Introduction to Research

You should enroll in the Introduction to Faculty Research Seminar in fall (950 section 7 - 1 hour credit) and arrange a Research Experience in spring (3 hours of 950 or 888).

Incoming Ph.D. students are also encouraged to take the Introduction to Research course (881 section 5 - 2 hours credit) in fall.

**Timing:** First year

**Fall 2009**

File GS2 via School Form GF-2

The student will find an advisor and then establish an Advisory Committee by filing a GF-2 so that a plan of study form (GS2), which will include, in addition to the required 950/888 hours listed above: 12 hours of coursework beyond the M.S., 6 hours of 950, and 18 hours of 991 can be processed by the Student Services Graduate Program Coordinator (SSGPC). (These courses do not have to be completed before the portfolio review.)

**Entering with B.S.:** before 4th semester

DUE NOV. 3, 2010

**Entering with M.S.:** before 2nd semester

DUE DEC. 4, 2009

Portfolio Review

The Portfolio is our version of the Ph.D. Comprehensive Exam. The Portfolio documents core competency areas and includes a research paper of publishable quality (although it does not have to be published at the time of the review). The Portfolio is reviewed by the Graduate Affairs Committee (GAC). The student has at most two chances to pass the Portfolio Review.

*Passing the Portfolio starts the Grad School's 5-year time limit*

Written Proposal

The student will provide a written Dissertation Proposal to his or her Advisory Committee. The proposal documents a literature review and provides a statement of the problem to be addressed in the dissertation. The proposal is reviewed by the student's Advisory Committee.

**Timing:** Two weeks before the proposal presentation

Two weeks before the proposal presentation
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Proposal Presentation</strong></th>
<th>A public presentation of the Dissertation Proposal is required.</th>
<th>At least 6 months prior to dissertation defense (but likely one to two years prior)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Publication</strong></td>
<td>A paper accepted in a peer-reviewed conference or journal is required of each Ph.D. student. The paper may be co-authored.</td>
<td>Before graduation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Diploma Order</strong></td>
<td>Early in the last semester the student informs the Graduate School of his or her intent to graduate (via SISweb).</td>
<td>See the Graduate School deadline for that semester</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Dissertation</strong></td>
<td>The student will provide a written dissertation to his or her Advisory Committee. The dissertation addresses a significant open question or problem in computing. Describes the current state of knowledge, and presents an original solution or contribution. The dissertation is reviewed by the student's Advisory Committee.</td>
<td>Two weeks before the dissertation defense</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Dissertation Defense</strong></td>
<td>A public defense of the dissertation is required.</td>
<td>At least two weeks prior to the GS7 filing deadline for the student's final semester</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Format Approval</strong></td>
<td>The student will submit the completed dissertation for format approval from the Graduate School Manuscript Review Office. The only revisions the student may make after this submission are formatting revisions requested by the Manuscript Review Office.</td>
<td>See the Graduate School deadline for that semester</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Final Submission</strong></td>
<td>All revisions requested by the Manuscript Review Office must be completed and approved by the Manuscript Review Office. <em>Must be completed within a 5-year time limit from Portfolio</em></td>
<td>See the Graduate School deadline for that semester</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Notes:**

- School of Computing deadlines are earlier and take precedence over Graduate School deadlines. That is, you cannot delay past a School deadline until the Graduate School deadline and expect the School to have the time to process paperwork and still meet the Graduate School deadline.

- Ph.D. students who enroll without a M.S. degree in computing must complete 30 hours of graduate computing coursework including the 12 credits identified on the GS2. Graduate coursework in computing taken prior to enrollment at Clemson can be counted toward this requirement with the approval of the Director of Graduate Affairs (DGA).

- The required 12 credit hours of course work beyond the M.S. degree may be satisfied by taking four 800-level courses (exclusive of 881, 888, 95x, 981, and 991). However, one CPSC 881 course or one 3-hour 800-level course from outside the School of Computing may be included in the 12 credit hours with the approval of both the research advisor and the DGA. The 881 Introduction to Research course does not count against this limit.

**See also:**

Coursework and portfolio details - [http://www.clemson.edu/computing/phd_exam.php](http://www.clemson.edu/computing/phd_exam.php)

Clemson Graduate School Deadlines - [http://www.grad.clemson.edu/Deadlines.php](http://www.grad.clemson.edu/Deadlines.php)