

Policies for MS in Applied Computer Science (Thesis Option)

1. Students electing the thesis option must fulfill the requirements for the MS in Applied Computer Science degree. In addition, they must successfully complete CPSC6985 Research and Thesis (4 credit hours) over two or more semesters including the semester they defend their thesis. They must also register for CPSC6986 Thesis Defense (0 credit hour) during the semester they defend their thesis.
2. The thesis will consist of a written report based on the application of the student's coursework to a significant and current problem in computer science. The format of the thesis is described in the *Masters Theses Preparation and Submission Guidelines* document.
3. The thesis committee will consist of at least three members, including the thesis supervisor. At least two members must be graduate faculty in the School of Computer Science. The thesis supervisor will select two other members of the committee. Selection of these two committee members will be subject to approval by the School of Computer Science Graduate Program Committee and the School Chair.
4. The student will prepare a thesis proposal for review by the thesis committee and present it to the committee and the rest of the School in a 15-30 minute talk. Approval of the proposal by the committee and the School Chair will follow this presentation. This approval is required prior to the student beginning work on the research project.
5. Projects involving research using human subjects need to be approved by the CSU Institutional Review Board.
6. Upon conclusion of the research, the student will prepare, present, and defend the written thesis. The student must submit the final draft of the thesis to the thesis supervisor at least two weeks before the last day of class of the relevant semester. The thesis defense will take place during the final exam period of the semester.
7. The thesis must be defended by the student in the presence of the graduate faculty of the School. Although all graduate faculty members may participate during the defense, only the thesis committee members will decide on the success or failure of

the defense. Students registering for CPSC6986 Thesis Defense but failing to defend the thesis satisfactorily will be awarded a 'U' (Unsatisfactory) grade. Students failing to appear for the thesis defense will be awarded an 'I' (Incomplete) grade.

8. Once the thesis is approved by the thesis committee, the student is to make three copies of the thesis and have the copies bound by the CSU Library (see the *CS Masters Theses Preparation and Submission Guidelines* for additional information). Following binding by the CSU Library, two of bounded copies are to be retained by the CSU Library and one is to be delivered to the School of Computer Science. Each of these three copies must include a copy of the Signatory Page carrying the original signatures of the thesis committee members.
9. An Application for graduation with a Master's Degree must be completed at the Registrar's Office, one semester prior to the expected completion of the degree requirements.
10. Completion of degree requirements includes the successful defense of the thesis, submission to the School of Computer Science of three approved copies of the thesis, and successful completion of program course requirements. All requirements must be completed by the last day of semester (defined as the last day of the final exam period) if the degree is to be awarded that semester.