

Enhancements to the Computer Science Graduate Program May 10, 2011

Effective Spring 2011, the departmental restriction that stipulated course work towards a M.S. or Ph.D. degree only counted if a grade of A or B was earned is removed.

- Grades earned prior to Spring 2011 are still subject to the department's A or B rule. That is, any course taken prior to Spring 2011 must be completed with a grade of A or B in order to count towards your graduate coursework in computer science.
 - Students must still ensure that they adhere to the graduate school policies regarding graduation. These policies can be found in the **Graduation Requirements** section of the Graduate Catalog (<http://graduate.ua.edu/catalog/14500.html>). A portion of this text is repeated below for clarification:
 - Grade Point Average (GPA). Each student must have a cumulative average grade of 3.0 or better for all graduate courses undertaken at The University of Alabama. Grades below "C" are counted in computing scholastic averages, but they do not carry credit toward a degree.
 - Seventy-five Percent Rule. At least 75 percent of the hours taken must have been completed with grades of "A" or "B" at The University of Alabama. In applying this 75 percent rule, a maximum of 6 hours of thesis research may be counted, if appropriate.
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Effective Fall 2011, the curricular requirements for a Master's student include:

- Completion of at least one 500-level or 600-level course in each of the four core areas (applications, software, systems and theory). These courses must be taken within the Department and should be selected from the following:
 - Applications – CS 528, 535, 557, 560, 609 and 615
 - Software – CS 503, 507, 515, 534, 600, 603, 607, 614 and 630
 - Systems – CS 526, 538, 567, 606, 613 and 618
 - Theory – CS 500, 570, 575, 601, 602 and 612
- No more than twelve hours from CS 511, CS 512, CS 591, CS 592, CS 691 and CS 692 may be counted towards the coursework requirements of the Master's degree.

Effective Fall 2011, the curricular requirements for a doctoral student include:

- Completion of at least forty-eight (48) hours of graduate-level coursework in computing
 - At least twenty-four (24) hours of this coursework must be from courses that are taken within the Department. Students may **not** count CS 511, CS 512, CS 591, CS 592, CS 598, CS 599, CS 691, CS 692 or CS 699 courses towards this total.
 - The remaining hours of a student's required coursework may include:
 - Additional graduate courses taken within the department. This may include CS 511, CS 512, CS 591, CS 592, CS 691 and CS 692 courses.
 - Graduate coursework transferred from other institutions.
 - Courses taken outside of computer science, which must have the approval of the student's major professor.

Note: Existing students (students who enrolled in a graduate degree program in this Department prior to Fall 2011) may either move to the new curricular requirements or continue under the current system. The decision is the student's to make.