Computer Science Department
University of Massachusetts Lowell
Ph.D. Degree Requirements

Candidacy Requirements

Despite acceptance into the program, in order to be admitted to candidacy, student must:
- complete the degree requirements for the MS in CS (unless he or she possesses an MS in CS or a closely related engineering, scientific, or mathematical discipline)
- pass the departmental qualifying examinations (rules)

Course Requirements

Course Credits: 18 credits (Six courses from the MS Course list. No course applied towards the MS degree can be used to satisfy course requirements for the Doctoral degree.)

Thesis Credits: 24 Credits

Total: 42 credits

Additional Requirements

- passing qualifying exams (rules)
- submission and defense at an oral examination of a thesis proposal (form)
- completion of the thesis
- final defense of the thesis during another oral examination
- acceptance of two papers for publication in a peer-reviewed (refereed) journal or conference approved by the thesis adviser. At least one of these publications must be in the thesis area.