

Admission Requirements

The INS program offers a wide range of research opportunities in neuroscience. Students with backgrounds in biochemistry, biology, chemistry, engineering, genetics, medicine, molecular biology, physics, and related fields are encouraged to apply.

1. Eligibility and Certificate of Degree

Students (international or local) with bachelor's or master's degree from accredited institutions are eligible to apply for the Ph.D. program. All applicants are required to submit certification of the highest degrees from each academic institution attended.

2. English Requirements

Applicants whose first or native language is not English are required to submit scores for TOEFL, IELTS, or GEPT as part of the application. The test of English proficiency can be waived for applicants who have recently completed two or more years of study in an English-speaking country or have graduated from a university where English is the primary language (official certification should be provided).

Under special circumstances, applicants who have difficulty submitting TOEFL, IELTS, or GEPT scores on time but who have been otherwise determined to be qualified for graduate study may be admitted conditionally to the program.

The recommended scores for the TOEFL, IELTS, and GEPT are summarized as follow:

TOEFL	IELTS	GEPT
Internet-based 79	5.5	High-intermediate level
Paper-based 550		

3. Two Letters of Recommendation

Two letters of recommendation are required. The letters should be directly sent by the referee.

4. Academic Transcripts

Official transcripts of courses, including grades and grading scales. An explanation for any non-standard grading system is highly recommended.

5. Statement of Purpose and Study Plan

The statement of purposes should comprise a brief statement of the scientific interests and career goals, together with a description of past accomplishments that are not evident from other documents submitted. If applicable, the result of any research in progress may be specified.

6. Other Evidence of Scholarly Achievements

Please provide your M.S. thesis, research publications, and descriptions of research experiences to be evaluated by the INS Admission Committee.

7. Interview

After reviewing all the supporting documents mentioned above, qualified candidates will be invited for interview. Local candidates will be asked to come to Taipei, whereas international students will have a phone/skype interview.

Application can be submitted through the on-line application system (recommended)

<http://db1x.sinica.edu.tw/tigp/index.php>

The submitted application materials will not be returned to applicants under any circumstances. The complete application materials should be received by TIGP before deadline.

Stipend & Cost of Study

Once admitted, TIGP candidates receive a stipend of NT\$34,000/month (approx. USD 1,130) for the first year. For students who perform well, this stipend will be extended for a further 2 to 3 years. Post the stipend allowance period, further financial support is dependent upon individual thesis advisors.



ACADEMIA SINICA Taiwan International Graduate Program



Correspondence and Information

For information concerning this program, please contact:



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Interdisciplinary Neuroscience Program (INS)



<http://npas.programs.sinica.edu.tw/ins/>

Introduction

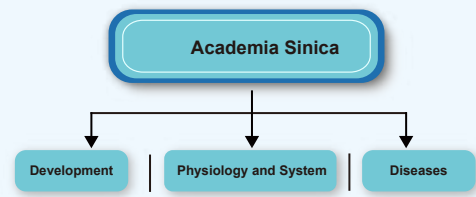
The Interdisciplinary Neuroscience (INS) graduate program integrates approaches from chemistry, molecular and cellular biology, physiology, imaging, and computer science in the study for neuroscience. Historically, integrating distinct disciplines to explore the causes and efficacious treatments for neurological and psychiatric disorders has been challenging. Therefore, the Neuroscience Program of Academia Sinica (NPAS), by teaming up with the School of Life Sciences and the School of Medicine of National Yang-Ming University (NYMU), the Medical College of National Cheng Kung University (NCKU), the Department of Life Science, National Taiwan University (NTU), and the Institute of Cognitive Neuroscience of National Central University (NCU), established the INS graduate program, tasked with the training of Ph.D. students, to conduct neuroscience research using multidisciplinary approaches.

INS will expand its repertoire to include research in cell and molecular neurobiology, clinical medicine, systems neuroscience, neural imaging and engineering, and cognitive and computational neuroscience. A diversified yet advanced curriculum will be offered at five campuses to enrich the learning process. In combination with seminars, symposia, and retreats, INS will provide active and flexible training processes to help students reach their highest potential. In addition, students are encouraged to initiate and participate in collaborative research projects with labs working in different disciplines. We seek highly motivated and energetic students from various backgrounds to apply to the INS program.

Campus Features

Academia Sinica, Taipei, Taiwan

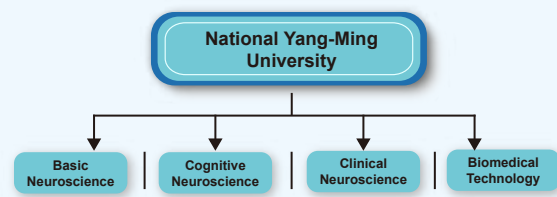
Neuroscience Program of Academia Sinica (NPAS) is an on-campus research program that promotes interaction and collaboration with the goal of excellence in neuroscience research and education at international levels. NPAS encompasses approximately 30 faculty members from 8 institutes and 2 research centers on the campus. Our researches cover neuronal development, synaptic plasticity, sensory perception, neurological disorders and diseases, stem cell regeneration, systemic and computational neuroscience. Despite broad spectrum of research areas, atmosphere in Academia Sinica is ideal for promoting thriving collaborations.



