



UNIVERSITY OF  
**GEORGIA**

# Fall 2024

School of Computing(SOC)  
Graduate Student Handbook

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# **SOC FACULTY AND RESEARCH INTERESTS**

**Fall 2024**

GAGAN AGRAWAL, Professor and Director of School of Computing; Ph.D, University of Maryland, High Performance and data-intensive computing, Cloud/Grid systems, Scientific Data Management, Data Mining, Social Media Analytics and Cyber Security.

BUDAK ARPINAR, Associate Professor; Ph.D., Middle East Technical University, Internet-scale distributed databases, interoperable information systems.

BRADLEY J. BARNES, Senior Lecturer and Undergraduate Coordinator, Ph.D.; University of Georgia, parallel and distributed computing, computer architecture, operating systems.

SUCHENDRA M. BHANDARKAR, Professor; Ph.D., Syracuse, computer vision, image and video processing and parallel processing.

LIMING CAI, Professor and Graduate Coordinator; Ph.D., Texas A&M University, algorithms, combinatorial optimization computational complexity theory, and computational biology.

MICHAEL COTTERELL, Senior Lecturer, PhD. And Undergraduate Coordinator, University of Georgia, simulation, optimization, & ontologies for big data analytics.

PRASHANT DOSHI, Professor, Ph.D., University of Illinois, Service-oriented computing, semantic web, dynamic workflow composition, artificial intelligence, sequential decision theory, probabilistic reasoning over time.

FEI DOU, Assistant Professor, Ph.D., University of Connecticut in Laboratory of Machine Learning & Health Informatics, reinforcement learning, Federated Learning, On-Device Learning, Computer Vision, Contrastive Learning, Representation Learning; Location-based Services (LBS), Edge Computing, Data Privacy, Remote Sensing Imagery, Smart City, Mobile Computing and Wireless Networks.

SHELBY H. FUNK, Associate Professor; Ph.D., University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, real-time systems, distributed systems.

LE GUAN, Assistant Professor, Ph.D., Chinese academy of Sciences, P. R. China, hardware and systems security, mobile security and IoT.

ZICHEN GUI, Assistant Professor, Ph.D. University of Bristol. Applied cryptography, fully homomorphic encryption, distributed systems, cryptanalysis, searchable encryption.

WILLIAM ( BILL) HOLLINGSWORTH, Senior Lecturer, Ph.D., University of Cambridge, computational linguistics and computer science.

MARIA HYBINETTE, Associate Professor; Ph.D., Georgia Tech, parallel and distributed computing, interactive computing environments, parallel applications.

HEMADRI JAYALATH, Lecturer, Ph.D., University of Georgia, Systems for ML, Interactive ML& Human centered ML Courses: Software Engineering, Mobile Software Development, Human Computer Interaction, Advanced Information Systems, Machine Learning, Distributed Systems, Cyber security and Reliability, Algorithm.

MUSTAKIMMUR R. KHANDAKAR, Assistant Professor, Ph.D., Florida State University, system and software security.

MANIJEH KESHTGARI, Senior Lecturer, Ph.D., Sharif University of Technology, computer networks, high performance computing, internet of things, software defined networking.

IN KEE KIM, Assistant Professor, Ph.D., University of Virginia, cloud computing, distributed systems, big data framework, IoT, and machine learning.

KRZYSZTOF J. KOCHUT, Professor and Associate Head; Ph.D., Louisiana State, distributed processing, database systems, genomics.

JAEWOO LEE, Associate Professor, Ph.D., Purdue University, data privacy, machine learning, data mining, and convex optimization.

KYU HYUNG LEE, Associate Director, Institute of Cybersecurity and Privacy, and Graduate Coordinator, Ph.D., Purdue University, cybersecurity dynamic/static program analysis, operating systems, and distributed systems.

SHENG LI, Adjunct Assistant Professor, Ph.D., Northeastern University, data mining and machine learning, visual intelligence, time series modeling, deep learning, and causal inference.

YIHENG LIANG, Lecturer, Ph.D., University of North Texas, computational epidemiology.

NINGHAO LIU, Assistant Professor, Ph.D., Texas A&M University, explainable artificial intelligence, network analysis, anomaly detection, and recommender systems.

TIANMING LIU, Distinguished Research Professor; Ph.D., Shanghai Jiao Tong University, neuro imaging, neuroimage computing, and neuroinformatics.

JIN LU, Assistant Professor, Ph.D., University of Connecticut, Machine Learning and Data Mining, Matrix/Tensor Analysis, Optimization, Recommendation System, Learning Theory, Image Processing, Distributed Computing.

SACHIN MEENA, Senior Lecturer, Ph.D., University of Missouri, Columbia, Interactive Image Segmentation, Machine Learning, Bio-medical Image Analysis.

SAMI MENIK, Lecturer, Ph.D., University of Georgia, Deep Learning, Combination of Machine Learning Systems and Software Engineering.

JOHN A. MILLER, Professor; Ph.D., Georgia Tech, Database systems, simulation, parallel and distributed systems.

WEI NIU, Assistant Professor, Ph.D., William & Mary, real-time machine learning systems, mobile (and edge) computing, parallel computing and compiler, accelerating Deep Neural Network (DNN) executions on various mobile and edge platforms with compiler and runtime support.

RAMVIYAS NATTANMAI PARASURAMAN, Assistant Professor, Ph.D., Universidad Politecnica de Madrid, Spain, robotics and automation, networked multi-robot coordination, and machine learning of wireless signals.

HAO PENG, Lecturer, Ph.D., University of Georgia, data science.

ROBERTO PERDISCI, Patty and D.R. Grimes Distinguished Professor, Ph.D., University of Cagliari – Italy, Computer and network security, malware detection, DNS security, pattern recognition, data mining.

SHANNON QUINN, Associate Professor, Ph.D., University of Pittsburgh, distributed spectral graph methods for analyzing large-scale un-structured biomedical data.

LAKSHMISH RAMASWAMY, Professor and Associate Director, School of Computing, Ph.D., Georgia Tech, large-scale distributed systems, World Wide Web, overlay networks and peer-to-peer systems and distributed databases & big Data.

KHALED RASHEED, Director, Institute of Artificial Intelligence, and Professor; Ph.D., Rutgers University, artificial intelligence, genetic algorithms, design optimization.

EMAN SALEH, Senior Lecturer, Ph.D. Cairo University, software engineering.

ARI SCHLESINGER, Assistant Professor, Ph.D., Georgia Institute of Technology, combinations of interdisciplinary methodologies, my research focuses on socially engaged computation to effect equitable social change and technological advancement. I investigate the ways social issues become encoded in technical ecosystems with the goal of making harm-reduction strategies accessible to the general public, the research community, and the tech industry.

DIANE STEPHENS, Lecturer, Ph.D. Candidate, University of Georgia

JIN SUN, Assistant Professor, Ph.D. University of Maryland, complex interactions between objects: e.g., geometrical and contextual, applying computer vision in applications such as Human Computer Interactions to improve people's quality of life.

JONATHAN VANCE, Lecturer, Ph.D., University of Georgia, AI/Machine Learning in Precision Agriculture, Deep Learning, Time Series Forecasting.

WENWEN WANG, Assistant Professor, Ph.D., University of Chinese Academy of Sciences, computer architectures, compilers, runtimes, operating systems, mobile computing, and system security.

ZHEN XIANG, Assistant Professor, Ph.D., Pennsylvania State University. Machine learning, AI security, statistical signal processing, large language model, AI agent.

GENG YUAN, Ph.D., Northeastern University, General AI Systems, Deep Learning, Efficient Training, Model Compression, DNN Acceleration and High-Performance Computing, Emerging Deep Learning Systems, Hardware-software Co-design for DNN Architectures.

## **ADJUNCT, COURTESY FACULTY AND RESEARCH INTERESTS**

YI HONG, Adjunct Assistant Professor, Ph. D., University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, data analysis, statistical analysis, optimization, and visualization.

KYLE JOHNSEN, Ph.D., Adjunct Associate Professor, University of Florida, Simulation-based Training, Natural Interfaces, Human-Computer Interaction, Serious Games, Virtual Humans, Virtual Reality, Computer Graphics, Computer Vision.

JESSICA KISSINGER, Ph.D., Adjunct Professor, Indiana University, Computational Biology.

