



FOOD SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY GRADUATE GROUP

ONE SHIELDS AVENUE
DAVIS, CALIFORNIA 95616-8598

October 7, 2020

RE: Rotations

FR: Food Science Graduate Group (FSGG) Academic Advising Committee
Maria Marco, Ph.D, Chair Food Science Graduate Group (FSGG)

Background: FSGG faculty frequently require a “rotation” in their lab prior to accepting students. This memo provides guidance on rotations within the FSGG.

Definition: Rotations are temporary, internship-like appointments intended to help students find labs. Students do not need to complete a prescribed set of laboratory rotations in order to commit to a faculty member/lab. If, during or after a rotation, a faculty member and student agree to work together on a thesis project then rotations may cease (if desired).

Expectations (Student):

- Participate in a lab in a manner which is consistent with expectations for new graduate students in the individual faculty member’s lab. This typically means that the student will be working on the rotation project at least 9 h per week.
- Register for 3 units of FST299 with the appropriate CRN (obtained from the Academic Advisor).

Expectations (Faculty):

- Rotations should be no longer than 5 weeks, unless otherwise approved by the Academic Advisor.
- Help establish relevant connections with other students and staff in their group.
- Timely and helpful guidance should be given on whether the student will be accepted into the lab. This includes discussing mentorship expectations and style, project availability, and funding status/outlook.
- Provide appropriate safety training to rotating students and PPE
- Meet with the student on a regular basis to provide guidance and feedback.
- Fill out rotation evaluation form and return to Academic Advisor to facilitate grading of the FST299 (grades will be submitted by the Academic Advisor).

Expectations (Academic Advisors):

- Explain the rotation and lab placement procedures with incoming and first year FSGG students.
- Provide a CRN for students and grade at the end of the quarter based on reports/presentations and host faculty feedback.