PhD students should strive to complete their thesis within 3 years. In addition to carrying out experiments for their thesis at the lab bench, all SGBM students have to complete a curriculum which should take up less than 20% of their time. This is to ensure an excellent all-round education. Each PhD student is supervised individually.

Track 1 students (i.e. funded by the school) start by performing three rotations of one month each. At the end of this period they have a discussion with the management in order to decide in which of these three laboratories they will perform their PhD.

Within maximum 6 months of starting their doctoral work, the PhD students (track 1 and track 2 alike) write a thesis proposal, and assemble a thesis committee to which they submit their thesis proposal. Thereafter there are yearly thesis committee meetings. Preceding each thesis committee meeting the students draft a short progress report in order to submit it to the committee members.

In the monthly reunions students present their own work and learn to discuss it in a multidisciplinary context.

SGBM students have a wide range of seminars, lectures, practical courses and soft skill courses to choose from. These different sections should be checked regularly for updates.

Information regarding the MD/PhD program can be found under Application/Requirements.

Course diagram
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Session 1</th>
<th>Session 2</th>
<th>Session 3</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Seminar and Lecture Series</td>
<td>Seminar and Lecture Series</td>
<td>Seminar and Lecture Series</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Soft Skills Courses</td>
<td>Soft Skills Courses</td>
<td>Soft Skills Courses</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Practical Courses</td>
<td>Practical Courses</td>
<td>Practical Courses</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meetings</td>
<td>Meetings</td>
<td>Meetings</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Additional Experiences</td>
<td>Additional Experiences</td>
<td>Additional Experiences</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Seminar and Lecture Series**
- Regular attendance of seminars
- Seminar on key topics
- Invited speakers
- Colloquium (annual series)
- Participation in the departmental colloquium throughout the year

**Soft Skills Courses**
- Research-specific presentation skills
- Writing effective reports
- Scientific writing
- Scientific oral presentation
- Critical thinking
- Ethics in research
- Communication
- Leadership
- Time management

**Practical Courses**
- Molecular and cellular techniques
- Analytical techniques
- Software applications
- Data analysis
- Experimental design

**Meetings**
- Weekly group meetings
- Individual seminars
- Interdisciplinary seminars
- External guest lectures

**Additional Experiences**
- Curriculum update meetings with study coordinator
- Science-related team-building exercises
- Service-learning opportunities for undergraduate students