CHANGYING LI, PhD., Courtesy Professor of Computer Science, Pennsylvania State University, Phenomics and Plant Robotics.

KANG LI, Adjunct Professor, Ph.D., Oregon Graduate Institute, Computer networks, system security, multimedia.

SHENG LI, Adjunct Assistant Professor, Ph.D, Northeastern University, Deep representation learning, causal inference, natural language processing, and user modeling.

PING MA, Ph.D., Courtesy Professor, Purdue University, Statistics Research, Data Analytics.

FRED MAIER, Ph.D., Courtesy Assistant Research Scientist of Computer Science, University of Georgia, Logic-based AI, focusing on semantics and algorithms for rule-based Nonmonotonic logics and on inconsistency-tolerant description logics.

HANCHUAN PENG, Ph.D., Adjunct Associate Professor, *Southeast University, Nanjing, China*, Microscopy Image Analysis and Visualization, Bioinformatics and Computational Biology, Biomedical Imaging, Neuroscience, Cell Biology, Pattern Recognition, Computer Vision, Machine Learning, Data Mining, Brain Atlases and Connectomes, Gene Expression Analysis, Other Biomedical Applications.

AMIT P. SHETH, Ph.D., Adjunct Professor, Ohio State University; Information integration, workflow management & semantic web services.

WENZHAN SONG, PhD, Courtesy Professor of Computer Science, Illinois Institute of Technology, Cyber-physical Systems, Computing and Security; Smart Grid, Subsurface Imaging, Sensor Networks, Swarm Robotics; Energy and Environment Informatics, Distributed Computing and Systems, Big Data Analytics

YING XU, Courtesy Professor of Computer Science, Ph.D., University of Colorado at Boulder, Bioinformatics, computational biology, cancer bioinformatics research.

WILLIAM YORK, Courtesy Professor of Computer Science, Ph.D., University of Georgia, Bioinformatics for glycobiology and glycomics; structure, assembly, and morphogenesis of primary cell walls of plants.

## **EMERITUS FACULTY**

HAMID R. ARABNIA, Emeritus Professor; Ph.D., Kent at Canterbury, parallel and distributed algorithms & architectures, computer vision, scalable big data analytics, methodologies in prevention of cyber-stalking and cyber harassment.

E. RODNEY CANFIELD, Emeritus Professor; Ph.D., California at San Diego, Combinatorics, theory, data structures.

DON POTTER, Emeritus Professor; Ph.D, South Carolina University, Expert Database Systems, Knowledge and Data Modeling, Artificial Intelligence, Robotics, Evolutionary Computing.

ROBERT W. ROBINSON, Emeritus Professor; Ph.D., Cornell, Combinatorics, graph theory, algorithms.

JEFFREY W. SMITH, Emeritus Associate Professor; Ph.D., North Carolina State, Computer architecture, computer aided design, modeling and visualization.

THIAB R. TAHA, Emeritus Professor; Ph.D., Clarkson University, scientific and distributed computing, bioinformatics, software development for solving nonlinear wave equations and biochemical reaction networks, big data analytics.

## SCHOOL OF COMPUTING STAFF

Sherry Wrona, Office Manager	swrona@uga.edu	(706) 542-3455
Nathan Shamaan, Administrative Specialist	nathan.shamaan@uga.edu	(706) 542-2911
Samantha Varghese, Graduate Student Affairs Coordinator	slvargh@uga.edu	(706) 542-3477

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## SCHOOL OF COMPUTING ADMINISTRATION

### **Dr. Liming Cai, Ph.D.**

Professor and Graduate Coordinator

Email: [cs-grad-coordinator@uga.edu](mailto:cs-grad-coordinator@uga.edu)

Phone: (706) 542-6081

### **Dr. Kyu Hyung Lee, Ph.D.**

Associate Director, Institute of Cybersecurity, and Graduate Coordinator

Email: [cs-grad-coordinator@uga.edu](mailto:cs-grad-coordinator@uga.edu)

Phone: (706) 542-4690

### **Dr. Lakshmish Ramaswamy, Ph.D.**

Associate Director and Professor

Email: [laksmr@uga.edu](mailto:laksmr@uga.edu)

Phone: (706) 542-2737

### **Dr. Gagan Agrawal, Ph.D.**

Professor of Computer Science and School of Computing Director

Email: [gagrawal@uga.edu](mailto:gagrawal@uga.edu)

School of Computing Address: 415 Boyd Research and Education Center, University of Georgia, Athens, GA 3060. 706-542-2911. [csci-web@franklin.uga.edu](mailto:csci-web@franklin.uga.edu)



## School of Computing Policies and Facilities

IT Support provided by Franklin College Office of Information Technology's Boyd Hub. The Boyd Hub is staffed by:

- Richard Hare,
- Nicholas Hobbs
- Corey Kim

All support requests should go to Email to [helpdesk@franklin.uga.edu](mailto:helpdesk@franklin.uga.edu) or website <https://helpdesk.franklin.uga.edu/>

**Linux fileserver(s):**           odin.cs.uga.edu  
Red Hat Enterprise Linux OS  
14 Intel Xeon cores with 256 GB  
RAM Local storage for student  
accounts

The department has many other special file servers available for student use. Access to these file servers will be granted with permission from a faculty member.

The PC workstations in Boyd Rooms 201, 202, 307 and 307a authenticate via myID. All TA PC workstations also authenticate via myID. or similar.

### **Odin account policy:**

Your home directory on Odin will remain for **one year** after graduation. Email [helpdesk@franklin.uga.edu](mailto:helpdesk@franklin.uga.edu) with questions/problems with departmental computers or networking issue.

# Overview of SOC Graduate Programs

## ➤ **MS Computer Science- (Thesis) (MS\_CSCI)**

The Master of Science degree in Computer Science at The University of Georgia is a comprehensive program of study intended to give qualified and motivated students a thorough foundation in the theory, methodology, and techniques of Computer Science. Students who successfully complete this program of study will have a grasp of the principles and foundations of Computer Science. They will be prepared to pursue higher academic goals, including the Doctor of Philosophy degree. They will obtain skills and experience in up-to-date approaches to analysis, design, implementation, validation, and documentation of computer software and hardware. With these skills they will be well qualified for technical, professional, or managerial positions in government, business, industry, and education.

## ➤ **MS Computer Science- (Non-Thesis) (MS\_CSCI\_NT)**

The Master of Science degree in Computer Science (Non-thesis) option is designed for graduate students seeking careers in industry or government after graduation. The track taken is similar to the one taken by current M.S. students that requires a Master's Thesis to be written. The time and effort now devoted to CSCI 7300 Master's Thesis and CSCI 8990 Research Seminar will, under the Non-Thesis option, be replaced with four credit-hours of CSCI 7200 Masters Project. The project will be directed by a Computer Science Graduate faculty professor.

## ➤ **M.S. Program in Cybersecurity and Privacy**

This MS program will be useful for all students, particularly in the fields of computer science, mathematics, and engineering. The program aims to develop expertise in various aspects of computer security and privacy, such as networking, operating systems, network and systems security, and data and communications privacy.

- Thesis Track (MS\_CYPR)
- Nonthesis Track (MS\_CYPR\_NT)

## ➤ **MAMS- Master in Applied Math Science (MAMS\_APMA\_AS)**

This is a professional master's degree program designed for students who seek a broad training in applied computational/quantitative methods as preparation for professional employment in business, government, or industry. Students in this program take a core curriculum of courses offered by the three mathematical science departments from the Franklin College of Arts and Sciences.

- Computer Science (CSCI)
- Mathematics (MATH)

## ➤ **Certificate in Cybersecurity (CERT\_2CYB)**

Cybersecurity and privacy have become critical components of our lives. According to the White House, cybersecurity threats represent one of the most serious economic and national security challenges we face, but one for which we are not yet adequately prepared to counter. The Graduate Certificate in Cybersecurity program, offered by the Department of Computer Science, is designed to equip graduate students with both foundational and cutting-edge cybersecurity and privacy concepts, and to contribute to the formation of well-trained cyber-defense practitioners and researchers.

