

Structure of the PhD course at the department

As part of the *Regensburg Center of Biochemistry and Biophysics* (RCBB), the department of *Cell Biology and Plant Biochemistry* offers a well-structured PhD program. Initially, students that are admitted to the RCBB-PhD Program have to **(A)** elaborate a PhD Project, in which the research topic is defined and methodological procedures are described (3-5 pages). The project description shall also include a work chronogram. Together with the mentors consisting of the direct supervisor, another professor of the faculty as well as an external expert in the field the progress of the PhD course will be critically evaluated after **(B)** 12 and **(C)** 24 months, respectively.

Moreover, the PhD students of the department are expected to **(D)** attend four weekly seminars:

1. *Journal Club*: once a semester each PhD student presents a recent scientific paper published in a top journal. The paper should be related to her/his research topic and the PhD student shall lead a scientific discussion after the presentation.
2. *Progress Report Seminar*: once a semester each researcher including master students, PhD students and postdocs presents a progress report about their project(s). The achievements will be critically analyzed and suggestions are made to improve the methodological part of the project.
3. *RCBB Colloquium*: top researchers are invited weekly during the semester to present and discuss cutting edge research data in the fields of cellular biochemistry, microbiology, genetics, plant biology and biophysics.
4. *Lab Meetings*: all members of the individual working groups of the department meet once per week to discuss their progress made during the past four weeks.

Moreover, PhD students **(E)** participate in the organization and supervision of practical courses in plant physiology, cellular biochemistry and plant biotechnology. Every PhD student is additionally expected to supervise at least one lab student for a period of up to three months.

Finally, PhD students are encouraged to **(F)** participate once per year at PhD Schools, Summer Schools, Workshops, Method Courses and/or International Conferences. The active participation at the annual RCBB Summer Academy is obligatory and PhD students are expected to discuss their achievements either via a poster or oral presentation.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'TL Müller'.