Environmental Genetics and Molecular Toxicology (EGMT) Division
UC Department of Environmental Health (DEH)

Qualifying examination process effective for the incoming class of 2011

Students will complete course work, rotations, and English Proficiency Exam (if applicable) and choose a lab in which to do their thesis research by the end of their first summer in the program.

The qualifying exam will consist of a written examination (i.e. students will have 8 hours to answer questions submitted by DEH faculty), followed by an oral exam based on, but not limited to, the content and concepts of the written questions. The students will take the written exam prior to the beginning of Fall Semester classes. The oral exam will be administered by an examination committee at a mutually-agreeable time (not to exceed 1 month) following the written exam. Each student will be examined individually by the same committee. The committee will consist of 3-5 DEH faculty plus one committee member from outside DEH. Students will not receive a grade on the written exam, but the committee will make a pass/fail judgment after weighing each student’s performance on both parts of the exam. If the student is deemed to have failed the exam or is required to undergo further examination, then (s)he will have one more chance to pass the exam prior to the end of Fall Semester.

Following successful completion of the Qualifying Exam, each student must file a statement of intent with the Degrees committee and select a dissertation committee. Ideally, the dissertation committee will consist of 4 DEH faculty members and one member from outside DEH, working in an area related to the dissertation research project of the student. Each student must have his/her first thesis committee meeting within 2 months of completion of the qualifying exam, and should meet regularly with the committee, at intervals of not more than 6 months. A report of each thesis committee meeting must be filed with graduate studies and sent to the EGMT graduate studies director. Each student must complete at least 7 semester credit hours of Dissertation research prior to graduation.

mbg/revised 5/12