

Ph.D. Program of Study Form  
 Department of Computer Science, UIUC  
 Return to Academic Office by December 15th

The Program of Study allows students to propose their own curriculum in accordance with the Ph.D. graduation requirements and with approval of the assigned committee. PhD students must complete a minimum of 96 credit hours (64 with an approved M.S. degree). Toward the total credit hours required, students must complete a minimum of 48 credit hours of coursework (16 with an approved M.S. degree), and complete a minimum of 32 credit hours of thesis research. This form only covers coursework. The table below summarizes the coursework requirements that your proposed curriculum must satisfy.

<b>Coursework Minimum Requirements</b>	
<b>B.S. degree only (or without approved M.S.)</b>	<b>With approved M.S. degree</b>
48 credit hours of graduate-level coursework	16 credit hours of graduate-level coursework
12 credit hours of CS 500-level coursework	12 credit hours of CS 500-level coursework
24 credit hours of 500-level coursework (inclusive of CS 500-level coursework)	16 credit hours of 500-level coursework (inclusive of CS 500-level coursework)
20 credit hours of CS graduate-level coursework*	12 hours of CS graduate-level coursework*

\* CS 597 (Independent Study) and CS 591 / 491 (seminars) can only be applied towards this requirement. No more than 4 credit hours of seminars can count toward the requirement. No more than 16 credit hours of CS 597 can count toward the requirement. Graduate-level coursework typically includes 400- and 500-level courses.

### **Things to keep in mind**

- Students should propose a curriculum that builds both breadth and depth of knowledge in their area of specialization and helps prepare them for the qualifying exam.
- Students must attempt the qualifying exam for the first time by the end of the 4th semester.
- Students should attempt the prelim exam by the end of the 8th semester.

## Proposed Curriculum

Enter the information for each course that you propose to take. In each Course cell, you may specify a preferred course and courses that could be substituted if the preferred course is not offered during the term you want to take it. A minimum of **three courses** must be marked as **required**. A required course is a course that you consider critical for preparing for the qual or is central to your area of specialization.

The following is an example of a program of study for a student who is interested in AI, does not have an approved M.S. degree, and requires 48 credit hours of coursework. This only an example, for instance, you may choose heavier course loads and meet the curriculum requirements in fewer than five semesters.

Course	Required?	Expected Term (e.g., Fall 2020)	Credit Hours
CS 440 Artificial Intelligence; or CS 498 AML	Yes	Fall 2018	4
CS 597 Independent Study		Fall 2018	4
CS 591 PhD	Yes (by department)	Fall 2018	1
CS 446 Machine Learning	Yes	Spring 2019	4
CS 543 Computer Vision	Yes	Spring 2019	4
CS 597 Independent Study		Spring 2019	4
CS 546 Machine Learning in NLP	Yes	Spring 2019	4
CS 598 Advanced Topics		Fall 2019	4
CS 591 TA	Yes (by department)	Fall 2019	1
STAT 575 Large Sample Theory		Spring 2020	4
IS 543 Sociotechnical Information Systems		Spring 2020	4
CS 548 Models of Cognitive Processes		Fall 2021	4
CS 565 Human-Computer Interaction		Fall 2021	4
STAT 542 Statistical Learning		Spring 2022	4




### **Justification for Proposed Curriculum**

Please give rationale (a few sentences) for the courses marked as required and give rationale (a few more sentences) for the other courses in the proposed curriculum:

Example:

The courses marked as required are core to my selected area of specialization (AI) and will help me prepare for the qualifying exam in AI. The two 591 seminars are required by the department.

To complement the machine learning and AI courses in CS, I would like to take two courses in statistics that are relevant to my research focus on statistical machine learning and big data sets. I also want to learn about human cognition because I am interested in applying machine learning techniques to aid human-in-the-loop contexts such as semi-autonomous vehicles and drones.

### Self-assessment

Enter the credit hours in your proposed curriculum for each criterion. The calculated credit hours must meet or exceed the requirement listed for each row. If not, the proposed curriculum needs to be revised.

	<b>Proposed Curriculum</b> <<<Auto-filled based on proposed curriculum above>>>	<b>Min Requirement (credit hours)</b>
Total graduate-level credit hours	50	48 (16 with approved M.S.)
CS 500-level credit hours	20	12 (same with approved M.S.)
500-level credit hours	32	24 (16 with approved M.S.)
CS graduate-level credit hours	38	20 (12 with approved M.S.)

### Committee Approvals

Name (print): \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name (print): \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name (print): \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

<<< **BUTTONS** available for student to “Save” AND “Submit”>>>