Overview of MCDB PhD Program

Year 1:

**Fall Courses:**
- MCDB 5230 (3) Gene Expression (Core 1)
- MCDB 6000 (3) Intro to Lab Methods
- MCDB 6441 (1) Faculty Research Seminar

**Spring Courses:**
- MCDB 5210 (3) Cell Structure & Fnctn (Core 2)
- MCDB 6000 (3) Intro to Lab Methods
- MCDB 6000 (3) Intro to Lab Methods

**Annual requirements:**
- TA undergraduate course in the fall and spring semesters
- Preliminary Exams-Part of Core 1 and 2
- MCDB 5210/5230
- Must earn an overall average of ‘B’ for exams
- Choose thesis lab in May
- Begin to form committee in spring (3 members)
- Submit residency ties to Colorado
- Complete four rotations. The first must be in MCDB

Year 2:

**Fall Courses:**
- GRAD 5000 (1) Responsible Conduct of Research
- MCDB 6000 (3) Intro to Lab Methods
- MCDB 6442 (2) Research Grant Writing
- MCDB 7910 (1) Seminar Practicum
- Electives

**Spring Courses:**
- MCDB 7910 (1) Seminar Practicum
- MCDB 8990 Doctoral Dissertation
- Electives

**Annual requirements:**
- Begin elective courses (level 5000 or above)
- Seminar presentation of research (MMB)
- Prepare comp proposal in the fall
- Begin bi-annual committee review
- Comp exam in spring semester
- Thesis research begins MCDB 6000
- PhD candidacy post comp exam
- Begin enrollment in dissertation credits

Years 3 & 4:

**Fall Courses:**
- MCDB 8990 (5) Doctoral Dissertation
- Electives (if needed)

**Spring Courses:**
- MCDB 8990 (5) Doctoral Dissertation

**Annual requirements:**
- Complete elective courses to meet minimum 30 credit requirement, if not already complete
- Seminar presentation of research and weekly attendance continues
- Thesis research continues

Years 5 and beyond to defense:

**Both semesters:**
- MCDB 8990 (5 per semester) Doctoral Dissertation

**Annual requirements:**
- Seminar presentation/attendance continues
- Submission of peer review paper
- Bi-annual committee meetings continue
- Thesis outline submission
- Dept. seminar & submit dissertation defense