National Yang-Ming University, Taipei, Taiwan

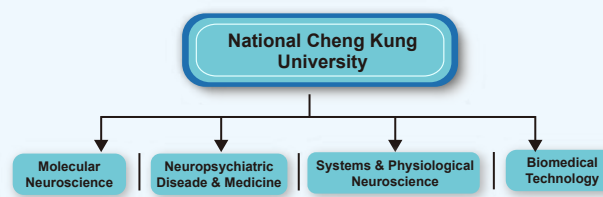
National Yang-Ming University (NYMU) is a leading medical university in Taiwan and has a long history of cross-disciplinary brain research. NYMU- Brain Research Center (BRC) is a nationally renowned research center in Taiwan under the support of the Aim for the Top University Grant. Currently, the NYMU-BRC is made up of more than 60 laboratories and is organized into four distinct yet complementary research areas:

(1) Basic Neuroscience, (2) Cognitive Neuroscience, (3) Clinical Neuroscience, and (4) Biomedical Technologies.



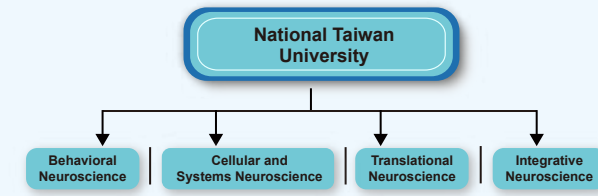
National Cheng Kung University, Tainan, Taiwan

National Cheng Kung University (NCKU) is a research-oriented international top-tier university. NCKU occupies a total of more than 180 hectares of land, is a comprehensive university with 9 colleges: Liberal Arts, Sciences, Engineering, Electrical Engineering and Computer Science, Planning & Design, Management, Social Sciences, Bioscience & Biotechnology and Medicine. All the colleges are within a walking distance on the main campus, allowing students to take interdisciplinary courses easily. There are more than one thousand faculty members and more than twenty thousand students at NCKU. At NCKU, students who major in science have a literary taste and students who major in liberal arts have science knowledge. On the base of the College of Medicine and the affiliated hospital, NCKU will offer an open learning environment for students of the Interdisciplinary Neuroscience (INS) graduate program to bridge the gap between the explosion of knowledge in neuroscience and conceptually novel treatments for brain disorders.



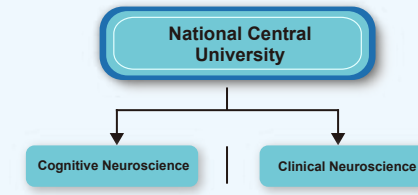
National Taiwan University, Taipei, Taiwan

National Taiwan University is one of the top research universities in Taiwan. Now, the university has 11 colleges, with 54 departments and 103 graduate institutes. We have more than 2000 faculties, 17000 undergraduate students and 15000 graduate students. The neuroscience is one of the main research groups in the NTU. The cross-departmental Neurobiology and Cognitive Science Program has more than 100 faculties from 10 different colleges and covered broad range of research topics including basic and clinical research with multidisciplinary integration. The main campus and medical campus, including the affiliated tertiary medical center, locates at the heart of Taipei city, which provide easy access to city lifestyle for both on-campus and off-campus activities.



National Central University, Taoyuan City, Taiwan

Institute of Cognitive Neuroscience (ICN) at National Central University (NCU), founded in 2003, is the first graduate institute in Taiwan dedicated to the interdisciplinary research on human cognition and its neuroanatomical mechanisms in the brain. Located in one of the leading universities in Taiwan with rich scientific and humanistic facilities, the ICN at NCU is devoted to academic excellence by education and research with cutting-edge technologies including neuroimaging tools (e.g., MRI, MEG/EEG, TMS/tDCS) and advanced experimental/computational methods. Research at the ICN mainly focuses on neurolinguistics, visual attention and executive functions, human memory, action control, auditory perception, biomedical signal processing, and translational clinical neuroscience. The ICN has strong links with internationally renowned scholars and institutions through active collaborations and research exchanges.



Rsearch areas

Neural Development/Degeneration

Molecular/Cellular Neuroscience

Clinical/Translational Neuroscience

Physiology/Systems Neuroscience

Cognitive/Social Neuroscience

Neuroinformatics/Neural Applied Sciences

For the update-to-date faculty list, please check our website.

Requirements for the Ph.D. Degree

Courses and Curriculum

1. All graduate students in the program are required to take the courses for the INS graduate Program. Electives can be selected from this program, other campuses and TIGP programs at Academia Sinica.
2. Ph.D. students in this program are limited to two to seven years of study to finish their degree.

Qualifying Exam

TIGP-INS Qualifying Exam (QE) will be held in Fall Semester every year. Students with master's degree should take the QE before the second academic year starts. Students who fail the qualifying examination on the first try should apply for re-examination in the following semester.

Thesis Research

Lab Rotation

Students are required to complete at least two laboratory rotations of two months each and choose their thesis advisors by the end of their first year.

Thesis Advisor

Students are required to select two thesis advisors from campuses (Academia Sinica and NCKU/NYMU/NTU/NCU). One advisor will be the primary advisor and the other will be the co- advisor. These thesis advisors can be selected from any faculty from this program.

Program Review

After successful completion of the qualifying examination, Ph.D. candidates should meet with their Thesis Advisory Committee every year to assess their thesis progress.

Degree Requirements

- (1) Completion of course requirement: 18 credits for students entering with a master's degree and 30 credits for students with a Bachelor's degree.
- (2) Pass the Degree Pre-examination after reviewing all the supporting documents, the candidate will be permitted to give an oral presentation. Successful completion requires the agreement of 80% or more of the Degree Pre-examination Committee. Candidates who fail the pre-examination can apply for reexamination. Only one re-examination is permitted. Students who fail the re-examination should withdraw from the program.
- (3) Pass the Degree Examination