The doctoral minor in genetics provides graduate students with solid course training in the area of genetics. The field of genetics seeks to understand how information is encoded in an organism’s genome, how that information is read, replicated, and maintained by the cell, and how it evolves over time to impact organismal phenotypes. Courses offered through the Laboratory of Genetics span a wide variety of genetic topics, concepts, and experimental approaches. These include genetics related to human biology and disease, agriculture, conservation biology, and specialties such as neurogenetics, epigenetics, computational and statistical genetics, quantitative and population genetics, and basic, discovery-based genetic applications. Students who complete the doctoral minor in genetics will gain a strong foundation in genetic research and its application. In addition, through many of the courses offered in the Laboratory of Genetics, students gain experience in critical experimental thinking, oral and written presentation, and grant writing.

Interested students should contact the director of the genetics Ph.D. program (Audrey Gasch, agasch@wisc.edu) to discuss their interest in the genetics doctoral minor and their course plans.

Ph.D. students must complete 9 credits of coursework offered through the Laboratory of Genetics (http://guide.wisc.edu/courses/genetics). Coursework must be graded courses numbered 300 or above and does not include audits or pass/fail courses. Students should consult with their home department to verify that they are meeting the minimum graduate coursework (50%) rule, as some courses offered in the low-numbered range may not meet the Graduate School requirements for graduate students.

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