

PATHOBIOLOGY

Dual-Titles

Dual-Title Ph.D. in Pathobiology and Clinical and Translational Sciences

Requirements listed here are in addition to requirements listed in GCAC-208 Dual-Title Graduate Degree Programs (<https://gradschool.psu.edu/graduate-education-policies/gcac/gcac-200/gcac-208-dual-titles/>).

Doctoral students with research and educational interests in clinical and translational science may apply for the Dual-Title Ph.D. Degree in Pathobiology and Clinical and Translational Sciences (CTS) following admission to the Graduate School and Pathobiology and prior to taking the qualifying examination in Pathobiology. After admission to their primary program, students must apply for admission to and meet the admissions requirements of the CTS dual-title program. Refer to the Admission Requirements section of the CTS Bulletin page (<http://bulletins.psu.edu/graduate/programs/majors/clinical-translational-sciences/>).

This dual-title degree program emphasizes interdisciplinary scholarship at the interface of basic sciences, clinical sciences and human health. Students in the dual-title program are required to have two advisers from separate disciplines: one individual serving as the primary mentor in the graduate program in Pathobiology and another individual serving as the secondary mentor in an area covered by the dual-title program who is a member of the CTS faculty.

To qualify for the dual-title degree, students must satisfy the degree requirements for the degree they are enrolled in Pathobiology. In addition, students must complete the degree requirements for the dual-title in CTS, listed on the CTS Bulletin page (<http://bulletins.psu.edu/graduate/programs/majors/clinical-translational-sciences/>). Up to 6 credits of course work may be double-counted as elective courses to meet the requirements for the Ph.D. in Pathobiology.

For students in the dual-title program, the qualifying examination will include content from both the Graduate Program in Pathobiology and the CTS programs and will be completed with the other Pathobiology students in the third semester. The qualifying examination committee for the dual-title Ph.D. degree will be composed of Graduate Faculty from Pathobiology and must include at least one Graduate Faculty member from the CTS program. Faculty members who hold appointments in both programs' Graduate Faculty may serve in a combined role. There will be a single qualifying examination, containing elements of both Pathobiology and CTS. Dual-title graduate degree students may require an additional semester to fulfill requirements for both areas of study and, therefore, the qualifying examination may be delayed one semester beyond the normal period allowable.

In addition to the general Graduate Council requirements for Ph.D. committees (<http://gradschool.psu.edu/graduate-education-policies/gcac/gcac-600/phd-dissertation-committee-formation/>), the Ph.D. committee of a Pathobiology and CTS dual-title Ph.D. student must include at least one member of the CTS Graduate Faculty. Faculty members who hold appointments in both programs' Graduate Faculty may serve in a combined role. If the chair of the Ph.D. committee is not also a member of the Graduate Faculty in CTS, the member of the committee representing CTS must be appointed as co-chair. The CTS

representative on the student's Ph.D. committee will develop questions for and participate in the evaluation of the comprehensive examination.

Students in the dual-title program are required to write and orally defend a dissertation on a topic that is approved in advance by their Ph.D. committee and reflects their original research and education in Pathobiology and CTS. Upon completion of the doctoral dissertation, the candidate must pass a final oral examination (the dissertation defense) to earn the Ph.D. degree. The dissertation must be accepted by the Ph.D. committee, the head of the graduate program, and the Graduate School.