

BS/MS Program Tip Sheet

Academic details:

- You can “double-count” up to three courses (9 semester credits) in the BS and MS degrees (typically in the Advanced elective area).
- You “officially” become a graduate student at year level 6 when you have earned 126 semester credits. From this point on, you will be able to register yourself for graduate courses in SIS on the graduate career; until then, you will need to register graduate courses on the undergraduate career.
- The lowest passing grade in the graduate program is “C”. You must have a minimum 3.0 GPA in your graduate program in order to earn your MS degree.
- There is no grade replacement in the graduate program. All courses taken and all grades earned remain on your transcript and count in your GPA.
- In order to be considered full time as an undergraduate student, you must be enrolled in a minimum of 12 semester credits. As a graduate student, you must be enrolled in a minimum of 9 semester credits to be considered full time, however, graduate students are eligible for up to 2 Full Time Equivalencies (FTE) based on remaining course requirements.
- Avoid duplicate course material. Below is a table of duplicate courses between the BS and MS programs.

CSEC 461	->	CSEC 742
CSEC 466/202	->	CSEC 743
CSEC 468	->	CSEC 733
CSEC 470	->	CSEC 750
CSCI 462	->	CSEC 604

Completing the program:

- **ALL** undergraduate degree requirements must be complete (including wellness and co-op) before you can register for the MS Project, MS Capstone, or Thesis.
- You must work with the Sr. Staff Specialist to register for either MS Thesis, MS Project, or MS Capstone Course by submitting a signed proposal. Make sure you watch for deadlines
- If you submit a Thesis proposal you have one year to complete the defense before the proposal expires.
- There is a 7-year rule in place for all graduate programs. You must complete your graduate work within 7 years of the semester in which you took your first graduate course that counts toward the MS degree.

Financial:

- You are eligible for a BS/MS tuition discount on the graduate tuition rates. The discount that you receive should bring your graduate tuition charges close to that which you paid for undergraduate. Work with your financial aid counselor for more information.
- As a graduate student, you can apply for Graduate and Teaching Assistantships (GA/TA) both in the CSEC department and across campus. These positions usually pay a tuition benefit as well as a salary. You might want to check with your Financial Aid Advisor to see if the BS/MS discount or the GA/TA position is more beneficial.

Administrative:

- Your program code changes from UCIS, INFOSEC-BS to UCIS, INFOSEC-BS, CSEC-U to GCIS, COMPSEC-MS, CSEC-G.
- Your courses are split into sections on your transcript by undergraduate and graduate and each has its own GPA statistics.
- Since you can apply for graduation for your BS and MS degrees separately on SIS, we would like you to apply for your BS degree AND your MS degree at the SAME time. You should apply for BOTH degrees after you have completed 15 graduate semester credits towards your MS degree requirements.