PhD in Computer Science

Degree Requirements

All students completing a PhD degree must fulfill the following minimum requirements:

Complete all of the computer science (CS) course work requirements of the Master's degree in CS or have an MS degree in CS from another institution. The required 15 hours at the 8000-level must be regular CS courses, excluding Research or Problems courses. The student must maintain an overall GPA of at least 3.4/4.0 in their graduate level course work (excluding Research and Problems courses). Earn a minimum of 72 credit hours of course work and research past the student’s Bachelor's degree.

Qualifying and Comprehensive Examination Process

Students will need to pass a qualifying examination to be admitted to candidacy in the CS PhD program within three years of program enrollment and will need to pass a comprehensive examination covering their areas of expertise within five years of program enrollment.

Students will complete a doctoral dissertation on a topic approved by the candidate’s advisory committee and defend the dissertation in a final oral examination.

Students will have at least one journal paper submitted, accepted or published, as approved by the advisor.

Students will present on a research topic as part of the CS Seminar Series at some point between passing the qualifying exam and the dissertation defense. This policy is effective for entering PhD students in Spring 2013 and after.

Seminar Attendance

The approval of the D4 form is tied to the attendance records for the department's seminar series. PhD students are required to attend a total of at least twenty EECS Seminar Series presentations. Master's students who add the PhD program can apply their seminar attendance as part of their Master’s program toward the attendance requirement for doctoral students.

D Forms