

Degree Milestones Informatics Concentration of the Ph.D. in ICS (Four Tracks)

General Track

ICT Track

Software Track

UBICOMP Track

Completion of Course Requirements

Expected timing: End of second year
Deadline: Prior to advancement exam

Research Project

Expected timing: End of second year

Written Assessment

Form

Details

“Publication-quality” report on research project
Three-member faculty committee reviews and suggests revisions; see <http://www.ics.uci.edu/bin/pdf/grad/phd/PhDWrittenAssessment.pdf>

Phase II Exam

based on reading list at <http://www.ics.uci.edu/~corps/>

Phase II Exam

based on reading list at http://www.isr.uci.edu/Software/phaseII_reading_list.html

“Publication-quality” report on research project
Three-member faculty committee reviews and suggests revisions; see <http://www.ics.uci.edu/bin/pdf/grad/phd/PhDWrittenAssessment.pdf>

Deadline: Prior to advancement exam

Possible results: Pass at PhD level, Pass only at MS level, Fail.

Limit: Students may take the written assessment no more than twice.

Advancement to Candidacy

Form and content

based on student’s research project and pre-determined list of papers

based on student’s survey paper

based on student’s survey paper

based on student’s research project and pre-determined list of papers

Expected timing: Second year for students entering with M.S., otherwise third year

Or-else deadline: End of third year

Committee membership: Five faculty, three from Informatics (including your advisor), one from ICS (Informatics or CS or Statistics), one from outside ICS. Your advisor can suggest members; check with the SAO for eligibility

Dissertation Topic Defense

Proposed dissertation plan including abstract, outline, and other material determined with advisor

Expected timing: ASAP after advancement

Committee membership: Three faculty drawn from your advancement committee, at least two from Informatics (including your advisor)

Dissertation Final Defense

Expected timing: Fourth year for students entering with M.S., otherwise fifth year

Or-else deadline: End of seventh year

Committee membership: Three faculty, at least two from Informatics (including your advisor); typically the same as your topic defense committee

NOTES

In theory, exceptions are possible to any university regulation; in practice, exceptions are occasionally granted for good cause. But relying on the possibility of an exception being granted or a deadline being extended is a poor strategy

Or-else deadline: If a milestone is not met by this deadline, the student is subject to dismissal by Graduate Division

Students entering without a previous MS degree may earn an MS by completing their course requirements and taking either the MS comprehensive exam (in the General/Ubicomp tracks) or the Written Assessment/Phase II exam (in the Software/ICT tracks)