## ➤ **PhD Computer Science (PHD\_CSCI)**

The Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) in Computer Science at The University of Georgia is an advanced, intensive program offered by the Computer Science Department and designed to take students to the frontiers of knowledge in one of a number of key areas of Computer Science. The Ph.D. in Computer Science combines theory and practice in complementary, yet flexible, ways. The program has been designed to prepare students for careers in research (at universities, or government or industrial research laboratories), teaching (at colleges or universities), or advanced development (at hardware and software companies). The Department presently has many active research groups that cover most areas of Computer Science; see <https://www.cs.uga.edu/research> for details.

## GRADUATE DEGREE INFORMATION - IMPORTANT POINTS

*Note that the following information does NOT include all requirements for a graduate degree in Computer Science.*

NOTE ALSO THAT DEGREE REQUIREMENTS MAY CHANGE AT THE DISCRETION OF THE SCHOOL OF COMPUTING. SUCH CHANGES ARE USUALLY IMPLEMENTED IMMEDIATELY. **IT IS THE STUDENT'S RESPONSIBILITY TO MAKE SURE THEY CONFORM TO THE MOST UP TO DATE DEGREE REQUIREMENTS.**

All new School of Computing students will be course advised by, Drs. Liming Cai or Kyu Lee, Graduate Coordinators, until a Major Professor is chosen. Students will be advised during faculty office hours only. Students are encouraged to choose a Major professor in year 1. Office hours vary by semester. Email Graduate Coordinators at [cs-grad-coordinator@uga.edu](mailto:cs-grad-coordinator@uga.edu).

- MS and PhD students are required to submit all Graduate School forms online through Grad Status [www.gradstatus@uga.edu](mailto:www.gradstatus@uga.edu) by the stated Graduate School *Important Dates and Deadlines* for graduation.
- MS and PhD students are required to submit School of Computing forms found at <https://cs.uga.edu/graduate-studentresources> by stated graduate degree timelines.
- All students must apply for graduation in Athena preferably one semester before the intended graduation term.

### M.S. Degree

- The Major Professor MUST BE CHOSEN BY THE END OF SEMESTER 2 IN THE ENROLLED M.A.M.S. OR M.S. DEGREE PROGRAM. Major Professor is needed for all thesis and non-thesis MS students. MS CSCI Non-thesis students require a Major professor for the MS project (CSCI 7200) and a 2<sup>nd</sup> professor for the MS project. Both professors will be guiding the student on the MS Project spread over two semesters. The professors for the MS project can be: two tenure-track professors, or one tenured track professor and one lecturer. See the School of Computing Directory for faculty status.
- MS Thesis and Non-thesis students must meet the Core Competency requirements which consist of at least 12 credit hours of core CSCI graduate level coursework. At least one course from each of the following groups must be taken: Group I: Theory Group 2: Software Design and Group 3: System Design. Core Competency is certified by the student's Advisory Committee ( if Thesis) or by Major professor ( if Non-thesis), and finally approved by the Graduate Coordinator. See Core Competency forms found here: <https://cs.uga.edu/graduate-student-resources>
- MS Core Competency ( both thesis and non-thesis)- A grade average of at least 3.30 (e.g., B+, B+, B+) must be achieved for the three core CSCI courses. Students below this average may take an additional core course and achieve a grade average of at least 3.15 (e.g., B+, B+, B, B). **Core competency must be achieved by end of Semester 2 or end of Semester 3 ( if taking a 4<sup>th</sup> CSCI Core course).** Students are not permitted to take a any CSCI core course in final semester, without approval of Graduate Coordinators. Please note, taking a CSCI Core course in last semester, may impact graduation.
- CSCI graduate courses for the degree must be B- or better on the Program of Study. The overall grade point average on courses for Program of Study and for graduation requirements is 3.00 overall grade point average. Courses below 6000 level do not count toward the graduate course average.

**FORMS FOR DEGREE-** must be submitted in this order for each degree listed.

- **MS (THESIS): THE FOLLOWING FORMS MUST BE TURNED IN BY THE END OF THE SECOND- SEMESTER-ENROLLED (by end of semester 2)**
  - Advisory Committee
  - MS CSCI (Thesis) Core Competency Certification
  - Program of Study
  - Other Forms- MS Thesis and Final Exam Form +Electronic Thesis and Dissertation (ETD), Application for Graduation ( Athena)
  
- **MS (NON-THESIS): THE FOLLOWING FORMS MUST BE TURNED IN BY THE END OF THE SECOND-SEMESTER-ENROLLED (by end of semester 2)**
  - Advisory Committee – not needed
  - MS CSCI NT (Non-thesis) Core Competency Certification
  - Program of Study
  - Other Form:-MS Project (CSCI 7200) Form- last semester of project, by Reading Day. Form on School of Computing website. Application for Graduation ( Athena).
  
- **MS (CYBERSECURITY-Nonthesis):**
  - MS CYB NT (Nonthesis) Core Competency Certification
  - Program of Study
  - Other Form: MS Project (CSCI 7200) Form- last semester of project, by Reading Day. Form on School of Computing website. Application for Graduation ( Athena).
  
- **MS (CYBERSECURITY-thesis):**
  - MS CYB (Thesis) Core Competency Certification
  - Program of Study
  - Other Forms- MS Thesis and Final Exam Form +Electronic Thesis and Dissertation (ETD), Application for Graduation ( Athena).
  
- **MAMS Degree-THE FOLLOWING FORMS MUST BE TURNED IN BY THE END OF SECOND-SEMESTER ENROLLED ( by end of semester 2)**
  - Advisory Committee- not needed
  - Program of Study (Non-Doctoral Professional Degree for Independent Study Form)
  - Technical Report (CSCI 7100),
  - Application for Graduation ( Athena).

**ALL NON-Thesis MS Students: MS Project (CSCI 7200) ( spread over minimum 2 terms) + MS Project Form-**

- Individual MS project must be uploaded to eLC by Reading Day, in final term of project.
- Individual MS Project Form signed by both Major professor and 2<sup>nd</sup> professor, in semester 2 of the project, is to be submitted to Graduate Coordinator by email at [cs-grad-coordinator@uga.edu](mailto:cs-grad-coordinator@uga.edu) by Reading day in final term of project.
- MS Project Form found on <https://computing.uga.edu/graduate-student-resources>. The form must have course grade( S/U) and appropriate signatures by Reading Day in final term of project.

**For questions/concerns on MS project, contact Graduate Coordinators office.**

## Ph.D. Degree

- The Major Professor and Advisory Committee MUST BE CHOSEN (BY THE END OF THE THIRD SEMESTER ENROLLED). The Advisory Committee Form (G130) online form is found: <https://grad.uga.edu/index.php/current-students/forms/>
- Students must exhibit PhD Core Competency according to the guidelines set forth by the student's advisory committee. This may take the form of a written exam, an oral exam, an essay exam, graded coursework, or some other mechanism deemed appropriate by the student's advisory committee. Major professor, committee members must unanimously vote to certify competency before the student can submit the Core Competency Certification Form to the Graduate Coordinator for approval. See form found here: <https://cs.uga.edu/graduatestudent-resources>
- Prior to the Graduate Coordinator approval, each student's PhD Core Competency certification must undergo full departmental faculty review. Comments and concerns from the department faculty will be taken into consideration by the Graduate Coordinator and used to determine whether or not the certification is approved. In the case where the certification is not approved, the Graduate Coordinator will work with the student's advisory committee to specify any remedial action.
- Students must submit a Preliminary Program of Study Form (see Graduate School forms) to Graduate CS Coordinator (BY END OF THIRD SEMESTER ENROLLED), and a Final Program of Study Form (G138) (BY END OF SEMESTER 3 OR PRIOR TO ORAL/Written COMPREHENSIVE EXAMS) to Graduate School. This should be a coherent and logical whole; it requires the approval of the student's major professor, the student's advisory committee, and the departmental Graduate Coordinator. **The FINAL Program of Study form must be on file with the Graduate School office before the Oral/Written Comprehensive Exam and Admission to Candidacy form can be submitted.**
- Students must pass the Ph.D. Oral/Written Comprehensive Examination that covers the student's major area of study. The examination consists of two parts: a written section and an oral section. **Students have at most two attempts to pass the Comprehensive Examinations.** The oral part may not be attempted until the written part has been passed. **Student must have an approved Advisory Committee form, and approved Program of Study Form on file prior to the Comprehensive Exams.** Student must provide a **two-week advance notice** to Graduate Student Affairs Coordinator/Graduate Coordinator, to announce the (Oral) Comprehensive Exam Announcement (G118) to Graduate School. Prior to the oral exam, the Written and Oral Comprehensive Examination Form (G168) must be submitted by the student in Grad Status. The student is responsible for also submitting the Application for Admission to Candidacy for Doctoral Degrees (G162) form in Grad Status, for Phd Candidacy.
- Students should notify the Graduate Student Affairs Coordinator/Graduate Coordinator to initiate the Dissertation Defense Announcement (G119) in Gradstatus at least two (2) weeks in advance of the defense date in the last semester. The Doctoral Defense must be completed in advance of the final doctoral defense date of the Graduate School in the graduating term. Students must initiate the Approval Form for Doctoral Dissertation Form (G164) at least two (2) weeks in advance in their last semester, in Grad status. Students must submit the ETD Submission Approval Form (G129) in their last semester. This must be approved by all committee members, major professor and graduate coordinator by the Graduate School deadline in the last semester.
- Students must present a Dissertation Prospectus to his/her advisory committee for approval. The Major Professor must submit the results of the Dissertation Prospectus by email or letter to the Graduate Coordinator and Graduate Student Affairs Coordinator, and must be signed by Major Professor, and all Committee members.
- CSCI graduate courses for the degree must be B- or better on the Program of Study. The overall grade point average on courses for Program of Study and for graduation requirements is 3.00 overall grade point average. Courses below 6000 level do not count toward the graduate course average.

