Master Student Guidelines
MS Requirements

- Non-thesis option
  - 30 credits (10 courses)

- Thesis option
  - 21 credits (7 courses)
  - 9 credits of Directed Research
  - You will need to write and defend a Thesis based on your research results
  - Your advisor will form an advisory committee in which you will defend

- Courses are divided into three Foundational Areas
  - Theory
  - Systems
  - Applied

> = 50 of your courses must be at the 600 level
Thesis MS Requirements

- 21 credits (7 courses)
- 9 credits of Directed Research
- Complete didactic courses
- Plan of study
- Thesis Committee
- Thesis Defense

>= 50 of your courses must be at the 600 level
The student’s plan of study constitutes a tentative list of courses that are taken as part of the graduate degree program. A plan of study is dynamic and can be revised as the need arises. The student’s advisor and Advisory Committee must approve the plan of study (form M1 or D1).

- Complete didactic courses
- **Plan of study**
- Thesis Committee
- Thesis Defense

Plan of Study for the Master of Science Degree

https://egr.vcu.edu/academics/student-services/resources-forms/
Thesis MS Requirements

- Committee consists of 4 faculty members, including the primary Research Advisor.
- 2 committee members must be from the CS graduate program.
- 1 committee members from outside; whenever possible, one of the committee members should be from outside of VCU.

- Complete didactic courses
- Plan of study
- Thesis Committee
- Thesis Defense

[Appointment of Master of Science for Thesis Advisory Committee]
https://egr.vcu.edu/academics/student-services/resources-forms/
Thesis MS Requirements

- Typically, this happens during CS Seminar Fridays at noon

- Coordinate with seminar coordinators:
  - Dr. Damevski kmdevski@vcu.edu
  - Dr. Bulut ebulut@vcu.edu

  Ensure to give them a minimum of three months notice

- Complete didactic courses
- Plan of study
- Thesis Committee
- Thesis Defense
Thesis MS Requirements

• Fill out forms!!
  • Before the defense
    • Form: Notice of final defense
  • Form: Admission to Candidacy

Notice of final defense examination for degree of Master of Science and Doctor of Philosophy

• After the proposal defense
  • Form: ETD Approval Form

https://egr.vcu.edu/academics/student-services/resources-forms/

• Complete didactic courses
• Plan of study
• Thesis Committee
• Thesis Defense