PhD-90 checklist. Department of Computer Science, WPI.  
(Aug. 2012)
See Graduate Catalog and [http://web.cs.wpi.edu/Intranet/Graduate/guide.html](http://web.cs.wpi.edu/Intranet/Graduate/guide.html) for detailed CS Graduate Regulations.

- Plan of Study Form submitted. [http://www.wpi.edu/academics/cs/student-forms.html](http://www.wpi.edu/academics/cs/student-forms.html)
- PhD Bin Requirements. *Must be satisfied by the time PhD-90 student completes 54 credits (=18 three-credit courses)*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>3 essential bins:</th>
<th>3 more bins:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Theory</td>
<td>✔</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Algorithms</td>
<td>✔</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Systems or Networks</td>
<td>✔</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>At least one “A” in essential bins</td>
<td>✔</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>“A”s or “B”s in all bins, with at most 2 “B”.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Completion of PhD Bin Requirement Form submitted: [http://www.wpi.edu/academics/cs/student-forms.html](http://www.wpi.edu/academics/cs/student-forms.html)

- MS Thesis:
  - MS thesis proposal. *Must be approved by dept. before student receives grades for more than 3 MS thesis credits.*
  - 9 MS thesis credits CS599. *Only 9 MS thesis credits may be applied towards the MS degree.*
  - Thesis presentation to the department. *To be announced to the dept. at least one week in advance.*
  - Final thesis approval. *Title page signed by advisor(s), reader, and department head.*

- Research Qualifying Exam. *Must be completed no later than one year after completing the PhD Bins Requirement.*
  - Alternative options:
    - Directed Research Exam Option; or
    - Research Paper Exam Option
  - Research Qualifying Exam Presentation. *To be announced to the dept. at least one week in advance.*
  - Completion of Research Qualifying Exam Form submitted.

- PhD Candidacy. * Reached upon successful completion of Bin Requirements and Research Qualifying Exam.*

- Comprehensive Exam. *The Comp. Examination and the Dissertation Proposal can be completed in either order. However, the time between passing the examination and acceptance of the proposal should be less than 6 months.*
  - Completion of Comprehensive Exam Form submitted. *Signed by full PhD Committee.*

- Dissertation Proposal. *Usually within one year of PhD candidacy. Only up to 18 research credits allowed prior to proposal.*
  - Dissertation Proposal Presentation. *To be announced to the dept. at least one week in advance.*
  - Completion of Dissertation Proposal Form submitted. *Signed by full PhD Committee.*

- Dissertation Defense
  - Dissertation Defense Presentation. *To be announced to the dept. at least one week in advance.*
  - Completion of Dissertation Defense Form submitted. *Signed by full PhD Committee.*
  - Final dissertation approval. *Title page signed by full PhD committee and department head.*

- PhD-90 Coursework and Research. *90 credits total, with 60 credits BEYOND the MS are required as described below:*
  - At least 27 coursework credits, including 3 credits of math. *Includes courses & ISGs; excludes CS598 & CS699.*
  - At least 30 research credits. *CS598 (prior to PhD candidacy) and CS699 (after PhD candidacy).*