**THE FOLLOWING PhD FORMS MUST BE TURNED IN BY THE END OF THE THIRD-SEMESTER-ENROLLED (Semester 3)**

- Advisory Committee Form
- PhD Core Competency Form
- Preliminary Program of Study- (to School of Computing Office only)
- Final Program of Study-required prior to scheduling Written/Oral Comprehensive exam.
- Other Forms/Requirements-
  - Written and Oral Comprehensive Exam Form (G168) + Application for Admission to Candidacy for Doctoral Degrees (G162)- by student with two-week notice to Graduate Coordinator office.
  - Dissertation Defense Announcement ( G119)- notify Graduate Coordinator office, two weeks in advance of dissertation date.
  - Doctoral Dissertation and Final Exam Approval Form + Electronic Thesis and Dissertation ( ETD) (G164)-by student
  - Dissertation Prospectus- Major professor communicates results to Graduate Coordinator office.
  - Application for Graduation ( Athena).

NOTE: All Graduate School and School of Computing forms must be submitted electronically. Graduate School forms are submitted through <https://gradstatus.uga.edu/> School of Computing forms may be emailed to Graduate Coordinator at [cs-grad-coordinator@uga.edu](mailto:cs-grad-coordinator@uga.edu).

ANNOUNCEMENT OF MS THESIS DEFENSE, DOCTORAL EXAMS, AND PROSPECTUS -is to be made directly to cs grads email listserv ( EMAIL TO: [cs-grads@listserv.uga.edu](mailto:cs-grads@listserv.uga.edu) ) which gets delivered to all current School of Computing graduate students. Announcement to emails should be made at least one week in advance to CS faculty and your Committee members, and all CS graduate students.

BOYD ROOM RESERVATIONS-for MS Thesis or Doctoral Exams, are to be scheduled with School of Computing main administrative office, contact Nathan Shamaun [Nathan.Shamaun@uga.edu](mailto:Nathan.Shamaun@uga.edu). Please request in advance for room access and entry.

## IMPORTANT LINKS AND CONTACTS

- Graduate School Forms: <https://grad.uga.edu/index.php/currentstudents/forms/>
- School of Computing Forms: <https://cs.uga.edu/graduate-student-resources>
- Graduate Coordinator: [cs-grad-coordinator@uga.edu](mailto:cs-grad-coordinator@uga.edu)
- Graduate Enrolled Student Services (for questions)- email to [gradinfo@uga.edu](mailto:gradinfo@uga.edu)
- Graduate School Director of Admissions and Enrolled Student Services, Cheri Bliss-email to [gradoff@uga.edu](mailto:gradoff@uga.edu).
- Graduate School Business office- email to [gsfinance@uga.edu](mailto:gsfinance@uga.edu).
- GradFIRST – email to [gradfirst@uga.edu](mailto:gradfirst@uga.edu). More information can be found at: <https://grad.uga.edu/gradfirst/>
- Franklin College Business Office- [fcbfast-csci@uga.edu](mailto:fcbfast-csci@uga.edu)
- Office of Global Engagement, Immigration Office-contact your Immigration Advisor’s email.
- Registrar’s Office: email to [reghelp@uga.edu](mailto:reghelp@uga.edu)
- Schedule of Classes: <https://reg.uga.edu/enrollment-and-registration/schedule-of-classes/>.
- UGA Academic Calendar: <https://reg.uga.edu/general-information/calendars/>
- Bursars/Student Accounts Office: <https://busfin.uga.edu/bursar/> Questions? Email to [stuacct@uga.edu](mailto:stuacct@uga.edu)

## School of Computing Graduate Degree Descriptions- click to view

- [MS Computer Science- \(Thesis\)](#)
- [MS Computer Science- \(Non-Thesis\)](#)
- [M.S. Program in Cybersecurity and Privacy \(Non-Thesis\)](#)
- [M.S Program in Cybersecurity and Privacy \(Thesis\)](#)
- [MAMS- Master in Applied Math Science](#)
- [PhD Computer Science](#)
  - [PhD Exams](#)
- [Bachelors/Masters Double Dawgs](#)
- [Certificate in Cybersecurity](#)

For complete degree or certificate descriptions, please see <https://computing.uga.edu/graduate-admissions>



## **Progress Requirements For School of Computing (SOC) Graduate Students**

The following requirements will apply to SOC graduate students according to their classification. The requirements for part-time students represent a baseline that applies to all graduate students. **Any departure from these requirements must be requested well ahead of time in the form of a written appeal to the Graduate Programs Committee.**

- **Part-Time Student**

The School of Computing is supportive of students who wish to attend graduate school part-time. To ensure satisfactory progress, ALL graduate students are required to register for at least 3 credit hours of CSCI coursework for fall/spring term or summer terms. CSCI graduate classes are mainly in-person on UGA campus in Athens.

- **Full-Time Student**

A full-time student must take 9 to 18 credit hours during each fall or spring semester enrolled, and minimum 6 credit hours during each summer term enrolled. In the fall/spring academic semesters, 9 credit hours of coursework and 6 credit hours during summer, must be in Computer Science.

- **Student Holding an Assistantship**

A student holding a teaching or research assistantship must take 12 to 15 credit hours during each fall or spring semester enrolled, and 9 credit hours during each summer term enrolled. These credits must be graduate level @6000 level or above. **Students are permitted to work a maximum of 20 hours per week in a single or combined position in fall and spring terms. Example: If a student holds at 13.33-hour graduate assistantship, the student can combine another part-time position to this graduate assistantship, that when combined should equal to or less than 6.67 hours per week.**

- **Student on an F-1 Visa**

A student on an F-1 visa must take 9 to 18 credit hours during each fall or spring semester enrolled, and 6 to 18 credit hours during each summer term enrolled. An exception may be made for a student completing all degree requirements except the thesis/technical report. The student must have completed all coursework on his/her program of study excluding CSCI 7100/7300/9300, and he/she must have also passed all required exams except the oral thesis/dissertation defense.

### **Working While on an F-1 Visa**

Please refer to Office of Global Engagement, 1324 S. Lumpkin Street, Athens, GA 30602. 706-542-2900. <https://globalengagement.uga.edu/uga-departments/international-students>. Refer questions to your immigration advisor

### **Students in their last semester**

In your last semester, minimum 3 semester hours of graduate credit are required for registration in which degree requirements are to be completed. You must have the MS or PhD Core Competency form approved with School of Computing, and Program of Study form approved with the Graduate School, PRIOR to your last semester and prior to submitting the *Request to Reduce Course Load (RCL)* through Compass (international students only). RCL is one-time request only. Students may indicate on Program of Study intentions for RCL in last term. Please provide your Major Professor as contact to approve your RCL form. In order to be considered for this exception, he/she must submit to the Major professor a written request to reduce the hours requirement for your last term of enrollment.

