Learning Plan for Masters and PhD students
in the Graduate Program in Neuroscience

This Learning Plan supports you in developing and articulating your learning experience and skill development. The plan should be completed by you in consultation with your supervisor, discussed at supervisory committee meetings, reviewed annually and revised as needed.

The goal of the Graduate Program in Neuroscience is to prepare you for a successful career inside or outside of academia. There are many different facets to becoming a successful researcher or professional. One must develop a wide range of intellectual and interpersonal skills as well as a strong knowledge base. Some aspects of the training are not found in textbooks, journals, and courses, or in the work documented in a thesis. A researcher must learn to develop new ideas and new approaches to succeed. They must be able to respectfully engage with other researchers, research participants, or patients, and communicate their findings. They must also learn how to be an effective and supportive team member, mentor and, at the PhD level, take ownership of their research efforts.

The Learning Plan is designed to help you plan and reflect upon the activities that will be undertaken during the academic year, and to consider how these activities will contribute to the degree and program requirements as well as to your professional goals.

Please take some time to think about your learning goals and activities first and then meet with your supervisor to discuss. The completed form should be submitted to the Graduate Coordinator at ubc.neuroscience@ubc.ca by October 15 of your start year in the program.

Graduate Program in Neuroscience Learning Plan

Date:

Program/year:

Trainee's Name:

Supervisor's Name:

Supervisor home department:

Part A Learning Plan: Outline of Goals, Skills & Requirements

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Please list the required courses that the student will complete or has already completed and the marks obtained (where applicable). This includes core courses NRSC 500 and 501, electives if applicable, and any other courses required by UBC or the Faculty of Medicine, such as the mandatory Responsible Conduct of Research Course (RCR, https://grad-postdoc.med.ubc.ca/current-students/research-conduct-course/), the TCPS2 tutorial Course on Research Ethics (https://ethics.gc.ca/eng/education_tutorial-didacticiel.html), Biosafety Training (https://srs.ubc.ca/health-safety/research-safety/biosafety/biosafety-training/), etc. MSc students must complete 18 credits and PhD students must complete 12 credits to graduate.

COURSE	Term taken	Mark		COURSE	Term taken	Mark
NRSC 500						
NRSC 501						
RCR						

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Neuroscience

OTHER USEFUL WORKSHOP/SKILLS RECOMMENDATIONS:

ADDITIONAL LEARNING GOALS

For the following section, please think about some activities and goals that you would like to complete and achieve within the coming year. Examples of activities and goals could include, but are not limited to: performing a literature review, acquiring a specific technical skill, learning statistical methods, completing course work, giving a conference presentation, participating in a professional development workshop or event, completing the comprehensive examination.

The list is meant to promote reflection and discussion about the activities that you will undertake during a given academic year, and how they will contribute to your mastery of some of the degree-level expectations. Please be as specific with regards to steps and training as you can, and please reach out to the program at ubc.neuroscience@ubc.ca if you are unsure of some of the resources available to you.

The first table has been filled for you as an example.

	Description	Timeline	Completed
Goal	To improve scientific writing		
Steps/ Training	• Independently work through materials provided on the UBC webpage for STEM Writing Resources for Learning (https://scwrl.ubc.ca/) • Complete at least one workshop through the UBC Centre for Writing and Scholarly Communication (https://writing.library.ubc.ca/graduates/workshops-and-retreats/)		
Outcomes	Ability to independently write a manuscript		

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	Description	Timeline	Completed
Goal			
Steps/Training			
Outcomes			

	Description	Timeline	Completed
Goal			
Steps/Training			
Outcomes			

	Description	Timeline	Completed
Goal			
Steps/Training			
Outcomes			

	Description	Timeline	Completed
Goal			
Steps/Training			
Outcomes			

Feel free to add more if required.

TRICOUNCIL CONSENT for HIGHLY QUALIFIED PERSONNEL (HQP)

When faculty apply to NSERC, SSSHR, or CIHR for research grants they are required to provide a list of students ("highly-qualified personnel", HQP) who they have supervised. They cannot use your name without your consent. If you consent to your name being included amongst the supervised trainees, please sign the following statement:

☐ I hereby give permission to my supervisor to include limited personal data about me in grant applications submitted for consideration to NSERC for the next six years. This limited data will only include my name, type of HQP training and status, years supervised or co-supervised, title of the project or thesis and, to the best of my supervisor's knowledge, my position title and company or organization at the time the application is submitted. I understand that NSERC will protect this data in accordance with the Privacy Act, and that it will only be used in processes that assess my supervisor's contributions to the training of highly qualified personnel (HQP), including confidential peer review.

Part A and B of this form has been reviewed by both the Trainee and Supervisor.

Trainee Signature: Supervisor Signature:

_____   _____

Date: Date:

_____   _____

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Neuroscience