

New PhD Checkpoint Proposal:

- Eliminate MSc paper presentation checkpoint from PhD program.
- Move deadline for qualifying oral earlier. Specifically:
 - For PhD students who completed their MSc here: 7 months from the beginning of their PhD (i.e., two years from original start date for their MSc)
 - PhD direct entry students (entering w/o a CS MSc): Within two years from entry.
 - For PhD students with a previous MSc from elsewhere: Within one year from entry.
- Re: SGS requirement that PhD students achieve candidacy within 3 years of PhD start date.

Candidacy currently involves completing the PhD course and breadth requirements, plus completing the qualifying oral.

Proposal: Require the research proposal be completed in order to achieve candidacy (SGS rules: candidacy must be achieved within 36 months of the start date).

See next pages for tables of the new and old timelines.

Proposed Checkpoints and Timelines:

MONTHS IN PROGRAM				
M.Sc.	Ph.D.	Ph.D. with M.Sc. from elsewhere	direct entry	
1			1	PROGRAM START (for students entering the M.Sc. or the Ph.D. program directly from a B.Sc.) Submit Breadth Evaluation and Plan of Study Form to CS Graduate Office.
			6	Formation of Supervisory Committee for Ph.D. students entering the program directly from a B.Sc.
12			12	Coursework: M.Sc. Students should manage their time so that 4 half-credit courses can be completed within 12 months to allow using the remaining 5 months to focus on research and writing the research paper. The grade of each course must be at least B-.
17			17	M.SC. STUDENTS GRADUATING: Coursework: All coursework must be completed with a grade of at least B- for students wishing to complete the M.Sc. degree and graduate. Research Paper: The Research Paper is to be submitted and approved by two readers. Reader reports are to be submitted to the Graduate Office at least two days prior to the SGS deadline. M.SC. STUDENTS GRADUATING AND CONTINUING TO PH.D.: Read the instructions for M.Sc.-Ph.D. Transition Procedure in this handbook. PH.D. STUDENTS ADMITTED DIRECTLY FROM A B.SC. DEGREE: At this point you should complete a research paper and have it approved by two readers in order to be permitted to continue to Checkpoint 1 in the Ph.D. program.
	1	1	18	PH.D. PROGRAM START
	7	12	24	Formation of Supervisory Committee CHECKPOINT 1: Qualifying Oral Examination
	19	24	36	CHECKPOINT 2: Research Proposal
	31	36	48	CHECKPOINT 4: Thesis Proposal
	43	48	60	CHECKPOINT 5: Departmental Thesis Examination CHECKPOINT 6: Final Oral Examination at the School of Graduate Studies

Old Timelines:

MONTHS IN PROGRAM				
M.Sc.	Ph.D.	Ph.D. with M.Sc. from elsewhere	direct entry	
1			1	PROGRAM START (for students entering the M.Sc. or the Ph.D. program directly from a B.Sc.) Submit Breadth Evaluation and Plan of Study Form to CS Graduate Office.
			6	Formation of Supervisory Committee for Ph.D. students entering the program directly from a B.Sc.
12			12	Coursework: M.Sc. Students should manage their time so that 4 half-credit courses can be completed within 12 months to allow using the remaining 5 months to focus on research and writing the research paper. The grade of each course must be at least B-.
17			17	M.SC. STUDENTS GRADUATING: Coursework: All coursework must be completed with a grade of at least B- for students wishing to complete the M.Sc. degree and graduate. Research Paper: The Research Paper is to be submitted and approved by two readers. Reader reports are to be submitted to the Graduate Office at least two days prior to the SGS deadline. M.SC. STUDENTS GRADUATING AND CONTINUING TO PH.D.: Read the instructions for M.Sc.-Ph.D. Transition Procedure in this handbook. PH.D. STUDENTS ADMITTED DIRECTLY FROM A B.SC. DEGREE: At this point you should complete a research paper and have it approved by two readers in order to be permitted to continue to Checkpoint 1 in the Ph.D. program.
	1	1	18	PH.D. PROGRAM START
	3	12	20	Formation of Supervisory Committee CHECKPOINT 1: Oral Presentation of the Research Paper
	9	20	24	CHECKPOINT 2: Qualifying Oral Examination
	18	26	36	CHECKPOINT 3: Research Proposal
	36	36	48	CHECKPOINT 4: Thesis Proposal Coursework: All course work completed with a grade of at least B-. Candidacy Achieved: All degree requirements must be completed, exclusive of research and thesis.
	43	48	60	CHECKPOINT 5: Departmental Thesis Examination CHECKPOINT 6: Final Oral Examination at the School of Graduate Studies