatory genes and gene networks that mediate the effect of genetic and environmental perturbations on metabolic diseases using high-throughput genomic and computational approaches. Dr. Yang is also interested in applying similar approaches to pharmacogenomic and toxicogenomic studies to understand the genomic architecture of drug metabolism, drug response, and toxicity.

Zuo-Feng Zhang, Ph.D.

Epidemiology - [Full Biography](#)

Dr. Zhang's research interests focus on molecular genetic epidemiology of cancers of the lung, bladder, prostate, esophagus, stomach, liver, head and neck cancer, cervix, and AIDS-related malignancies. His research team is working on the role of mutations, methylations, and polymorphisms of genes in the development of cancer. The major focus of his research group is to evaluate the main effects of these genes on the risk of cancers and to assess potential gene-environment interactions. Dr. Zhang is also interested in risk and protective factors for major cancers such as cancers of the lung, esophagus, stomach, and liver in Chinese population, nutrition and cancer, epidemiology of second primary cancers, methodological issues in the use of tumor markers in cancer epidemiology, and the application of tumor markers in progression and survival of cancer.