COSC 5380 GRADUATE RESEARCH PROJECT GUIDELINES

1. CATALOG DESCRIPTION

COSC 5380 is a faculty directed independent study of a computer science problem, subject, or research topic relevant to the student’s current or anticipated career field. A professional quality computer science project report and an oral presentation of the research project are required. After starting the project, students must register for at least three credit hours of COSC 5380 each semester until the project is completed and approved.

2. ENROLLMENT

In order to enroll for the course, the student must:

a. Contact a graduate faculty member who will serve as the student’s research project advisor as well as contact two other graduate faculty members who, along with the project advisor, will form the student’s research project committee. Note: Adjunct faculty are not eligible to serve on a project committee.

b. Develop, under supervision of the advisor, a 1-2 page summary of the proposed research including a schedule and timeline for the deliverables.

c. Complete a research project application form.

d. Obtain the course permission number for COSC 5380 from the departmental office and enroll. The student is not allowed to enroll in the course without permission from their faculty project advisor.

3. FOLLOWING ENROLLMENT

a. Allocate at least 9 hours per week to work on the project. More hours may be needed for the long summer semester. Note that not all faculty may be available during the summer.

b. Schedule appointments and meet with the advisor on a regular basis (preferred weekly) to obtain guidance, direction, and validate research results.

c. Use a thesis template as a model to format the research project report.

d. Submit a reasonably complete draft of the report at least four weeks prior to the first day of scheduled final exams for the semester to the entire committee. Within two weeks, the committee members will provide oral and written comments to the student along with recommended improvements to the project report.

e. Once approval is given by the committee, coordinate with the departmental administrative assistant to schedule an oral presentation (of approximately 30-45 minutes in duration including time for questions from the audience) to the committee. The public component of the presentation is open to the entire departmental faculty, students, and guests. The deliberations during the executive session are limited to the committee. Following the oral presentation, the committee may either approve the project (by signing the project report) or instruct the student on what further work that needs to be addressed toward the successful completion of the research project course. Following the committee’s approval, one copy will be forwarded to the department chair and the dean for approval, based on which the chair will transmit a grade of CR to the Registrar’s office.

4. GRADING POLICY

If the student fails to complete the above tasks within the enrolled semester, the student will receive a grade of NC for the course. The student will then have to re-enroll in COSC 5380 the following semester in order to complete the remaining tasks (including scheduling the oral presentation). The department may limit the number of times a student can re-enroll in COSC 5380, so failure to complete the project may prevent the student’s graduation.
COSC 5380 GRADUATE RESEARCH PROJECT APPLICATION

Student Name: ___________________________ Student ID: _______________________

Research Project Advisor: ___________________________

Research Project Title: ___________________________

Attach a 1-2 page summary of the project and a schedule for deliverables.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Number</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Semester Taken</th>
<th>Grade</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>COSC 5330</td>
<td>Operating Systems</td>
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<tr>
<td>COSC 5340</td>
<td>Programming Languages</td>
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<td>COSC 5350</td>
<td>Data Communications &amp; Networks</td>
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<tr>
<td>COSC 5393</td>
<td>Graduate Seminar</td>
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Student Signature ___________________________ Date _____________

Research Project Advisor ___________________________ Advisor Name ___________________________

Research Project Committee Member Signature ___________________________ Committee Member Name ___________________________

Research Project Committee Member Signature ___________________________ Committee Member Name ___________________________