

Ph.D. in Computing and Information Sciences Semester Curriculum

A. Course Credits (29-38):

At least 60% of the credits must be taken for Ph.D. level courses, including courses offered by other Ph.D. programs

- **Foundation courses:** required, unless waived because of prior background
 - CISC-810 Research Foundations (3 credits)
 - CISC-820 Quantitative Foundations (3 credits)
 - CISC-830 Cyberinfrastructure Foundations (3 credits)
 - CISC-807 Teaching Skills Workshop (2 credits)
 - CISC-896 Colloquium in Computing and Information Sciences (0 credit, 4 courses required)
- **Cyberinfrastructure i-courses:** required, one each from the three clusters
 - Infrastructure cluster (3 credits)
 - Interaction cluster (3 credits)
 - Informatics cluster (3 credits)
- **Electives:** 3-6 courses, depending on needs (9 -18 credits)
- **Notes about course transfer:**
 - After passing the RPA, a student can submit up to 9 credits of prior graduate courses from the previous graduate study for their advisor's and the Ph.D. director's approvals. First-year Ph.D. students may request for "pre-approval" pending successful completion of the RPA.
 - Request process: student will e-mail the following to the Ph.D. director for approval
 1. List of the intended transferring-in course(s), up to 9 credits, including the course name, credits, grade, and course syllabus.
 2. For each transferring-in course(s), list side-by-side the corresponding RIT course(s) for substitution.
 3. The official transcript from the student's prior college should be sent to the RIT Registrar office, registrar@rit.edu

B. Dissertation Credits (22-31): Varying, depending on the course credits

C. Assessments:

1. **Research Potential Assessment (qualifying exam)**
 - At the end of first year for full-time students, and no later than the end of second year for part-time students
 - Three components: grades, advisor's evaluation, and research paper & presentation
2. **Doctoral proposal (admission to candidacy)**
 - No later than 24 months after the research potential assessment
 - Written proposal and public defense
3. **Dissertation**
 - Written dissertation and public defense
 - One external reader and independent review
4. **Publication requirement**
 - At least one paper before graduation
 - Specific requirements as outlined in the GCCIS program *Publication Requirement Policy*