



MS Plan III: Course-Only

Students in this plan must enroll in CSCI 6970 and complete an MS Course Project. The MS course project is an individually written final report documenting research, implementation, results, analysis, and mastery of the subject.

Foundational Courses: 0-18 Credits

- If needed, foundational courses will be assigned to you & outlined in your admission letter
- **Minimum grade of B to pass**
- Foundational Courses cannot be waived and **must be completed before** beginning graduate coursework
- Foundational Courses that are assigned do **not** count towards the overall 30 credit hours of graduate coursework requirement

Year 1

Year 2

Semester 1

Suggested: Take 6 credits of coursework

Category A (Core Courses):

3-6 Credits

- Choose 1-2 courses from:
 - CSCI 5446 Theory of Automata
 - CSCI 5451 Algorithms
 - CSCI 5593 Advanced Computer Architecture
 - CSCI 5573 Operating Systems
- 2 Category A courses are offered each semester on rotating basis
- Students must complete a minimum of 9 credits of Cat A to graduate.

Category B or C (Breadth Courses):

3-6 Credits

- Course options change each semester.
- Category C courses must be approved by the department prior to enrollment.
- Consult with faculty advisor on course selection.
- Students must complete a minimum of 9 credits of Cat B to graduate.

Semester 1 Milestones

- Attend mandatory MS Orientation.
- Consult with advisor to develop a Plan of Study by Week 10.

Semester 2

Suggested: Take 9 credits of coursework

Category A:

3-6 Credits

Category B or Category C:

3-6 Credits

Semester 2 Milestones

- Complete at least 2 Category A courses by this point.

Semester 3

Suggested: Take 9 credits of coursework

Category A:

0-3 Credits

Category B or Category C:

3-9 Credits

Semester 3 Milestones

- Transfer credit requests must be approved by the program and submitted at least one semester prior to graduation.
- Complete at least 9 credits of Category A courses by this point.

Semester 4

Suggested: Take 6 credits of coursework and enroll in CSCI 6970

CSCI 6970 MS Course Project:

0 credits

- Students must complete 9 credits in Category A before enrolling in CSCI 6970.
- MS Course Projects are completed within a Category B "host" course - the topics for projects are determined based on the host courses offered.
- All work related to the MS Course Project will be submitted in the CSCI 6970 Canvas shell.

Category B and/or Category C:

6 Credits

- At least one of these courses must be a Category B course that is hosting MS Course Projects.
- A list of courses hosting Course Projects can be found on the website each semester.

Semester 4 Milestones

- Meet with your advisor for a graduation check.
- Apply for graduation via UCD Access.
- Submit MS Application for Candidacy.
- Complete your CSCI 6970 MS Course Project. All deadlines are final.

Congrats!

MS Course-Only Graduation Requirements

1. Minimum 30 credits of coursework, including CSCI 6970
 - Category A: 9 - 12 credits
 - Category B and C: 18 - 21 credits
 - CSCI 6970: 0 credits*
 - Independent Study courses will not count towards the 30 credit hours needed to graduate.
2. Maintain a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher (B- or higher)
3. All courses passed with at least a B-. Students cannot retake the same course; they must take a different course to satisfy the Category requirements.

*CSCI 6970 is a 0-credit course, but students must enroll in order to complete their MS Course Project.

