CECS Orientation for New Graduate Students:
Fall 2023

Meeting Survey

Dr. Ali P. Gordon
Ms. Heather Houser
Ms. Tracey Ziebro
CECS Department/Program Orientations

- Civil, Environmental, and Construction Engineering
  - Wednesday, August 16; 12:15 PM to 12:45 PM; HEC 101; Zoom: https://ucf.zoom.us/j/91886731300?pwd=QS81MnlLa1FZUjlJQWIEK0JvWjJYdz09

- Computer Science MS & PhD
  - Thursday, August 17; 10am to 12 pm; CB2 O101

- Computer Vision
  - Wednesday, August 24; 3:00 PM - 4:30 PM; HEC-101

- Data Analytics MS
  - TBD

- Digital Forensics MS and Cybersecurity and Privacy MS
  - Wednesday, August 16; 12 PM to 1 PM ET; Zoom: https://ucf.zoom.us/j/4074302761

- Electrical and Computer Engineering MS & PhD
  - Friday, August 25; 1:00-3:00PM; HEC 101

- Industrial Engineering (MS/MSIE), Engineering Management MSEM, and Systems Engineering MSSE
  - Friday, August 18; 11 AM to 11:45 AM ET; Zoom: https://ucf.zoom.us/j/3503288914

Check e-mail; chat for the Zoom links.
CECS Department/Program Orientations

- Industrial Engineering PhD
  - Friday, August 18; 11:45 AM to 12 PM ET; Zoom: https://ucf.zoom.us/j/3503288914

- Material Sciences and Engineering (MS & PhD)
  - Friday, August 25; 2 PM to 3 PM; Research 1 - Rm 101A; Zoom: https://ucf.zoom.us/j/95158779986?pwd=dUExRUhaa3ZWQ2U4MkNGdTlxOGU5QT09

- Mechanical (MS & PhD), Aerospace (MS & PhD), and Biomedical Engineering (MS &PhD)
  - Wednesday, August 16; 1 PM to 2 PM; Zoom: https://ucf.zoom.us/j/2448659052

- Modeling and Simulation
  - Wednesday, August 16; 3 PM - 5 PM; P3 Room 233

Scan to get links: grad.cecs.ucf.edu
Check e-mail; chat for the Zoom links
Plan for Your S.U.C.C.E.S.S.

S – Stay in Contact
U – Understand Policies
C – Create a Program of Study
C – Capitalize on Resources
E – Early = Deadlines
S – Satisfactory Progress
S – Sticking with It
Stay in Contact

• UCF’s Student Email System
  (www.knightsemail.ucf.edu)

• University Information & Notices Will Only Be Sent Here
CECS Grad Program Directors & Coordinators

- Civil, Environmental, & Construction Engineering
  - Dr. Andrew Randall – Andrew.Randall@ucf.edu
  - Arvin Cortez – Arvin.Cortez@ucf.edu
- Computer & Electrical Engineering
  - Dr. Mingjie Lin – Mingjie.Lin@ucf.edu
  - Diana Poulalion – Diana.Poulalion@ucf.edu
- Computer Science
  - Dr. Wei Zhang – Wei.Zhang@ucf.edu
  - Jeanine Clements – Jeanine.Clements@ucf.edu
- Industrial Engineering & Management Systems
  - Dr. Mansooreh Mollaghasemi – Mansooreh.Mollaghasemi@ucf.edu
  - TBA – iegrad@ucf.edu
- Materials Science & Engineering
  - Dr. Jiyu Fang – Jiyu.Fang@ucf.edu
  - Kerry-Ann Wright – KerryAnn.Wright@ucf.edu
- Mechanical & Aerospace Engineering
  - Dr. Jihua Gou – Jihua.Gou@ucf.edu
  - Gabriela LaBoy – Gabriela.LaBoy@ucf.edu (FMLA until at least November 2023)

Additional Contact Information for Directors and Support Staff are located on our website.
CECS Graduate Affairs Office

Tracey Ziebro, Administrative Assistant
Heather Houser, Graduate Program Manager
(407) 823-0980 or cecograd@ucf.edu
cecsgradregistration@ucf.edu

Ali Gordon, CECS Graduate Associate Dean

http://www.grad.cecs.ucf.edu
or Visit Us in ENGR 1-281
UCF Graduate Studies

- Admission Issues? gradadmissions@ucf.edu
- Florida Residency Issues? gradresidency@ucf.edu
- Student Services Issues? gradservices@ucf.edu
- Academic Progress Issues? graddegr@ucf.edu
- Graduation Issues? graddegr@ucf.edu
- Assistantship Issues? gradassistantship@ucf.edu

For General Information: www.graduate.ucf.edu
or Visit Them in Millican Hall 230
Understanding CECS Guidelines & Procedures

KNOW THE RULES!
MS Thesis/Non-Thesis Degrees

- MS Thesis Option – 30 credits including 6 credits of thesis hours.
- MS Non-Thesis Option – 30 credits of course work.
- Both options must have 50% at 6000 level.
- Both options must have 24 hours of formal course work.
PhD Requirements

• **72 Hours of Course Work** – Comp Engr., Comp Science, Electrical, Industrial, Materials & Mechanical (15 Hours of Dissertation)
• **72 Hours of Course Work** – Civil & Environmental (18 Hours of Dissertation)
• **Ethics Training**
• Qualifying Exam*
• Candidacy Exam*

* = Timing and Content of these milestones vary program to program
Masters Along the Way Degrees

• UCF Allows for MS degrees to be earned as a student is completing their doctoral degree’s requirements.

• Apply for your MS Along the Way Degree by filing a MS Program of Study in the same discipline.

