

Computer Science, Ph.D.

Academic Plans

Sample Plan of Study

Sample plans represent one way to complete a program of study. Actual course selection and sequence will vary and should be discussed with an academic advisor. For additional sample plans, see MyUI.

Computer Science, Ph.D.

Course	Title	Hours
Academic Career		
Any Semester		
72 s.h. must be graduate level coursework; up to 33 s.h. of graduate transfer credits allowed upon approval. More information is included in the General Catalog and on department website. ^a		
Hours		0
First Year		
Any Semester		
Qualifying Exam ^b		
Hours		0
Fall		
CS:5350	Design and Analysis of Algorithms	3
CS:5340 or CS:4330	Limits of Computation or Theory of Computation	3
Breadth Requirement Course ^c		3
CS:6000	Research Seminar: Colloquium Series ^d	1
Hours		10
Spring		
Breadth Requirement Course ^c		3
Breadth Requirement Course ^c		3
Practice Requirement Course ^e		3
CS:7270	Computing Research Ethics ^f	1
Hours		10
Second Year		
Fall		
Cognate Area Course ^g		3
Cognate Area Course ^g		3
Cognate Area Course ^g		3
CS:6000	Research Seminar: Colloquium Series ^d	1
Hours		10
Spring		
Elective ^h		3
Elective ^h		3
Elective ^h		3
CS:6000	Research Seminar: Colloquium Series ^d	1
Hours		10

Third Year

Any Semester

Comprehensive Exam ⁱ		
Hours		0

Fall

Elective ^h		3
Elective ^h		3
Elective ^h		3
CS:6000	Research Seminar: Colloquium Series ^d	1
Hours		10

Spring

Elective ^h		3
Elective ^h		3
Elective ^h		3
Elective ^h		1
Hours		10

Fourth Year

Fall

Dissertation Proposal Defense ^j		
CS:7990	Research for Dissertation	7
Hours		7

Spring

CS:7990	Research for Dissertation	6
Final Oral Exam ^k		
Hours		6
Total Hours		73

- Students must complete specific requirements in the University of Iowa Graduate College after program admission. Refer to the Graduate College website and the Manual of Rules and Regulations for more information.
- Taken in mid-September or mid-February of first year; see General Catalog and department website for specifics.
- Students must complete at least three courses (9 s.h.), with at least one course from each of the following areas: systems and software, networks and distributed systems, programming languages and compilers; see General Catalog and department website for list of approved courses.
- Students must enroll four times for 1 s.h. each semester and attend at least 80% of scheduled talks for a satisfactory grade.
- Students must complete at least one course (3 s.h.) with significant practical or implementation-oriented content; see General Catalog and department website for list of approved courses.
- Students must complete this course during first two years; typically offered in spring semesters. Note: this course does not count toward degree requirements.
- In consultation with their advisor, students are required to select three courses, totaling 9 s.h. or more, that constitutes coherent coverage of an external cognate area; the courses need not be offered by the same department. Choices include, but are not limited to, mathematics, statistics, genetics, biology, and engineering disciplines.
- See General Catalog and department website for specifics about elective coursework requirements; may be a combination of thesis hours, directed readings, or CS graduate or non-CS graduate coursework. Work with faculty advisor to determine appropriate graduate coursework and sequence.
- Taken before the end of third year; see General Catalog and department website for specifics.
- Usually takes place six months prior to Final Oral Exam.
- Dissertation defense.