



DEPARTMENT OF
ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING
AND COMPUTER SCIENCE
College of Engineering & Computer Science
Florida Atlantic University

PH.D. IN COMPUTER SCIENCE WORKSHEET

Name: _____ Z#: _____ Advisor: _____

Date of Candidacy Exam: _____ Date of Admission to Candidacy: _____

Date of PhD Proposal Presentation*: _____

Prerequisites

List deficiency courses assigned by the Admission Committee, if applicable:

Grade	Semester	Course Number/Name

MS to PhD Requirements (for students entering with a Master’s Degree) 72 Credits

Master’s Credits (30):

Grade	Semester	Course Number/Name

Graduate Courses (18 credits):

A minimum of 12 credits must be Computer Science and Engineering courses, with a minimum of 9 credits of 6000-level. No more than 3 credits of Directed Independent Study or Advanced Research may be used, and the subject matter may not overlap the student’s dissertation. Students must take two semesters of CGS 5937 Graduate Seminar.

Grade	Semester	Course Number/Name
		CGS 5937 Graduate Seminar (Mandatory, 0 credits)
		CGS 5937 Graduate Seminar (Mandatory, 0 credits)

Dissertation Credits (At least 24 credits taken over multiple terms):

Grade	Semester	Course Number/Name
		COT 7980 Dissertation Computer Science

Directed Independent Study or Advanced Research (No more than 3 credits)

Grade	Semester	Course Number/Name
		COT 6900 Directed Independent Study
		EGN 6918 Advanced Research

DIRECT PATH PHD

BS to PhD Requirements (for students entering with a Bachelor's Degree) 72 Credits

Graduate Courses (42 credits):

A minimum of 27 credits must be Computer Science and Engineering courses. A minimum of 18 credits of 6000-level. No more than 6 credits of Directed Independent Study or Advanced Research may be used, and the subject matter may not overlap the student's dissertation. Must take two semesters of CGS 5937 Graduate Seminar.

Grade	Semester	Course Number/Name
		CGS 5937 Graduate Seminar (Mandatory, 0 credits)
		CGS 5937 Graduate Seminar (Mandatory, 0 credits)

Dissertation Credits (Minimum of 30 credits taken over multiple terms):

Grade	Semester	Course Number/Name
		COT 7980 Dissertation Computer Science

Directed Independent Study or Advanced Research (No more than 6 credits)

Grade	Semester	Course Number/Name
		COT 6900 Directed Independent Study or
		EGN 6918 Advanced Research

All PhD Students

* PhD proposal must be presented and approved by the committee at least 6 months before the oral dissertation defense.

Publication Requirement

A Doctoral Candidate is expected to have at least one research paper published or accepted for publication in a fully refereed conference or journal prior to graduation.

Layout and Content of “Dissertation Proposal”

This document provides general guidelines for the layout and content of the dissertation proposal. The guidelines may be modified to suit the project and the student’s advisor may require additional material to be added to the proposal. The purpose of this document is to provide a starting point from which the final proposal can be developed.

Format

The dissertation proposal should be written using MS word or LaTeX. Please use the layout below and number each section accordingly.

Cover Page

The proposal cover page should include:

- Title (up to 25 words) - The title can be a working title in that it can be changed at a later date. It should convey the essence of the proposed work.
- Student Name
- The statement Dissertation Proposal submitted in partial fulfillment of a Doctoral Degree in Computer and Electrical Engineering and Computer Science.
- Date
- Names and room for signature of the student’s advisor and advisory committee.

Content

The dissertation proposal should include the following sections:

1. **Introduction** - Gives the background to the work in general terms and the layout of the document.
2. **Dissertation Objective** - A statement, which is less than half a page long, specifying the objective of the work.
3. **Literature Review** - Reviews pertinent literature with the objective of placing the research in the context of work that has been done before. Having read this section, the committee will have a clear understanding of how the dissertation will provide new insights and advance the state of the art. A dissertation proposal must clearly identify the uniqueness of the study.
4. **Approach** - Describes the theoretical, experimental, or numerical approach that will be used in the study, including background theory where necessary. The derivation of major equations can be added in an appendix if required by the student’s supervisor.
5. **Tasks to be completed** - This should describe the expected series of tasks that will be undertaken during the study.
6. **Timetable** - Defines the timeline for the completion of the work.
7. **References** - A list of references should be provided in an appropriate academic format such as Harvard or Author-Date.
8. **Figures and Tables** - Figures and tables may be placed in the document or at the end of the document. Each figure and table should be numbered in the order that it is referred to in the text and have a caption/heading that describes the content of the figure/table.

Student Signature: _____ Date: _____