

TRAINING ACTIVITIES
PhD Programme in B2F2

| Activity | Type of activity | DCs | Hours of teaching | Final Assessment | Period | PhD year | Training objectives |
|---|---|-------------------------------|-------------------|------------------|--------------|------------|---|
| Introduction to the Peer Review Process and Ethics | Soft skills | 1 | 15 | Grades | Jan-Feb 2025 | I | By the end of the course, the PhD students will learn: (i) basics of the peer review process; (ii) what editors look for when reviewing submissions; (iii) tips for responding to reviewer reports; (iii) qualifications to become a reviewer and strategies to evaluate a manuscript; (iv) principles of scientific integrity and ethical judgements in research; (v) how to write and submit a cover letter. |
| Critical discussion of scientific literature - Journal Club | Soft skills | 2 at I 1 at II 1 at III | 15 | Eligibility | Jan-Apr 2025 | I, II, III | By the end of the course, the PhD students: (i) will improve their scientific literature reading habits and gain practice in critiquing and appraising research; (ii) will polish their presentation and oral communication skills and overcome the English language barrier; (iii) know how to network and dialogue with peers and supervisors; (iv) can appreciate how the best research can advance evidence-based science. He/she knows and is able to search the literature and find scientific articles, to critically evaluate scientific articles, to lead and participate to a Journal Club. |
| Drug discovery and development Course | Disciplinary and multidisciplinary training | 1.5 | 15 | Eligibility | Mar-Apr 2025 | I | PhD students will learn from drug discovery researchers from academia. By the end of the course, the PhD students will: (i) know the basic principles of the drug discovery & development process; (ii) understand the role of medicinal chemistry, pharmacology and pharmaceuticals in the drug discovery & development process. |
| Module 1: The contribution of Medicinal Chemistry in Drug Discovery & Development | | | 5 | | | | |
| Module 2: The contribution of Pharmacology in Drug Discovery & Development | | | 5 | | | | |
| Module 3: The contribution of Pharmaceuticals in Drug Discovery & Development | | | 5 | | | | |
| Industrial Drug discovery and development | Seminars | 1 | 15 | Eligibility | Jun-Sep 2025 | I | PhD students will learn from and interact with leading researchers from established national/international pharmaceutical companies. The industrial teachers are B2F2 Alumni. By the end of the course, the PhD students will: (i) know and critically evaluate the drug discovery & development process in the industry; (ii) understand industrial working conditions and career choices and development, and (iii) build national/international industrial networks. |

| Scientific Retreat and Seminar series | Soft skills | 0.5 at I 1.5 at II 0.5 at III | 12 | Eligibility/ Grades | Mar-Sep 2025 | I, II, III | |
|--|-------------|-------------------------------------|----|------------------------|--------------|------------|---|
| Module 1: Annual B2F2-PhD Programme Scientific Retreat | | | 7 | | | | This is a conference-type event where second-year students will present their result and have their half-time evaluations by an external committee. It is open to all PhD students, who will participate to the Q&A session. By the end of the course, (i) the 2 nd -year PhD students will receive an external feed-back on the research performed; (ii) all the students will refine their ability to communicate the results of their research in a clear and effective manner, in dialogue with the scientific community |
| Module 2: PhD seminar series - "meet-the-speakers" | | | 5 | | | | This is a series of seminars that are highly interactive and include "meet-the-speakers" sessions. PhD students will interact and network with inspiring scientists who conduct top-quality research in the bio-pharmaceutical field. By the end of the course the student will (i) gain current specialist knowledge in a particular aspect of the bio-pharmaceutical field; (ii) learn how to talk about high-level science; (iii) have a deeper insight into the possibilities and limitations of science, its role in society, work-life balance and other matters. |