



DOCTORAL STATE EXAM

- The doctoral state exam is compulsory during the third year of study
- The doctoral state exam takes place at the annual conference (on the second day)
- It consists of 20 min presentation of PhD project + 20 min discussion which includes general question from Molecular Biology and Genetics
- It is important to touch general medical biology questions related to the project and context

PhD THESIS DEFENSE / VIVA VOCE

- The standard defense can only take place after all necessary study duties are done (see part STUDY)
- The defense is always public and the supervisor can be part of Defense Committee
- The thesis is opposed by two reviewers and it is strongly recommended one of them being international
- The standard defense consists of 15-20 min. presentation of thesis, summary of reviews + students comments to the reviewer's questions
- After the presentation and reviews a general discussion is held.
- VIVA VOCE is recommended in case the PhD students does not manage to have a first author publication (which is in term of defense submitted) and the publication is of specific quality. In case of Viva Voce:
 - Not only supervisor and reviewers but also mentors need to recommend the thesis for defense
 - The defense itself goes deeper into the PhD project.
 - The presentation given by student is 30 min. and is expected to have more detailed information on methodology, data collection and specification of the direct input of the PhD student
 - The discussion is min 60 min and consists not only on feedback given by mentors and reviewers but also on direct questions from the Committee following the structure of academic conversation among peers

FOLLOWING THE CAREER TRACK

- The supervisors are expected to help their absolvents find appropriate postdoc positions in order boost their research career
- The Department collects the data on where the PhD absolvents go to