

Rotations 2021

Each student is required to rotate through at least three labs during their first year. Rotations provide the student a good idea about the research that is performed in the laboratory, as well as a sense of how a laboratory is run by an individual faculty member. Students are encouraged to rotate in labs of the CORE faculty members. These faculty members support the teaching and research mission of the Biochemistry Graduate Program. If you want to rotate in an outside lab, please briefly discuss your choice with the DGS (Matt Bochman) prior to formalizing the rotation. Students need only to decide on the first rotation now, and time will be made available during the week of August 16-20 for students to meet one-on-one or via Zoom with faculty if they have not already agreed upon on a first rotation choice.

The rotation schedule for the Fall 2021 semester is as follows:

First rotation:	Monday, August 23 – Friday, September 24
Second rotation:	Monday, September 27 – Friday, October 29
Third rotation:	Monday, November 1 – Friday, December 10
Research period in your lab:	Starts on December 17 or the day following submission of your "Joining a Lab" form.

Beginning your rotations: Attached, you will find a form that asks you to list your top three faculty choices for the first rotation. You must meet with faculty members prior to including them on the list. Matt Bochman will work in conjunction with the PIs you have listed to place you in your first lab rotation. Every effort will be made to place you in your first rotation choice in the first cycle. If scheduling disallows this, he will work to get you into that rotation in one of the later cycles. Please e-mail this fillable form to Matt (bochman@iu.edu) **no later than 12 pm on Friday, August 20, 2021**. If you need more time, let Matt know. It is also OK to submit an incomplete list (two names) if need be.

Rotation presentations: A presentation on your work must be given at the end of each rotation period. Because the rotation periods are very short, the presentations themselves should also be short. In general, they should include relevant background concerning your project, the hypothesis or question being tested, a brief overview of the methods used, your results, and a discussion of future experiments that are necessary to continue to investigate the project that you worked on. Please discuss individual expectations for the presentation with your rotation PI prior to putting it together. You may also seek feedback from any in-lab mentors that you worked with during the rotation and/or practice your presentation with them prior to presenting it to your PI or lab group. Please take this portion of the rotation seriously as it is graded. Final grades will represent an average of the grades for each lab rotation.

An electronic copy of the evaluation form (signed by the PI with a letter grade) must be emailed to Charlie Fairns (cfairnsi@indiana.edu) at the end of your rotation. Failure to provide a rotation report and evaluation form will result in an incomplete grade on your transcript.

August 2020

First Rotation Evaluation Due: Monday, September 27, 2021

Second Rotation Evaluation Due: Monday, November 1, 2021

Third Rotation Evaluation Due: Monday, December 13, 2021 (Earlier if you are leaving for the holidays)

Choosing a lab and determining your B580 grade for the fall: Students are encouraged to complete three rotations in the fall semester and choose a lab before Winter Break. When this occurs, your B580 grade will be recorded as the average grade from your three rotation evaluations. In the event that a student 1) only performs 1 or 2 fall rotations, 2) cannot rotate in a preferred lab until the spring, 3) decides to rotate in 4 or more labs before choosing, or 4) does not physically join the graduate program until the spring semester, then the B580 grade will be recorded as an Incomplete (I) for the fall and amended to a letter grade in the spring after rotations are completed and a lab is chosen. The same averaging method will be used to calculate the grade as described above.

A final thought: Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions about the intent or details regarding the lab assignments, rotation reports, or anything else about the program.

Have fun in the lab!

Matthew L. Bochman
DGS