Electives

While we wish to encourage breadth in the curriculum, we recognize that it will be necessary for students to orient their programs of study toward their proposed areas of research early in their graduate study. Therefore, a number of existing courses are designated as NSB elective courses. Students are required to satisfactorily complete three electives courses. At least two of the three electives must be completed within the first two years in the program. Also, at least two of the three electives, or 6 credits, must be 600-level or above. It is expected that for any course to count as fulfilling the elective requirement, it must be three or more credits.

In addition, any course (or 3 credit special topics seminar) at the 600 level or above taught by a member of the NSB core faculty may be used to satisfy the elective requirement. Students may substitute three journal clubs for one 500-level NSB elective. Each of the three journal clubs must be graded and led by a faculty member. Students wishing to substitute journal clubs for an elective should submit to the Graduate Operations Committee a memo requesting the substitution and the reading lists/syllabi of the journal clubs.

Courses from which students commonly choose include:

- AnSci 697J Cells, Genes, and Development
- Biochem 623 Advanced General Biochemistry
- Biology 521 Comparative Anatomy
- Biology 523 Histology
- Biology 544 Ornithology
- Biology 548 Mammalogy
- Biology 550 Animal Behavior
- Biology 564/565 Vertebrate Physiology
- Biology 568/9 Endocrinology
- Biology 566/567 Comparative Physiology
- Biology 571 Biological Rhythms
- Biology 572 Neurobiology
- Biology 573 Sensory Neurobiology
- Biology 577 Microscopy and Image Processing
- Biology 580 Developmental Biology
- Computer Science 581 Neural Modeling
- Computer Science 683 Artificial Intelligence
- MolecBio 641 Advanced Cell Biology
- Psychology/Biology 591 Primate Behavior
- Psychology 591 Various topics changing each semester
- Psychology 617 ABCD (Applied & Basic Cognitive Development)
- Psychology 630 Research Topics in Behavioral Neuroscience
- Psychology 645 Nature and Methods of Inquiry
- Psychology 650 Brain Development and Behavior
- Psychology 731 Neuroanatomical Bases of Behavior
- Psychology 891 Varied topics changing each semester
- Psychology 892A Clinical Research & Practice
- Psychology 893B Child Seminar
- Statistics 525 Regression & Analysis of Variance

Coursework in other areas, including genetics, embryology, cybernetics, histology, cell biology, and cell regulation, may be strongly recommended by the Guidance Committee in relation to an individual student's chosen field of research, interest, and specialization.