SCHOOL OF COMPUTER SCIENCE

MS Thesis Option Student Checklist

(Effective Fall 2013)

This is to be used in conjunction with the checklist printed in the general catalog. All Graduate College and other University requirements apply.

Program Deficiencies (for conditional admission)

_____ All program deficiencies must be completed with B or better on the first attempt.

Advisor

Thesis option: Select thesis advisor with an M1 or higher status in the School of Computer Science

Coursework

_____ Total credit hours: 30 hours (24 hours of coursework and 6 hours of thesis)

_____ Required Coursework

A minimum of six graduate-level courses must be completed while in graduate standing, two from each of the three emphasis areas of Systems, Theory, and Applications. At least one regular or independent studies course (3 credit hours) that requires reading technical papers, oral presentations, and written presentations as part of the coursework (a presentation course) must be completed, effective Fall 2013.

Two **systems** courses from the following list:

- Compilers (CS G4323)
- Architecture (CS G4613)
- Operating Systems (CS 5113)
- Networks (CS 5133 or CS 5143)
- Embedded Systems (CS 5163) or Robotics (CS 5023)

Two **theory** courses from the following list:

- Algorithm Analysis (CS 4413)
- Computational Complexity (CS 5413)
- Formal Languages (CS 5813)
- Optimization (CS 5433 or CS 5443)
- Cryptography (CS 5823)

Two **applications** courses from the following list:

- Artificial Intelligence (CS 5013) or Machine Learning (CS 5033) or Data Mining (CS 5083)
- Database Management (CS 4513 or CS 5513)
- Computer Graphics (CS 5053)
- Software Engineering (CS 5213)
- Scientific Computing (CS 5743 or CS 5753)

- Computer Networks and Distributed Processing (CS 5613)

One **presentation** course from the following list:

- Machine Learning (CS 5033)
- Knowledge Discovery and Data Mining (CS 5083)
- Visual Analytics (CS 5093)
- Network Design and Management (CS 5143)
- Advanced Discrete Optimization on Networks (CS 5443)
- Advanced Database Management (CS 5513)
- Formal Languages (CS 5813)
- Independent Studies (CS 5990) – A memo from the instructor certifying the content of the course is required.
- Introduction to Research in CS (CS 5970)

_____ Six thesis research (CS 5980) hours (any extra is not counted towards 30 hour total).

_____ No more than three courses at CS G4000 level, i.e., nine credit hours.

_____ No more than three credit hours in independent study courses (CS 5990).

_____ No more than six credit hours in CS 5973 courses will be permitted, even with change of subject.

_____ No more than two outside courses of which only one can be G4000 level. **Outside courses require prior approval**.

_____ Maintain a GPA of 3.00 or above.

_____ Attend at least 5 seminars/conferences throughout the duration of the program.

Forms

_____ File an Admission to Candidacy form during the semester prior to the semester of graduation. Check semester schedule for specific due date.

Thesis Defense

___ Form thesis committee of three or more graduate faculty members including advisor

___ Majority of thesis committee members have M1 or higher status in the School of Computer Science

___ Submit a signed subject of thesis card to the Graduate College

___ Submit a reading copy of thesis to CS Academic Programs Coordinator ten business days prior to thesis defense

___ Pass thesis defense in one attempt

___ Signed report of defense committee must be submitted to Graduate College within 72 hours of passing.

___ Three copies of final thesis must be deposited in Graduate College and library within sixty days of defense and one additional electronic copy to School of Computer Science

___ Return signed library card to Graduate College

Graduation

____ Pay graduation fee in Bursar's office and complete all Graduate College forms.

____ Attend the School of Computer Science Exit Interview with the Director of the School.

Note: If deadline falls on a weekend, the next working day following the posted deadline will be acceptable.

Notes, Dates and Deadlines (Thesis Option)

The dates below are typical graduate college deadlines. For more current deadlines please visit the website: http://www.ou.edu/content/gradweb/aud/current/deadlines.html. The admission to Candidacy and the Request for Thesis Defense has be to filed with the Academic Programs Coordinator in the School of Computer Science a month earlier than the graduate college deadline.

Master's Degree Deadlines

	Fall 2012	**Spring 2013**	**Summer 2012**
Final day to file *Admission to Candidacy* form in the Graduate College	April 2	October 1	March 5
Final day to file *Application for Graduation* card in the **Office of Records***	October 1	March 1	July 2
Final day to file *Request for Authority for Thesis Defense* in the Graduate College	November 30	April 26	July 20
Final day to complete master's comprehensive examination	December 7	May 3	July 27
Final day to hold thesis defense	December 7	May 3	July 27
Final day to deposit thesis in the library	December 14	May 10	August 3

In addition to the deadlines above for all MS students, the students with thesis option should follow the following:

- It is recommended that students choose their thesis advisor within the first two semester of MS program.

- The students should submit the *Master's Thesis Topic and Committee Membership* form that is available at the graduate college. This form along the *Admission to Candidacy Form* should be submitted to the CS Academic Programs Coordinator a month in advance so as to meet the following graduate college deadlines:

If you intend to graduate in:	**Summer**	**Fall**	**Spring**
Submit your forms **no later than:**	1st Monday in March	1st Monday in April	1st Monday in October

- After *Request for Authority for Thesis Defense* form is approved by the graduate college, the student should send the abstract of the thesis to the CS Academic Programs Coordinator.
- The student should work with the CS Academic Programs Coordinator to determine the location of the thesis defense at the earliest opportunity after the approval from the graduate college.