

Fast track Ph.D. program (Status: 04.04.2024)

Holders of a B.Sc. degree with an overall grade point average of “very good” are permitted to start a Ph.D. project directly after completing their Bachelor studies. Initially, they will be admitted to a one-year preparatory program. This preparatory program is equivalent to the regular Master program and will include the oral exams. Completion of the oral exams with an average grade of at least “good”, allows admission into the IGB Ph.D. program (usually 3 to 5 years). If the average grade of the oral exams is below “good”, then the student is permitted to change into the regular Master program.

Organizational steps:

1. **Find a Ph.D. thesis supervisor** in the International Graduate School of Biosciences (IGB) and identify funding for the Ph.D. thesis.
2. **Apply for the IGB Ph.D. program** as a Ph.D. candidate (see separate information sheet). For admission to the Fast track Ph.D. program with a Bachelor of Science degree, the grade point average must be “very good”.
If the student already passed certain modules or exams during a Master program, these can be accredited in the preparatory program if equivalent.
3. **Register into the IGB Ph.D. program** at the RUB student administration office.
4. **Preparatory program** (Course curriculum see below) and oral exams: Applications for the oral exams have to be submitted to the dean’s office. The same deadlines as in the regular Master program apply. A certificate documenting all performed modules, exams and the date of completion of the preparatory program will be issued.
5. **Ph.D. research program:** After completing the preparatory program, the candidate enters into the Ph.D. program, where all regulations of the Ph.D. program of the International Graduate School of Biosciences apply. Submission of your Ph.D. thesis proposal and it’s defense in front of IGB members is to be completed within the first 6 months after completing the preparatory program. The successful defense of your thesis proposal completes the admission procedure.

Preparatory study program (for B.Sc. degree holders)

1. and 2. semester (47 CH, 60 CP)		record of performance	CH	CP
L,P,S	Advanced module or equivalent modules	Certificate of success	13	10
L,P,S	Special module or equivalent modules	Certificate of success	18	15
L,P,S	Compulsory optional module	Certificate of success	8	10
L,P,S	BioPlus		4	5
	Oral exams			
	In-Depth Study of Biological Content I			10
	In-Depth Study of Biological Content II			5
	In-Depth Study of Interdisciplinary Content			5
Total			43	60

L = Lecture, P = Practical, S = Seminar, CH = Contact Hours (per week per semester), CP = Credit Points