• Cannot use ANY transfer credits toward this MS degree

• Non-Thesis MS Degree? No Use of Research credits
Understanding Guidelines

- Graduate Catalog is Online!
  ([www.graduatecatalog.ucf.edu](http://www.graduatecatalog.ucf.edu))
- Highlighted Guidelines
  - Enrollment Policies
  - 7 Year Rule
  - Full Time/Part Time
Enrollment Policies

• After Fall 2023, You Cannot Miss **3 Terms in a Row**
• Once You Begin **Thesis (XXX 6971)** or **Dissertation (XXX 7980)**, You **Must** Continue to Take Them Until You Graduate!
  • Includes **Summer Semesters**
  • Full Time for Thesis & Dissertation Students is Only **3 Credit Hours**
• **Special Leave of Absence Form**
Face-to-Face vs. Online Classes

- SACM Scholar, from or will be from the Middle East/North Africa
  - Must Take Face-to-Face Classes (0001, 0R01, etc.)
  - SACM = 0002 sections via Dynamic Form
- Enrollment Error (sections of 0V91)
- Need Dept. Consent?
  - Fill out the COVE Form for an off-campus proctor
7 Year Rule Policy

• You have 21 semesters from your admissions term (Fall 2023) to graduate with your degree.

• Therefore, you must graduate by Fall 2029!
Full Time / Part Time Enrollment

• Fall/Spring Semesters
  • 9 Hours = Full Time
  • 6 Hours = Part Time

• Summer Semesters
  • 6 Hours = Full Time
  • 3 Hours = Part Time
Key Student Responsibilities

• It is Your Responsibility to Keep Informed of all Rules, Requirements, Policies & Procedures Relating to Your Graduate Program.

• File a Program of Study

• File all Forms Before Deadlines

• File an Online Intent to Graduate & Complete Exit Surveys
Creating a Program of Study (Success)
Creating a Program of Study (Success)

- Plan of **What You Plan to Take & When You Plan to Take It**
- POS Templates
- Signed Off by Your Advisor & Returned to Department
- Can be Revised
- Due by your **first semester** in your program
Programs of Study, Continued

• POSes are How to Transfer Course Work
  • Minimally Submitted 3 Times
    • During Your First Semester
    • Before Candidacy (PhD Students Only)
    • Before You Graduate
Transfer Work

• Course-by-Course
  • **Official** Transcripts Only
  • WES/Josef Silny Evaluation
  • Formal Course Work
  • B or Better (no B minuses or below)
  • Syllabi for Transferred Course
  • Matching with UCF Course Work
Capitalizing on Resources

- CECS Graduate Affairs Website
- Self-Guided Tour
Financial Assistance & Money Matters

Financial Matters EXPLAINED
University Fellowships & Scholarships

- Fellowships are Awarded During Admission
- Awarded AFTER Your 1st Semester
  - Visit the CECS webpage in November 2023
  - Others Emailed to Your UCF Email
Financial Assistance

- Graduate Assistantships
  - Graduate Research Assistant (GRA)
  - Graduate Teaching Assistant (GTA)
  - Graduate Assistant (GA)
  - Graduate Teaching Grader (Grader)
  - Available only for full-time students employed for at least 10 hours
  - Contact your program advisor for more information
Strive to be **Early** for Deadlines

- Deadlines are posted at: [http://calendar.ucf.edu](http://calendar.ucf.edu)
- Go to [https://my.ucf.edu](https://my.ucf.edu)
- Ask Departments or CECS Graduate Affairs Website
Important Upcoming Dates

- Late Registration Begins – **August 21 @ 12 AM**
- Add/Drop/Swap Period Ends – **August 25 @ 11:59 PM**
- Payment Deadline – **September 1**
- Withdrawal Deadline – **October 2**
- Classes End – **December 2**
- Finals Week – **December 4 - 9**

CECS New Graduate Student Orientation – Fall 2023
Fall 2023 Holidays & Special Events

• Weekday Football Game* – August 31
• Labor Day – September 4
• Veterans Day – November 10
• Thanksgiving – November 22 – 25

* = All UCF Campuses Close at 2 PM
Satisfactory Progress

• No Grade Forgiveness in Graduate School
• GPA must be a 3.0
• No More Than 2 C Grades Total
  • Cannot be a transfer course
• GPA = 2.999, Now What?
  • 18 Hours to Raise GPA to 3.000
  • Probation Plan Agreement Submitted to Grad Studies
• GPA = 1.999, Now What?
  • Dismissed by Graduate Studies
  • Sit out of program for one calendar year, then reapply
“Continuous improvement is better than delayed perfection.”

~Mark Twain~

When you think about giving up...

...think about how far you’ve come.
The Iceberg Illusion

Success is an iceberg

SUCCESS!

What people see

What people don't see

Persistence

Failure

Sacrifice

Dedication

Hard work

Discipline

Disappointment

@sylviaduckworth

CECS New Graduate Student Orientation – Fall 2023
In order to do something well we must first be willing to do it badly.

Julia Cameron
Stick With It

• Work with your Advisor/Department Contacts Early

• Consider a Leave of Absence
We wish you S.U.C.C.E.S.S. at UCF

• S – Staying in Contact
• U – Understanding Policies
• C – Creating a Program of Study
• C – Capitalize on Resources
• E – Early = Deadlines
• S – Satisfactory Progress
• S – Stick with It
Our Expectations of You

• Graduate!!
• Abide by the various UCF, CECS, Dept., and Lab policies, guidelines, and regulations
• Explore what UCF has to offer
• Contribute to an atmosphere of collegiality and collaboration
• Be a positive ambassador for UCF
• Publish your research (Goal 2 to 3 journal articles and 3 to 4 conference papers)