

INTERDEPARTMENTAL GRADUATE PROGRAM IN DYNAMICAL NEUROSCIENCE

<http://www.dyns.ucsb.edu>

College of Letters and Science

University of California, Santa Barbara

Student Name: _____

Perm: _____

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY – DYNAMICAL NEUROSCIENCE – 2026-27

In addition to departmental requirements, candidates for graduate degrees must fulfill University requirements described in the “Graduate Education” section of the UCSB General Catalog.

*Upon matriculation, students must specify their selected area of specialization. A minimum of **38.0 units** is required for the Ph.D. The Ph.D. requirements are designed to provide maximum flexibility to accommodate individual student interests while also assuring a basic level of competence within Dynamical Neuroscience. Ph.D. candidates follow an integrated course of study recommended by their faculty sponsor (main advisor). The dissertation committee will be nominated by the end of the second year in consultation with the student and the main advisor. It will consist of at least three UC Academic Senate members. Two members of the committee must be tenure-track faculty members from the Dynamical Neuroscience Program, with the main advisor serving as chair or co-chair. The student may petition to have one UC Academic Senate member from outside the program on the his/her committee; this member may serve as co-chair. Time-to-degree: 3 years to advance to candidacy, 5 years to complete the Ph.D.*

CORE COURSE REQUIREMENTS (16.0 units total)			
Students must achieve a grade of “B” or better in CORE COURSES			
COURSE #	COURSE NAME	UNITS	GRADE
ECE 230A/ME 243A	Linear Systems I	4.0	
MATH 214A	Ordinary Differential Equations	4.0	
PSY 265/221F	Computational Neuroscience	4.0	
PSY 269 or MCDB 251	Neuroanatomy Neurobiology I	4.0	

ELECTIVE UNITS			
At least 16.0 additional units of graduate coursework in dynamical neuroscience and in the student’s area of specialization, exclusive of courses numbered 596-599. These courses will be individually selected from the Approved Elective List or additional research-related UCSB coursework may be petitioned to be included as Elective Units. Petitioned Elective Courses must be with the written approval and signature of both the student’s faculty advisor and the Chair of the DYNs Program using the DYNs petition template. It is advised to get pre-approval prior to taking the course.			

Enrollment in the Dynamical Neuroscience Graduate Seminar every quarter that the student is in residence at UCSB.		
COURSE #	COURSE NAME	FULFILLED

DYNS 592	Graduate Seminar in Dynamical Neuroscience	
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WRITTEN QUALIFYING EXAM

Satisfactory performance on a written qualifying exam covering a broad synthesis of dynamical neuroscience at the end of the second year. This is a one-day exam that may cover any of the core course areas and the student's area of specialization.

Ph.D. Written Qualifying Exam passed on (date): _____

ORALS AND ADVANCEMENT TO CANDIDACY

Satisfactory performance on an oral qualifying exam administered by the student's dissertation committee shortly after passing the written qualifying exam. The exam may include a discussion of the dissertation prospectus proposal. It should be taken by the end of the third year of study, at the latest. Students petition to be advanced to candidacy after passing both parts of this exam.

Ph.D. Oral Qualifying Exam passed on (date): _____

DISSERTATION PROSPECTUS.

Members of the dissertation committee must approve and sign the dissertation prospectus. The Proposal is submitted to the DYNS Staff Graduate Advisor and becomes part of the student's file.

Dissertation Prospectus approved by all the committee members on (date): _____

CAPSTONE REQUIREMENT

Students are required to write an original Ph.D. dissertation that demonstrates the candidate's ability to contribute significantly and independently to the field of dynamical neuroscience and the student's area of specialization. A public defense of the dissertation will be required of Ph.D. candidates. It may be waived only with the unanimous consent of the candidate's doctoral committee and the approval of the Graduate Council. Required coursework must be completed by the end of the quarter in which the dissertation is submitted. The student's Ph.D. Committee supervises the dissertation research, administers the dissertation defense, and certifies the completion of required coursework.

Doctoral Committee: Chair: _____

Member: _____

Member: _____

Additional Member (optional): _____

PH.D. DEGREE REQUIREMENTS SATISFIED: _____
Quarter/Year

DEPT GRADUATE ADVISOR SIGNATURE: _____

Print Name