



PhD in Computer Science and Information Systems

Year 1

Coursework Requirements

Students must complete at least 30 credit hours of graduate-level coursework (5000-level and above) before enrolling in dissertation credits.

- **Up to 21 credit hours** of relevant graduate coursework may be transferred with recommendation of advisor and approval of the program director
- **Up to 6 credit hours** of 7000-level independent study under supervision of a CSE faculty research advisor is allowed/recommended

Year 2

Year 3

Dissertation Requirements



Students must complete at least 30 credit hours of dissertation.

- Upon successful completion of the preliminary exams and coursework, students may enroll for dissertation credits.
- Students may enroll for up to 10 credit hours of dissertation before completing the Comprehensive Exam.

Year 4

Preliminary Exams

Comprehensive Exam

Proposal Defense

Final Defense

Preliminary Exams

Pass 3 out of 4 core knowledge courses before or during the second year of the program.

- Theory of Automata
- Algorithms
- Advanced Computer Architectures
- Operating Systems

Exams are given in the second week of January. Exam areas may be repeated once.

Comprehensive Exam

Must be completed within 3 years of admission to the program.

- Submit Request for Exam and Application for Candidacy 2 weeks prior to exam date.
- Submit your Program Plan, made in consultation and approval of your research advisor.



Proposal Defense

Must be completed no later than the semester before graduation.

- Finalize defense committee.
- Book a room for your defense.
- Submit Request for Exam at least two weeks prior to defense.
- Make corrections as required.

Final Defense

- Apply for graduation in your student portal.
- Book a room for your defense.
- Send dissertation to the Writing Center for review.
- Submit Request for Exam and Thesis Approval Form 2 weeks prior to defense.
- Successfully defend dissertation!
- Submit dissertation to ProQuest.



Graduate!

