

Ph.D. Requirements

Ph.D. students have to select two [minor fields](#). The special committee is made up of at least your major advisor (probably Vivek if you're reading this) and your minor advisors, and might contain other members whose input would be valuable.

Research Requirements

A Ph.D. dissertation corresponds to roughly 3 papers. While there doesn't have to be a specific throughline across those papers, there typically will be to reflect your increasing depth of understanding and ability. These papers should be your top priority once you start doing your research, but you can (and are encouraged to, so long as you're making sustained progress on your dissertation research) collaborate with others and be a co-author on other papers.

Course Loads

Students in our group typically take 1-3 courses a semester, with a heavier course load in the first year, tapering off afterwards so students are able to spend more time on their research. The heavier first-year load allows students to build a foundation and explore potential minors.

Course Requirements

Course requirements depend on the major field.

- **BEE:** The BEE field has no formal requirements.
- **CEE:** The CEE field (specifically the EWRS concentration) has no core course requirements, but you need to take 9-12 credits (not necessarily from CEE) ahead of your [Q exam](#).
- **SYSEN:** The SYSEN field has [more requirements](#) than some others. You must take:
 - SYSEN 6000 (Foundations of Complex Systems);
 - SYSEN 6150 (Model-Based Systems Engineering);
 - SYSEN 8000 (Systems Doctoral Colloquium);
 - SYSEN 8100 (Systems Seminar Series).