# PhD Degree in Computer Science (PCSC): Requirements and Timelines

Division of Computer Science and Engineering (CSE), School of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science (EECS), Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge

All LSU Graduate School regulations and procedures apply (http://gradlsu.gs.lsu.edu). In addition, the degree requirements and timelines set by the CSE Division apply. The PhD degree requires a dissertation, and a minimum of 55 hours of credit at the graduate level (4 core courses, 8 electives, 1 seminar, and at least 18 research hours). It is the student's responsibility to read, understand, and satisfy the Graduate School and CSE Division requirements.

### Year One:

- Attend graduate student orientation/reception.
- Meet with the Graduate Advisor in the first week of the semester.
- Take core courses (at least 3) and electives in the first year.
- Enroll in the graduate seminar course (CSC 7800).
- File a plan of study specifying research goals and course work.
- Decide on a research topic/area and choose a PhD Advisor (Major Professor) from the CSE Division.
- Form a PhD advisory committee of three members with the Advisor serving as the chair. A faculty from another department or an adjunct faculty can serve as the co-advisor (co-chair).
- Annual evaluation consists of course work, plan of study, and advisor's feedback.

### Year Two:

- Enroll in the remaining core courses and electives, and CSC 9000 (if needed).
- Must make first attempt to the Research Qualifying Exam.
- Annual evaluation consists of course work, research qualifier result, and advisor's feedback.

#### Year Three:

- Must retake core courses with grade below B- and failed research qualifier, if any.
- Enroll in research hours (CSC 9000) in addition to regular courses (electives).
- May take the PhD General Examination (Oral Proposal Defense).
- Annual evaluation consists of course work, research progress, and committee's feedback.

## Year Four:

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