## GradFIRST Seminar-Requirement for graduation

**Title:** GradFIRST: First-year Research and Scholarship Training Seminar

### GRSC 7001-1 credit hour

Provides opportunities for professional development and transdisciplinary training for first-year graduate students in areas key to academic success and encourages engagement with graduate program faculty and graduate students. Topics include the ethical conduct of research and scholarship, the development of scholarly writing and communication skills, getting the most out of graduate mentoring, and resources available to support students with grievances and other interpersonal concerns. Nontraditional format: Additional topics will be explored based on faculty expertise and disciplinary focus. Students meet with faculty members on a regular basis. This course cannot be used to fulfill the requirements of the program of study for a graduate degree. C or better required. **This course is not repeatable for credit.**

### Who needs to take it?

All fall 2022 accepted graduate students AND future accepted students to School of Computing, are required to take this seminar in first or second semester. It cannot be taken in future terms. This is required for every graduate student at UGA and fulfills the University-wide graduation requirement. NOTE: GradFIRST seminars are only open to graduate students in their first year of study.

### Which section do I register for?

Students can review the available seminar sections on the Graduate School's GradFirst website.

<https://grad.uga.edu/index.php/gradfirst/>

**For more information:** <https://grad.uga.edu/index.php/gradfirst/>

**To register:** <https://grad.uga.edu/index.php/gradfirst/gradfirst-seminars/>

When you have found a seminar that fits your interest and schedule, make note of the CRN (Course Reference Number). Then, follow the steps below to register. If a section is full, you can return to this page to find an alternate seminar.

1. Log into Athena, go to Student > Registration > Select a Term > Register for Classes.
2. Click on the **Enter CRNs** tab to directly add a course by CRN number.
3. Input the appropriate CRN in the CRN field.
4. Click the **Add to Summary** button.
5. Go the **Summary** menu on the bottom right of the screen and use the **Action** drop down menu to select **Web Registered** for the appropriate course/CRN.
6. Click **Submit**. If successfully added, the course will show in a Registered status



## IMPORTANT DATES & DEADLINES

### December (FALL SEMESTER) 2024

*Note: All theses/dissertations must be submitted electronically. If you plan to graduate during FALL 2024, please adhere to the following deadlines:*

<b>August 30, 2024</b>	Final date to apply for degree/certificate for Fall 2024 graduation. (Apply in Athena)
<b>August 30, 2024</b>	Final date for submitting Program of Study forms to the Graduate School for graduation in Fall 2024. An Advisory Committee form for Master of Arts, Master of Science, and all doctoral candidates must be on file by this date. (Use Program of Study form G138 in gradstatus.uga.edu)
<b>October 1, 2024</b>	Final date for submitting applications for Admission to Candidacy to the Graduate School for doctoral candidates who plan to graduate Fall 2024. If you were not admitted to candidacy prior to June 21, 2024 you must register for Fall 2024.
<b>October 4, 2024</b>	Final date for submitting requests for Transfer of Credit, with accompanying transcripts, to the Graduate School for students graduating in Fall 2024.
<b>October 11, 2024</b>	Final date for doctoral students to submit information for the Commencement Program for Fall 2024 graduation (Use the G120 form in gradstatus.uga.edu)
<b>October 28, 2024</b>	Final date for electronically submitting one complete copy of a thesis or dissertation for a format check for Fall 2024 graduation.
<b>November 20, 2024</b>	Final date for receipt of the following by the Graduate School: Final Defense Approval Form & ETD Submission Approval Form (all doctoral, MS, MA, MHP, and MLA) and corrected copy of thesis/dissertation for Fall 2024 graduation.
<b>December 6, 2024</b>	Final date for completing all requirements except submission of theses/ dissertations (see earlier deadlines). The Graduate School must receive notification concerning removal of incompletes, certificate completions, final examinations, etc., for Fall 2024 graduation. <i>(Note: this does not include grades for courses in which students are currently enrolled)</i>
<b>TBD</b>	Graduation: The Registrar's office will mail diplomas approximately six to eight weeks after graduation. Address changes, if necessary, should be made with the Office of the Registrar to ensure receipt of diploma. <a href="https://grad.uga.edu/about/annual-events/commencement/">https://grad.uga.edu/about/annual-events/commencement/</a>
<b>January 6, 2025</b>	Date the Graduate School will accept theses/dissertations for format checks for future graduations.

If you have applied for Fall graduation and find you will not be able to meet one of these deadlines, e-mail [gradinfo@uga.edu](mailto:gradinfo@uga.edu) to request a change in graduation. Graduate School | 310 Herty Drive, Athens, GA 30602

GRADUATE STUDENTS MUST BE REGISTERED FOR A MINIMUM OF 3 HOURS IN AT LEAST TWO SEMESTERS PER ACADEMIC YEAR (FALL, SPRING, SUMMER), INCLUDING THE THREE HOURS OF GRADUATE CREDIT THAT IS REQUIRED FOR REGISTRATION DURING THE SEMESTER IN WHICH DEGREE REQUIREMENTS ARE COMPLETED.

To review the Graduate Enrollment Policy, please visit: <https://grad.uga.edu/graduate-bulletin/enrollment-policy/>

Graduating? Students are responsible to review the **Important Dates and Deadlines** as seen above for your intended graduation term, and follow due dates listed for forms and degree requirements here and found under your degree on the School of Computing website.

## UGA Policy for Teaching Assistants

The goal of UGA's TA Policy is to ensure that students serving in instructional roles are sufficiently prepared for and supported in their work. This policy is designed to be consistent with USG and Board of Regents guidelines, and to work in tandem with Faculty Affairs' Instructor of Record policy. Broadly speaking, these policies require that all graduate students with instructional roles receive support and training prior to and/or concurrent with engaging students in an instructional capacity.

### TA POLICY DEFINITIONS

#### TA-SHIP

The Graduate School defines *graduate teaching assistants* (GTAs) as students enrolled in the Graduate School who are assigned instructional duties in a course, regardless of the student's specific instructional responsibilities in that academic course. In this policy, any assistantship with instructional duties is referred to as a TAship, and may include teaching assistantships, laboratory assistantships, and other graduate assistantships with defined teaching duties (e.g., guest lecturing, grading, and proctoring). Graduate students are not eligible to grade graduate student work in either graduate course sections or split-level courses. In split-level courses, graduate students are permitted to grade undergraduate student work.

#### LIMITED DUTY TA-SHIP

Limited Duty TAships must also include all of the following features:

- The TA has responsibilities for only one course; AND
- The TA has only one TAship supervisor; AND
- The TA is provided with continuous mentorship by a faculty member, including one-on-one check-ins throughout the semester.
- Examples of Limited Duty TAships are TAships with any of the following features:
  - The TA's primary role includes grading, proctoring, and/or holding office hours, but the TA does not engage in independent instruction at the front of the class; OR
  - The TA is paired with a more senior TA with instructional experience for all in-class or in-laboratory instructional activities; OR
  - The TA is assigned to TA a language course in the TA's native language.

#### INSTRUCTOR OF RECORD (IOR)

An Instructor of Record is defined as the person who is "responsible for delivering the academic content of the course, including conducting the day-to-day classroom/instructional activities and/or the assignment of grades." Note that if a TAship meets this definition of an IoR, then all rules pertaining to IoRs apply. However, TAships where students independently facilitate a lab or discussion section are not considered IoR appointments if they do not independently determine content and/or activities for the course, design assessments, or submit final grades.

## TA-SHIP REQUIREMENTS

In order to hold a TAship at UGA a student must do each of the following, prior to or concurrent with the start of their first TAship:

- 1. Complete the CTL's TA Orientation training modules; AND**
- 2. Successfully complete GRSC 7770 (Intro to College Teaching) or an approved departmental equivalent.**

International students, following [country-specific requirements as determined by the Graduate School](#), must also:

- 3. Demonstrate English language proficiency.**

## CENTER FOR TEACHING AND LEARNING- TA ORIENTATION

All TAs must complete the CTL's TA Orientation training modules prior to or concurrent with the start of their first TAship at UGA. Departmental orientations are not recognized equivalents for CTL TA Orientation. Visit <https://ctl.uga.edu/grad-student/ta-policy/> for upcoming dates and more information.

(You will be expected to provide your Teaching Orientation Quiz score to the Graduate Coordinator's office.)

