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>1st year</td>
<td>2nd year</td>
<td>3rd year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regular attendance of faculty seminars and workshops</td>
<td>Participation in the departmental research laboratory</td>
<td>Participation in the annual interdisciplinary conference</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Preparation of theses, papers, and presentations</td>
<td>Examination of the research, design, and student teaching skills for academic staff</td>
<td>Participation in interdisciplinary research projects</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Engagement in the departmental library and research lab</td>
<td>Attendance at seminars and workshops on the latest research trends</td>
<td>Participation in interdisciplinary projects</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Attend seminars and workshops on interdisciplinary research</td>
<td>Examination of the research, design, and student teaching skills for academic staff</td>
<td>Participation in interdisciplinary projects</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Soft Skills Courses**

- Effective communication
- Time management
- Critical thinking
- Leadership

**Practical Courses**

- Laboratory skills
- Field research techniques
- Data analysis
- Statistical software

**Meeting/Research Seminars**

- Discussion of research findings
- Presentation of research papers
- Feedback and critique
- Collaboration with colleagues

**Additional Curriculum Activities**

- Seminar talks and discussions
- Group projects
- Internships
- Research assistantships

**Graduate Activities**

- Participation in national and international conferences
- Presentation of research findings
- Collaboration with international scholars
- Engagement in academic exchange programs