

TRACKING YOUR PROGRESS TOWARDS FULFILLING YOUR COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Computer Science MSE
Computer Science PhD
Information Security Institute MSSI

It's important that you and your academic advisor have regular discussions about your progress towards fulfilling your degree coursework requirements.

The Registrar's Office does not calculate GPAs on graduate student transcripts, but we expect you to maintain at least a 3.0. Use the following standard [College Board Scale](#) to calculate your GPA:

Letter Grade	Percent Grade	4.0 Scale
A+	97-100	4.0
A	93-96	4.0
A-	90-92	3.7
B+	87-89	3.3
B	83-86	3.0
B-	80-82	2.7
C+	77-79	2.3
C	73-76	2.0
C-	70-72	1.7
D+	67-69	1.3
D	65-66	1.0
E/F	Below 65	0.0

Multiply the numerical value of the grade by the number of credits to get the quality points for each course. Then divide that number by the total number of credits. This will give you your GPA.

Courses that are graded pass/fail are not calculated in the GPA if you pass the course, unless it was taken in the Spring of 2020, falling under COVID-related policy. If your semester GPA falls below 3.0, you will be put on academic probation for the following semester. If you do not bring up your GPA by the end of that semester, you will not be allowed to register for the following semester.

Computer Science Ph.D. Students

The course requirements for CS PhD students is roughly the same as it is for CS MSE students. Eight one-semester courses in Computer Science (or in closely related fields such as Electrical and Computer Engineering, Cognitive Science, Mathematics, or Mathematical Sciences) are required. More than half (5/8, or 6/10 for MSE students without a research project or Master's essay) of all courses counted toward the PhD degree must be taught in the Department of Computer Science. Four of the five distribution areas must be satisfied. You can view course area designations [here](#). Note that electives must be approved by your CS faculty advisor.

You need at least a C- for a course to count toward your requirements, and your average grade for the 8 courses must be at least B+.

If you are eligible for and want to pick up an MSE as a PhD student, your first qualifying project must be submitted as well. In order to get your MSE, you must apply for it and submit the same paperwork as other MSE candidates.