CECS Fall 2026 Go for Launch Series: Spring 2027 Thesis Registration

Presented by Heather Houser, CECS Graduate Program Manager

Deadlines

- Spring 2027
  - Program of Study: October 30, 2026
  - Thesis Committee Formation: November 6, 2026, at 12 p.m.

  - Spring Registration: Your Appointment Time – 1/8, at 4:00 p.m.
    - 1/11 begins late registration; if registering for the 1st time beginning 1/11, a $100 late charge will be incurred
    - Note, students can add/drop/swap classes until 1/15

Overview

1. Learning About Thesis
2. Selecting an Advisor
3. Submitting a Program of Study
4. Forming Your Committee
5. Registering for Thesis Hours
6. Thesis Resources
7. Questions?

Learning About a Thesis MS Degree

- All MS Admits are Non-Thesis Students
- A five-chapter study that includes discipline research practices to solve or contribute to the global understanding of a specific topic or problem.
- End of Your Program
  - Electives Should Support Your Research
- Thesis/Dissertation Excellence
  - Top CECS Thesis/Dissertations by Download
  - Best CECS Thesis/Dissertations

College of Engineering & Computer Science

Find a Topic* / Find an Advisor*

Thesis POS*

Form Committee*

Register for 6971*

Research

Write

Defend

Graduate

Selecting a Thesis Advisor

What do you want to learn more about? Have you found a gap in that topic's academic literature?

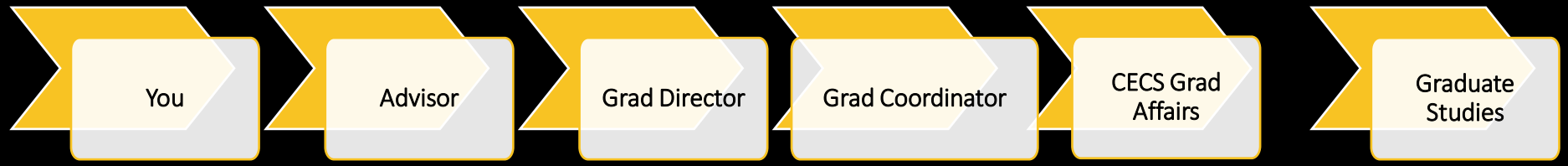
- CECS Departmental Websites
- Google Scholar
- Past/Current Professor
- Peers
- Research Methodology Style
- Project Management Style

The "best" advisor is the one whose research expertise, mentoring style, availability, and support align with your goals and working preferences. Take time to talk to current and former students, ask specific questions, and trust your gut — this choice will influence your entire graduate experience.[1]

1 https://campusbreeze.com/graduate/how-to-choose-a-thesis-advisor/

Submitting a Thesis Program of Study

- Commonly Used Forms – CECS Office of Graduate Affairs
- Guidelines
  - 30 Credit Hours of 5000- and 6000-Level Credits
  - **50% Must be at the 6000-Level Including XXX 6971**
  - Only after Grad Studies Approves Your **Thesis POS** will you be Reclassified as a Thesis Student
  - Issues Accessing Dynamic Forms?



Forming Your Committee

- Ask your Thesis Chair for Suggestions
- Ask your Past/Current Faculty Members to Serve
- Approved Committees
  - Three Members
  - Graduate Faculty Status
  - Majority (2 of 3) must be from your Discipline
- Committee Formation Dynamic Form
  - Multi-Stage Approval Process
  - Due no later than 11/6 if everyone is approved
  - Not on Faculty List? ASAP Nomination

Registering for Thesis Credits

- After CECS Grad Affairs completes BOTH your Thesis Program of Study and Committee Formation, submit your Registration Dynamic Form
- Multiple-Level Approval

  You → Your Advisor → CECS Grad Affairs

  - Will get an Email: Either Processed or returned (Usually for Holds)
- A Thesis Degree Requires 6 Successful Credits
  - 3 Hours is Full-Time / 6 Hours of Thesis = Full-Time
  - *Preferred* Two-Term Experience

Thesis Resources

- Graduate Studies Webcourse
- editor@ucf.edu
- UCF Library (Buenaventura.Basco@ucf.edu “Ven”)
- CECS Graduate Defense Dynamic Form
  - **Due Two-Weeks Prior**
  - Can Submit Early
  - Defense Information & Research Productivity Data
- Formatting Help?
  - ETDhelp@ucf.edu

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Fall 2026 Go for Launch Workshops

- Spring 2027 Candidates: **October 23, 2026**
- Spring 2027 Registration: **December 18, 2026 * may change to early January '27**

All sessions are held via Zoom at 11 AM / Slides will be Posted After the Presentation Session

The Go for Launch Workshop Series empowers CECS graduate students to succeed academically, professionally, and personally by providing essential guidance, resources, and connections throughout their graduate education journey.

Questions?

CECSgrad@ucf.edu

https://ucf.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_a5a1o7MR26vSpmK