Are you obligated to take part in a PhD-program or courses?
How is a PhD program structured?
When do you need to apply for it?
Can you take "left-over" key-competence credits from the Master to the PhD if you stay in Goettingen?

How is a PhD funded?
How are the opportunities for a scholarship?
How to find PhD offers?
How do I best proceed to find a topic that interests me?
What are fair/appropriate conditions?

Any tips for preparing for a PhD interview?
What does a "good" application look like?

What jobs did (your) former PhD students find with their PhD?
Are the fields somewhat related?
What are some other options we have outside the PhD?

(How to) do a PhD in biological sciences

Must the PhD subject study be in the same field of research as the Master thesis subject?
Is it still realistic to get into a PhD program after a (few) year(s) of working in a different sector?
How important is the reputation of the PhD-lab for future applications?
How do I recognize a good supervisor?
What aspects should we look for when choosing a PhD supervisor?
Find a project & supervisor

- expand the project of your master thesis
- approach the professor whose work impressed you
- find a PhD advertisement

Stellenwerk (jobportal Uni Göttingen)
bioblog
jobvector
discipline-specific societies and platforms
Find funding

- provided by supervisor
- apply for a fellowship

- e.g. Studienstiftung des Deutschen Volkes
- Böhringer-Ingelheim Fond (basic biomedical research)
- Animal Minds Project (behavior and cognition)
- Stipendien- und Förderberatung [https://www.uni-goettingen.de/de/410591.html](https://www.uni-goettingen.de/de/410591.html)
- BMBF Stipendienlotse [https://www.stipendienlotse.de](https://www.stipendienlotse.de)
Formalities

- Which programme?
- Admission requirements
- Application procedure
- Thesis committee
- Credits
- Duration
- Enrollment at UniGö
Programmes of Biology
Depends on the affiliation of your supervisor

RerNat-O (2018)
Admission requirements

- completed Master's degree (or eligible degree)
- Master thesis in mathematics or natural science (min. 6 month)
Application procedure

- See webpage of each programme:

  Biology - Basic programme: Dr. Anke Schürer  
  https://www.uni-goettingen.de/en/415855.html

  Biodiversity: PD Dr. Dirk Gansert  
  https://www.uni-goettingen.de/de/37268.html

  Behaviour & Cognition: Dr. Rebecca Jürgens  
  https://www.uni-goettingen.de/de/217295.html

  GGNB: Michaela Wasmuth  
  https://www.uni-goettingen.de/en/415855.html
Thesis Advisory committee (TAC)

- 3 members
  - first supervisor: listed in the respective programme
  - second supervisor: GAUSS admission or individual examination accreditation necessary (not in the same working group as first supervisor)
  - third supervisor (PhD)

Check on GAUSS webpage:
https://www.uni-goettingen.de/en/577092.html
TAC meetings

- regulary reports
- presentation on the progress of the project
- organized by the Phd student itself
- at least once a year
- first progress report ca. 6 month after beginning
Good to know:

- Duration: three years + extension possible (2 x 6 month)
- Enrollment: as PhD student registered at the university the whole period of a dissertation
- Credits: at least 20 C according to the regulations of the programme

  for example:
  - colloquia & seminars
  - teaching
  - conferences & symposia (poster, talk)
  - key competence courses
  - lab courses
  - mandatory: seminar „good scientific practice”
GGNB
Application and Admission Process(es)
Apply for a PhD project in GGNB

- no application deadlines - PhD projects can start throughout the year
- eligible to apply to GGNB if:
  - already secured a doctoral position with a GGNB faculty member; apply within max. **3 months** after the start of the PhD project, or
  - successfully established contact to a GGNB faculty member who has expressed an interest in your application; apply **up to 4 months before** the planned start of the PhD project
GGNB programs
The program depends on the GGNB affiliation(s) of your supervisor and the topic of your PhD project.

Simplified admission procedure possible for
Two ways to admission:

a) Regular procedure:

„Master's degree” with very good grades in the natural sciences or mathematics, including a Master's thesis with a minimum duration of six months

For MSc degrees from abroad, faculties may request the fulfillment of add. requirements before the admission to doctoral studies

admission talk in front of three members of the respective program
Two ways to admission:
b) „Vereinfachtes Verfahren“ (simplified procedure):

Done your Master’s in Göttingen and overall score < 2.0 in

- „Developmental Neural and Behavioral Biology“
- „Molecular Life Sciences“
- „Molecular Biology“
- „Neurosciences"

interview with one of your TAC members
(who is not your supervisor)
How to apply?

I) Complete the application form on our GGNB website:

Application process:

a) **I. Complete the application for admission.** Please note that the Supervision Agreement (which is provided after filling the online application) must only be completed and signed after admission.

b) If you have been enrolled at the University of Göttingen before, you can login via eCampus to access the pre-filled form.
II) Have documents ready to upload:

- Master and Bachelor certificates and transcripts
- Statement by supervisor
- English proficiency certificates
- short abstract of your PhD thesis (1/2-1 page)
  (if you apply for Molecular Biology of Cells, Cellular and Molecular Physiology of the Brain or Systems Neuroscience)
Office(s) processing your application:

- **GGNB**: Michaela Wasmuth, Justus-von-Liebig-Weg 11, rooms 0.226a/b, ggnb@gwdg.de (all applications except for programs below)
  - **PBCS**: Am Fassberg 11, tower 6, rooms E17.1 and E20 imprs-pbcs@gwdg.de
  - **Genome Science**: Am Fassberg 11, tower 4, room 2.04 imprs-gs@gwdg.de (application deadline!)
  - **Molecular Medicine**: Robert-Koch-Str. 40, Level 1 D1 room 211 sekretariat.molmed@med.uni-goettingen.de

Contact (currently):

- E-mail, (phone)
- Office hours: by appointment only