

COMPUTER SCIENCE (MS IN COMPUTER SCIENCE)

Return to the Department of Computer Science

Students must submit a 2-year plan of study at the beginning of their first semester in the M.S. program, which must be endorsed by their faculty advisors and then approved by the Graduate Admission Committee.

Degree Options

There are two options available for candidates for the Master's degree:

- Non-Thesis Option
- Thesis Option

Non-Thesis Option

Code	Title	Hours
CSCI 653	Analysis of Algorithms	3
Approved graduate level coursework		27
At least six credits must be CSCI 6XX (excluding CSCI 653)		
No more than 12 credit hours below 600 may apply to degree requirements		
CSCI 710	Research Project	2
Total Hours		32

Course Restrictions (Non-Thesis Option)

The following courses may not be used to satisfy M.S. degree requirements without prior written approval of the student's advisor and the Graduate Admissions Committee.

Code	Title	Hours
CSCI 566	Directed Studies	
CSCI 666	Directed Studies	
CSCI 685	Colloquium	
CSCI courses designated as Computational Operations Research courses (last digit in the course number is an 8)		
CSCI 695	Directed Thesis Master's Research	
CSCI 700	Thesis	
CSCI 766	Directed Studies	
CSCI 775	Research	
CSCI 785	Colloquium	
CSCI 795	Directed Dissertation Research	
CSCI 800	Dissertation	
No more than one offering of CSCI 690 or CSCI 790 may be applied to the non-thesis option.		

Thesis Option

Code	Title	Hours
CSCI 653	Analysis of Algorithms	3
Approved graduate level coursework		21
At least six credits must be CSCI 6XX (excluding CSCI 653)		
No more than 12 credit hours below 600 may apply to degree requirements		

CSCI 700	Thesis	6
Total Hours		30

Course Restrictions (Thesis Option)

The following courses may not be used to satisfy M.S. degree requirements without prior written approval of the student's advisor and the Graduate Admissions Committee.

Code	Title	Hours
CSCI 566	Directed Studies	
CSCI 666	Directed Studies	
CSCI 685	Colloquium	
CSCI 690	Readings in Computer Science	
CSCI courses designated as Computational Operations Research courses (last digit in the course number is an 8)		
CSCI 695	Directed Thesis Master's Research	
CSCI 710	Research Project	
CSCI 766	Directed Studies	
CSCI 775	Research	
CSCI 785	Colloquium	
CSCI 790	Readings in Computer Science	
CSCI 795	Directed Dissertation Research	
CSCI 800	Dissertation	

Comprehensive Exam Requirement

A comprehensive exam is only required of students in the non-thesis option. The comprehensive exam is part of CSCI 710 – Research Project.

Foreign Language Requirement

There is no foreign language requirement.

Satisfactory Progress

To be eligible to graduate, all students must achieve a cumulative grade point average of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale in all courses undertaken for graduate credit at William & Mary after admission to a degree program. No credit toward a degree will be allowed for a course in which a student receives a grade below C (grade point = 2.0).

All requirements for the master's degree must be completed within six years from the first term of enrollment in the master's program, excluding periods of approved leave and military service. Requests for extensions beyond the six-year limit must be filed following the procedures outlined in Time Limits for Degrees and Extensions in the School of Computing, Data Sciences, and Physics Graduate Catalog.