PhD Orientation

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Your PhD Journey

- Course work (2 to 4 semesters)
  - Requirements depend on your background
- Qualifier + Finding a guide
- Form Research Progress Committee (RPC)
- Give annual progress seminars (APS)
- Do research, publish at least 2 good papers
  - Set yourself a high bar, aim to do good work
- Pre-synopsis, thesis submission, defense!
## Course Requirements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Background</th>
<th>Min # CS Courses (&gt;= 6 credits)</th>
<th>Max Period (starting entry)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>&gt;= PG (CSE)</td>
<td>4 PG courses</td>
<td>2 semesters</td>
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<tr>
<td>= UG (CSE)</td>
<td>44 credits, including 5 PG courses</td>
<td>2 semesters</td>
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<tr>
<td>&lt; UG (CSE)</td>
<td>6 UG, 5 PG courses (one UG course can be R&amp;D project)</td>
<td>4 semesters</td>
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Note: Minimum 3 courses (18 credits) in first semester
Note: The above UG/PG course requirements exclude seminars and R&D projects
PhD Qualifier

- Obtain minimum CPI of 7.5 on the specified number of courses, completed within stipulated time
- Seminar with BB or higher (up to 2 attempts are allowed)
- Communication skills course passed
- A coherent research proposal
- A faculty member willing to guide you
Which courses should I take?

- Useful courses in your area of interest (depth)
  - Courses offered by the faculty/group you wish to work with
- Some good broad CS courses (breadth)
- Do not take “easy” courses just to meet CPI requirements
How to find a guide?

- Figure out your area of interest
- Take courses in the area of interest
  - Especially with faculty you wish to work with
- Talk to professors outside of class
- Talk to existing students
- Attend seminars, group meetings, paper reading sessions, etc.
- Be proactive!
TA duties

- For 5 years, starting from your first semester
- TA allocation handled by MTech Facad
- Please treat your TA duties as an opportunity for learning, not as a burden
Role of PhD Facad

- Your point of contact in the department until you find a guide
  - Courses, seminar, qualifier
  - Sign off on APS until you find a guide
  - Requests for extensions, exceptions
  - Admin: leave, course add/drop
  - And anything else you may need in your first few years