## GRSC 7770

**All TAs must complete GRSC 7770 prior to or concurrent with their first UGA TAship.**

Students may be exempt from the GRSC 7770 requirement if they have sufficient prior teaching experience or experience with a sufficiently similar course at another institution. The Director of the CTL (or their designate) is responsible for determining whether a student is eligible for exemption from GRSC 7770. To request exemption from GRSC 7770, the student's graduate coordinator must submit a [waiver request](#).

The CTL maintains a list of [GRSC 7770 departmental equivalents](#) for the purpose of TA Policy fulfillment.

Effective Fall 2024, students who place at Level 3 (see the *Guide to Demonstrating English Language Proficiency*) are required to complete LLED 7769 to fulfill their demonstration of English language proficiency and may hold a limited-duty TAship while they are completing LLED 7769 during the **first** semester of their TAship. **As an approved equivalent for GRSC 7770, successful completion of LLED 7769 may be substituted for GRSC 7770 for the purposes of fulfilling TA Policy requirements.**

Students who receive an incomplete (I) in: GRSC 7770 (or an approved equivalent) may hold a TAship for up to one semester, providing them with sufficient time to complete the course. Students retaining an incomplete in GRSC 7770 (or an approved equivalent) after one semester may only hold Limited Duty TAships until they have successfully completed the course.

**LLED 7769 (an approved equivalent of GRSC 7770) may continue their limited duty TAship for up to one semester.** Students retaining an incomplete in LLED 7769 after one semester may not hold a TA ship until they have successfully completed the course.

The graduate coordinator, or person responsible for assigning the TA to a course, is responsible for monitoring whether the student has adhered to this.

Students who complete GRSC 7770 (or an approved equivalent) with a failing grade are not eligible to hold a regular TAship until they successfully complete the course. They may hold a limited duty TAship while they retake the course for the first time. If they again receive a failing grade, they are not eligible to hold a TAship of any kind until they successfully complete GRSC 7770 or an approved equivalent. The graduate coordinator, or person responsible for assigning a TA to a course, is responsible for monitoring whether the student has adhered to this.

## **ENGLISH LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY**

All international students must demonstrate sufficient English language proficiency to hold a TAship. Please refer to [country-specific requirements, as determined by the Graduate School](#) for more details. Students who are from a recognized English-speaking country or who have completed a four-year undergraduate degree from an accredited institution in a recognized English-speaking country no more than four years prior to the start of their degree at UGA are exempt from this requirement.

The Office of Instruction is responsible for establishing and maintaining processes through which English language proficiency may be demonstrated. The expectation is that recognized English language proficiency scores may be used, but other methods may also be developed. In addition, it is expected that opportunities for development will be provided for graduate students who do not meet English language proficiency thresholds for TAships upon entry to UGA.

More information about the English Language Proficiency policy may be found in the companion document, *Guide to Demonstrating English Language Proficiency*, which can be found on the [CTL's website](#).



This guide functions as a companion to the “UGA Policy for Teaching Assistants” guide. It is intended to be used by international graduate students, graduate coordinators, and other administrators to determine the steps needed to demonstrate English language proficiency and ensure compliance with the TA and Instructor of Record policies. This guide includes revisions that are effective Fall 2024 to streamline this policy, while also maintaining instructional excellence for all stakeholders: TAs, academic units, and undergraduate students. Where there is a discrepancy between this document and the policy document, you should defer to the policy document. For more information about TA Policy at UGA, see <https://ctl.uga.edu/grad-student/ta-policy/>.

Note: If you are an international student (1) from a recognized English-speaking country (as determined by the Graduate School), or (2) who has completed a four-year undergraduate degree at an accredited institution in a recognized English-speaking country no more than four years prior to beginning your degree at UGA, then you do not need to demonstrate English language proficiency. Instead, you need only complete the TA Orientation training and GRSC 7770 requirements to comply with the [TA policy](#).

*Recognized English-speaking countries are defined as [those for which the Graduate School does not require a language test score](#) (e.g., TOEFL or IELTS) as part of the application and admissions process.*

## STEP 1: DETERMINE YOUR PLACEMENT LEVEL

You should use your latest language test score – most likely used for admission to UGA – to determine your placement level. You only need one score from one test, but you have two test options (TOEFL and IELTS). If you do not have a TOEFL or IELTS score, you will need to take UGA’s International TA Test of English Proficiency (ITA-TEP). Once you have determined your placement level, proceed to Step 2 below to determine your specific language proficiency requirements in accordance with TA Policy. Follow this link for [more information about UGA’s ITA-TEP placement tests](#).

Test Score			UGA Placement Level
TOEFL speaking sub-score	IELTS speaking band score	Duolingo English Test overall score <sup>1</sup>	
26 or higher	8.0 or higher	135 or higher	4
23-25	7.0-7.5	115-130	3
22 or below	6.5 or below	110 or below	< 3

<sup>1</sup> Beginning in the Fall 2024 admissions cycle, the Duolingo English Test will no longer be accepted. Regardless of the date of a student’s admission to the Graduate School, Duolingo English Test scores dated after July 1, 2024 will NOT be accepted as evidence of English language proficiency, with regard to TA Policy. Please see [GRSC admission requirements](#) for more details.

### STEP 2: IDENTIFY YOUR LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY REQUIREMENTS

Once you have determined your placement level (see above), use this chart to determine your next steps. Note that to serve as an Instructor of Record (IoR) you must complete all steps required to serve as TA, *plus the* additional criteria for serving as an IoR. To hold a TAship you must complete the requirements explained below *and* you must have completed the CTL's TA Orientation training modules. *Graduate Coordinators and Department Administrators: the types of instructional roles that a TA can hold during and after required coursework have been revised to allow more flexibility; the score benchmarks for UGA placement levels remain unchanged.*

UGA Placement Level	Mandatory Course Enrollment	What type of instructional roles can students hold <u>WHILE</u> enrolled in required course(s)?	Retesting Requirement after completion of course(s) <sup>2</sup>	What types of instructional roles can students hold <u>AFTER</u> completing all required course work?
4	GRSC 7770 or approved departmental equivalent	Any instructional role. Instructors of Record must also satisfy <a href="#">Instructor of Record policy</a> .	Not required	Any instructional role. Instructors of Record must also satisfy <a href="#">Instructor of Record policy</a> .
3	LLED 7769 <sup>3</sup>	Limited duty TAship (e.g. proctor, paired laboratory teaching, graders).	Not required for a TA position; required for IoR position.	Any instructional role except Instructor of Record. <a href="#">Follow this link</a> for more information about becoming an IoR. Graduate students must achieve Level 4 in order to serve as an IoR. Successful completion of LLED 7769+Level 3 is sufficient to hold a regular TAship.
< 3	LLED 7768 & LLED 7769 (consecutively)	No instructional roles permitted.	Required for either a TA or IoR position.	Students may not hold any TAship until they have successfully completed LLED 7769 <i>and</i> achieved placement into Level 3 or 4 (through TOEFL, IELTS, and/or ITA-TEP). Level 3 students may hold any TAship; Level 4 students may also serve as an IoR.

<sup>2</sup> As of Fall 2020, the final test administered in LLED 7769 serves as a student's retest, and is used to determine eligibility for TA or IOR roles.

<sup>3</sup> LLED 7769 serves as a GRSC 7770 equivalent. Check with your home department to see if they require you to complete their departmental GRSC 7770 or an approved equivalent in addition to the LLED 7769 requirement.

