**Rotations:** IPiB students carry out three rotations in any of the ~50 program labs in their first semester.

**Thesis research:** Upon completion of rotations, thesis labs are chosen and the thesis research begins.

**Courses:** Coursework includes formal classes in biochemical techniques, professional scientific development, and the physical and biological sciences. Dozens of courses allow curricula to be tailored to each student's interests and needs. A typical schedule is:

- **First semester**
  - Professional Responsibility
  - Biochemical Techniques
  - Biological or Physical Science Elective

- **Second semester**
  - Biochemistry of the Cell
  - Biological or Physical Science Elective

- **Third semester**
  - Biological or Physical Science Elective

**Seminars:** IPiB students enroll in a seminar each semester once the thesis research begins. Presentations in three seminars are given during a student's graduate training.

**Committee meetings:** Committee meetings occur annually.

**Preliminary examination:** The preliminary examination occurs prior to the end of the second year. The student writes an NIH-style grant proposal based on his/her research and defends it before a panel of faculty.

**Teaching:** Each IPiB student will serve as a student teacher in two courses during the second and third year.

**Thesis defense:** IPiB students write a formal thesis and defend it at the end of their graduate study. The timeline for defense will depend upon many factors, but the defense typically occurs after 4-5.5 years.