Anatomy

Dual-Titles

Dual-Title Ph.D. in Anatomy and Clinical and Translational Sciences

Requirements listed here are in addition to requirements listed in GCAC-208 Dual-Title Graduate Degree Programs (https://gradschool.psu.edu/graduate-education-policies/gcac/gcac-200/gcac-208-dual-titles/).

Admission Requirements

Potential dual-title trainees will express an interest in the dual-title degree as early as during the recruitment process for the Anatomy Graduate Program, and may apply for the dual-title Ph.D. in Anatomy and Clinical and Translational Sciences following admission to the Graduate School and to the Anatomy program and prior to taking the qualifying examination in Anatomy, no later than the end of the third semester of graduate study in Anatomy. Students interested in the dual-title degree will be considered for admission to the Clinical and Translational Sciences program by a committee consisting of the Clinical and Translational Sciences program co-directors and faculty affiliated with the Clinical and Translational Sciences dual-title program. Refer to the Admission Requirements section of the CTS Bulletin page (http://bulletins.psu.edu/graduate/programs/majors/clinical-translational-sciences/).

Degree Requirements

To qualify for the dual-title degree, students must satisfy the degree requirements for the Ph.D. degree, listed on the Degree Requirements tab. In addition, students must complete the degree requirements for the dual-title Ph.D. in CTS, listed on the CTS Bulletin page (http://bulletins.psu.edu/graduate/programs/majors/clinical-translational-sciences/). Reciprocity between the CTS dual-title program and the Anatomy graduate program allows for up to 7 of the elective credits required for the Clinical and Translational Sciences degree to be met simultaneously (ethics, statistics, and 1 elective).

Anatomy graduate students accepted to the Clinical and Translational Sciences dual-Title program will take the qualifying examination at the end of the third semester of graduate training:

1. to allow exposure to the Clinical and Translational Sciences curriculum in the Spring semester of the first year and Fall semester of the second year, which will prepare the students for the integrated content of the dual-title qualifying exam, and
2. to allow sufficient time to identify and assure commitment of an appropriate dissertation adviser who embraces the dual-title program of the student.

During the qualifying examination, the student will also be assessed for the dual-title program, and at least one member of the qualifying examination committee must come from the dual-title program. Faculty members who hold appointments in both programs may serve in a combined role.

In addition to the general Graduate Council requirements for Ph.D. committees (http://gradschool.psu.edu/graduate-education-policies/gcac/gcac-600/phd-dissertation-committee-formation/), the Ph.D. committee of an Anatomy and Clinical and Translational Sciences dual-title doctoral degree student must include at least one member of the Clinical and Translational Sciences Graduate Faculty. Faculty members who hold appointments in both programs’ graduate faculty may serve in a combined role.

The committee chair will be a member of the Graduate Faculty in the primary graduate program. Faculty members who hold appointments in both the primary graduate program and the CTS program may serve in a combined role. If the committee chair does not serve in this combined role, the faculty member representing the CTS program must be designated co-chair of the committee. The CTS representative(s) will be expected to assist in constructing and evaluating comprehensive examination questions that cover the secondary area of study.

Upon completion of the doctoral dissertation, the candidate must pass a final oral examination (the dissertation defense) to earn the Ph.D. degree. Students enrolled in the dual-title program are required to write and orally defend a dissertation on a topic that reflects their original research and expertise in both Anatomy and Clinical and Translational Sciences. The dissertation must be accepted by the Ph.D. committee, the head of the graduate program, and the Graduate School.