See FAQ's: [guide-to-demonstrating-elp-february-2024.pdf \(uga.edu\)](https://www.ctl.gsu.edu/guide-to-demonstrating-elp-february-2024.pdf)



# SAMPLE

## Requirements for Students who are Awarded Graduate Assistantships by the School of Computing (SOC)

To insure both (a) that recipients of awards use their time in ways that further most effectively their educational objectives and (b) that students are apprised of our expectations, the Graduate Program Committee has drawn up the following conditions for award recipients:

1. Recipients of awards from the department will be assigned to assist one or more faculty members in their courses. The individual faculty member will make the specific work assignment, which will typically consist of some combination of supervising laboratory sections, grading tests, homework and programs; proctoring tests; holding office hours for consultation and/or being present in the computer lab to answer questions about assignments. These duties will require either 13.33 hours per week or could be 17.78 hours per week. **All Doctoral level Teaching Assistants must be willing to serve as an Instructor of Record for at least one semester, if requested.** Instructor of Record credentials include meeting TA policy requirements in addition to appropriate Master's degree for teaching discipline or 18 graduate credit hours. IOR requirements are found here: [4.07 Miscellaneous Course Policies Provost's Office - University of Georgia \(uga.edu\)](#)
2. Recipients of aid from the department are expected to perform their duties satisfactorily (i.e., well prepared and on time for class, having a courteous and respectful attitude towards students, using good judgement in grading, meeting deadlines, attending required meetings, attending required meetings, etc.). The recipient's performance will be evaluated by their assigned faculty member during the term. The recipient will receive a warning letter in the event of an unsatisfactory performance. Any further occurrence of unsatisfactory performance reported in the final evaluation may be grounds for termination of financial support.
3. To receive the benefits of an award, the recipient must maintain enrollment as a graduate student at the University of Georgia in a degree program approved by the SOC. It is the recipient's responsibility to meet the Graduate School's requirements and deadlines for admission to said program, and to make whatever travel and immigration arrangements that might be necessary in order to attend the University of Georgia. Recipients of awards will enroll for minimum 12 graduate credit hours, and maximum of 18 credit hours.
4. It is the recipient's responsibility to comply with the policy regarding registration of graduate assistants: all graduate assistants must register during the early registration period. If you are not registered and paid before the first day of classes, your departmental funding and the privilege of the reduced matriculation fee for the semester will be cancelled. Consult with the Athena Schedule of Classes for additional pre-registration dates.
5. Like all graduate students in the MAMS, MS and Ph.D. programs, award recipients are expected to complete successfully their course work, examinations, and other assessments of their academic progress and to satisfy University and SOC requirements concerning selection of a major professor and approval of a Program of Study.
6. School of Computing students are expected to complete their Ph.D. degree work in four academic years and their M.S. degree work in two academic years. Those graduate assistants who perform their assigned duties conscientiously and who make good academic progress, will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis for subsequent SOC funding support.

7. Teaching Assistants must qualify with UGA English proficiency requirements prior to TA assignment. For Regular Teaching Assistants, English proficiency can be obtained with TOEFL speak 26 or greater, IELTS speaking 8.0 or greater or Duolingo overall 135 or greater, and/or UGA ITA-TEP Placement Level 4. Teaching Assistants must enroll in GSRC 7770 (1-3 credit hours) or LLED 7769 (3 credit hours) AND successfully complete UGA TA Orientation (offered in fall/spring) by semester one. Students who place TOEFL speak 23-25, IELTS speak 7.0-7.5, Duolingo 115-130, or ITA TEP Level 3 may hold a Limited Duty Teaching Assistantship (TA). For Limited Duty TA, you are required to take LLED 7769 in the term of the Teaching Assistantship. See policy here: [guide-to-demonstrating-elp-february-2024.pdf](#)

8. All funded graduate students in School of Computing are required to have health insurance. Detailed information may be found at <http://www.uhs.uga.edu/>.

9. Assistantship recipients are expected to attend Colloquia meetings at School of Computing.

10. You must be on campus and email check-in with the Graduate Coordinator at least one week before beginning employment otherwise it must be assumed that you are not coming, and your assistantship will be reassigned. International students must inform the School of Computing of their visa issuance to the US, at least two weeks before start of classes.

11. Students must indicate their current degree program appearing in Athena on this document. Any change of degree from Ph.D. or MS Thesis to MS Non-thesis degree program during the semester of assistantship may result in cancellation of the assistantship and tuition waiver, for the semester.

12. All students who are awarded Teaching Assistantship for the award period must satisfy UGA TA policy requirements found here: <https://ctl.uga.edu/grad-student/ta-policy/>.

13. Failure to live up to these expectations and conditions would make future awards unlikely and could result in the IMMEDIATE termination of this award. We trust you will find these conditions fair.

*Please sign and return a copy of this offer (all pages) in order to indicate your understanding of the conditions set out above, and your acceptance of the award being offered.*

---

Full Name (Printed)

Signature

Date

Award Period:

Approved Program: (circle one):

MS\_CS

MS\_Cyb\_NT

MS\_CS\_NT

PhD\_CS

MS\_Cyb

*This form is effective beginning fall 2024. Email to CS Graduate Coordinator's office. All other forms are void.*

Revised.7.2024

# Financial Assistance

1. **Graduate School Awards-** See Graduate School website here: <https://grad.uga.edu/funding/funding-from-the-graduate-school/> See CS graduate listserv emails for announcements and deadlines.
2. **Departmental Teaching Assistantships (TA)-** Provided mainly to School of Computing graduate students. Students who qualify for TA ship receive a tuition waiver, reducing their tuition to \$25.00 +fees for the term of the assistantship. PhD CSCI students are priority. Then MS students if needed. Varies between 13.33 or 17.78 hours per week. Students must apply for TA ship each semester online here: <https://cs.uga.edu/graduate-financial-assistance>. Students who are on academic probation will not be considered for future TA ship, until the student has received the status of Good Academic standing.
3. **Departmental Research Assistantships (RA)-** Students who qualify for RA ship received a tuition waiver, reducing their tuition to \$25.00 +fees for the term of the assistantship. PhD and MS thesis students are priority. Varies between 13.33-20.00 hours per week, annual or semester basis, based on research grant funding. Students who are on academic probation will not be considered. Students may apply online here: <https://cs.uga.edu/graduate-financial-assistance> or contact SoC faculty directly for opportunities. RA ships are preferred for MS CSCI Thesis and Phd CSCI students.  
  
**\*No full-time student may work for UGA for more than 50% time (20 hours a week) in a single or combined position. Additional restrictions will apply when the assistance originates from outside the University.**
4. **Part-time employment-**
  - Enterprise Information Technology Services (EITS)
  - Internships in IT (CSCI 7007-3 credits required for international students)
  - On campus employment-see UGA job board
5. **Application for Out of State Tuition Waivers ( G132)** for MS Thesis students who have completed all course work, except thesis, and Phd Candidates. Due by the last day of the semester for the following semester. Apply in Grad status.
6. **Regents Out of State Tuition Waivers**

**7. Domestic/International Travel Awards-** Student must qualify and apply for the Graduate School travel by the deadline. This award is for graduate students to attend a regional, national or international conference to present a paper. All students who are involved in research are encouraged to attend conferences and make presentations of the results. If your research advisor has travel funds from a grant source, then those funds may be used to reimburse your travel and local expenses. Students must be prepared to apply and submit required abstract, acceptance (if available) and estimated budget to Graduate Coordinator office. Deadlines to apply will be communicated to CS grad email listserv. Note, virtual travel is not covered by Graduate School for international or domestic conferences. Once you have received Graduate School Travel Award, you may seek travel funding with School of Computing Director, Dr. Gagan Agrawal, and your research advisor. Any travel outside of GA or international requires an electronic Travel Authorization to be completed at least 2-3 weeks before travel.

**8. Financial Hardship**-click for information

## **Disability Accommodations**

The Disability Resource Center assists the University in fulfilling its commitment to educate and serve students with disabilities who qualify for admission. The Disability Resource Center coordinates and provides a variety of academic and support services to students. Any student who has registered with the Disability Resource Center and been granted an accommodation (e.g., note taker, extra time for examinations) must speak with each of his/her instructors at the beginning of a semester to assure that a plan is in place to meet that accommodation.

<https://grad.uga.edu/index.php/current-students/student-services/disability-resource-center-drc/>

## **UGA Ombudspersons**

The University of Georgia Ombudspersons are designated individuals who serve as independent, neutral, and informal resources for UGA students, faculty, and staff. These individuals provide information and assistance regarding administrative processes and may serve as additional avenues for resolving the concerns of students, faculty, and staff.

# Graduate Enrollment Policy and Leave of Absence

<https://grad.uga.edu/index.php/current-students/enrollment-policy/>

## MINIMUM ENROLLMENT

All enrolled students pursuing graduate degrees at the University of Georgia must maintain continuous enrollment from matriculation until completion of all degree requirements. Continuous enrollment is defined as registering for a minimum of three (3) graduate or professional course credits in at least two semesters per academic year (Fall, Spring, Summer), including the 3 hours of graduate credit that is required for registration during the semester in which degree requirements are complete, until the degree is attained or status as a degree-seeking graduate student is terminated.

**Doctoral students who have advanced to candidacy and thesis-writing master's students who have satisfactorily completed all required courses (exclusive of 7000 and 7300) will be allowed to register at a rate equivalent to the prevailing in-state tuition rate.** This policy specifies a minimum for maintaining status as a degree-seeking graduate student only. It does not supersede the minimum enrollment requirements of other programs, offices, or agencies. Doctoral students must maintain enrollment during fall and spring semesters (breaking only for summer semesters) until the residency requirement (30 hours for PHD, 20 hours for EDD or DMA) has been met. Refer to the instructions for **Out-of-State Tuition Waivers** if necessary. UGA employees pursuing graduate degrees under the Tuition Assistance Program and students in non-degree status are exempt from this Continuous Enrollment Policy. However, these students remain under the pre-existing policy and will lose registration eligibility if non-enrolled for three consecutive terms. If registration eligibility is lost, these students must reapply to their programs and pay the applicable application fee to continue graduate study.

Students who are only working towards finishing incomplete coursework are exempt from the continuous enrollment policy IF: 1) they have completed all other requirements for degree completion, and 2) the work required to convert the incomplete grade does not require the use of University facilities, resources, and faculty time aside from grading the work. **Students who receive incompletes in directed study, capstone courses, thesis/dissertation credits or other courses involving significant continuing faculty time and University resources should register for GRSC 9270 in order to convert their incomplete grade.**

## LEAVE OF ABSENCE

A student may apply for a **Leave of Absence** before or during any semester in which they are not registered for courses. Application for a Leave of absence must be received by the Graduate School Office of Enrollment Services on or before the last day of classes for the semester for which it is requested. Complete the [\*Request for Leave of Absence from Graduate Enrollment \(G133\) Form\*](#) on or before the last day of classes for the semester requested.

## Daily Class Schedule -Fall and Spring Semesters

Based on a class length of 50 minutes for Monday-Wednesday-Friday classes and 75 minutes for Tuesday-Thursday classes, with 20 minutes between classes, except for those beginning after 6pm, which have 15 minutes between classes.

	Mon, Wed, Fri	Tues-Thurs
1 <sup>st</sup> period	8:00-8:50 am	8:00-9:15 am
2 <sup>nd</sup> period	9:10-10:00 am	9:35-10:50 am
3 <sup>rd</sup> period	10:20-11:10 am	11:10-12:25 pm
4 <sup>th</sup> period	11:30-12:20 pm	12:45-2:00 pm
5 <sup>th</sup> period	12:40-1:30 pm	2:20-3:35 pm
6 <sup>th</sup> period	1:50-2:40 pm	3:55-5:10 pm
7 <sup>th</sup> period	3:00-3:50 pm	5:30-6:45 pm
8 <sup>th</sup> period	4:10-5:00 pm	6:30-7:45 pm
9 <sup>th</sup> period	5:20-6:10 pm	8:00-9:15pm

## Daily Class Schedule- Summer Semester

Classes may meet for 60, 75, 120, or 150 minutes depending on session and class attended.

1 <sup>st</sup> period	8:00-9:00 am
2 <sup>nd</sup> period	9:15-10:15 am
3 <sup>rd</sup> period	10:30-11:30 am
4 <sup>th</sup> period	11:45-12:45 pm
5 <sup>th</sup> period	1:00-2:00 pm
6 <sup>th</sup> period	2:15-3:15 pm
7 <sup>th</sup> period	3:30-4:30 pm
8 <sup>th</sup> period	5:00-6:15 pm
9 <sup>th</sup> period	6:30-7:45 pm
10 <sup>th</sup> period	8:00-9:15 pm

# UGA and Athens Resources

## Campus Resources

- [MY UGA](#)
- [UGA MAIL](#)
- [LIBRARIES](#)
- [TUITION](#)
- [FINANCIAL AID](#)
- [ELEARNING COMMONS](#)
- [ATHENA](#)
- [ACADEMIC CALENDAR](#)
- [DINING SERVICES](#)
- [STUDENT ACCOUNTS](#)

## University Resources

- [Financial Hardship Resources](#)
- [Types of Graduate Assistantships](#)
- [Graduate School Fellowships](#)
- [Graduate School Recognition Awards](#)



# UGA Resources

## General Advising & Support for International Students

- **Office of Global Engagement:** <https://globalengagement.uga.edu/> Email your immigration advisor.
- **International Student Life:** <https://isl.uga.edu/> Email: [isl@uga.edu](mailto:isl@uga.edu)  
ISL Resources: [https://isl.uga.edu/site/international\\_student\\_resources/all-resources](https://isl.uga.edu/site/international_student_resources/all-resources)
- **Graduate Student Resources, Division of Academic Enhancement-**  
[https://dae.uga.edu/resources/graduate\\_student\\_resources/](https://dae.uga.edu/resources/graduate_student_resources/)
- **Computer Science Graduate Student Association (CSGSA)-** For more information on this student organization, please email us at [csgsa@uga.edu](mailto:csgsa@uga.edu)

## Mental Health Resources- UGA and Athens

### Student Resources

**Student Care and Outreach** - <https://sco.uga.edu/>

**Office of Emergency Preparedness (UGA Safe app)**  
- [UGA Safe](#)

**Office of Student Affairs Well-Being Resources** -  
<https://well-being.uga.edu/>

**University Health Center (UHC) CAPS Program**

- <https://healthcenter.uga.edu/>
- 24/7 Mental Health Support (706) 542-2273
- Sexual Assault 24/7 Hotline (706) 542-SAFE

**Nuci's Space (Suicide Prevention)**

- Health and Wellness, youth, medical services
- <https://www.nuci.org/#contact>

**Student Veterans Resource Center**

- Tate Center Room 481
- (706) 542-7872
- [svrc@uga.edu](mailto:svrc@uga.edu)

**UGA Food Pantry**

- Tate Student Center
- Mon-Fri 10am-2pm
- <https://greeklife.uga.edu/uga-food-pantry/>

**Project Safe (Domestic Abuse Shelter and Outreach)**

- Hotline (706) 543-3331
- <https://www.project-safe.org>

**UGA Wellness Hub**

- [UGAwellnesshub.com](http://UGAwellnesshub.com)
- 24/7 support line: 833-910-3371

# Mental Health Resources- UGA and Athens-continued

## Community Resources

[caps.uga.edu/communityresources](http://caps.uga.edu/communityresources)

## Outpatient at UGA

- **Psychology Clinic (UGA)**  
[706-542-1173](tel:706-542-1173)  
Basement of Psychology Bldg.  
Door Facing Baldwin Street  
Sliding Fee Scale: Income based, \$5-\$75
  - **Center for Counseling and Personal Evaluation (UGA)**  
[706-542-8508](tel:706-542-8508)  
4th Floor Aderhold, Room 424  
Sliding Fee Scale: \$10 per session for UGA students
  - **ASPIRE Clinic (UGA)** [706-542-4486](tel:706-542-4486) [www.aspireclinic.org](http://www.aspireclinic.org) Cost for Services:
  - Sliding Fee Scale: \$15 – \$65 per session, based on annual income and family size
  - Cost for UGA Graduate and Undergraduate Students: \$15 per session\*
- \*Undergraduate students can inquire about receiving services at no-cost through available grant funding.

## Crisis/Emergency

- 24-hour Confidential Mental Health Support-706-542-2273
- Confidential Sexual Assault Hotline- 706-542-7233
- Call 911 for Emergency- 911
- Georgia Crisis and Access Line- 1-800-715-4225
- National Hopeline Network-1-800-724-2433

# Mental Health Resources- UGA and Athens-continued

## **Outpatient Services in Athens Community**

### **Family Counseling Service**

706-549-7755

Sliding Fee Scale: \$1-\$75

**Advantage Behavioral Health Systems** \*Offering therapy, psychiatry, etc.

706-389-6767

No Insurance, Sliding Fee Scale

**Commencement Center** (Alcohol and Drug Treatment)

706-475-5797

## **Inpatient Services in Athens Community**

**Advantage Behavioral Health Systems** 800-715-4225, 24-Hour Crisis Line

### **Family Counseling Service**

706-549-7755

Sliding Fee Scale: \$1-\$75

**Advantage Behavioral Health Systems** \*Offering therapy, psychiatry, etc.

706-389-6767

No Insurance, Sliding Fee Scale



**Academic Honesty**  
**UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA**

# A Culture of Honesty

The University of Georgia's Academic  
Honesty Policy

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**honesty.uga.edu**

