



# Initial Advising Form

## MS in Computer Science

### Majoring in Computer Network & System Administration

Revised 8/3/23



Please return this form to [csgradforms@cs.fsu.edu](mailto:csgradforms@cs.fsu.edu). Advisors and students are encouraged to keep copies for their records. Completed advising forms must be on file for every semester of enrollment. Given course capacity constraints, some classes a student is advised to take may not be available. Pre-requisite waivers must be completed within the first semester of enrollment in an academic program either as a new student or as part of a major change for an existing student that generated new pre-requisites due to the major change.

Complete information on degree requirements is available at  
<http://www.cs.fsu.edu/academics/graduate-programs/>

FSUID:  Student Name:

Start Term & Year:

Initial Advisor:

Pre-Req Required	Pre-Req Taken	Course Name	Undergrad Course #	Option A Grad Course #
		Computer Organization	CDA 3100	CDA 5155
		Data Structures	COP 4530	COT 5405
		Operating Systems	COP 4610	COP 5611

The Computer Science Department at Florida State University has adopted the following mechanisms to maintain the high quality of its graduate programs and at the same time allow the graduate students in the programs to meet undergraduate prerequisites. For each of the undergraduate prerequisites that a graduate student requires to meet, the student can meet the requirement in any of the following ways:

**Option A** - With the permission of the graduate student's faculty advisor and the permission of the instructor of the graduate course, the graduate student can take the graduate course that represents the advanced level after the undergraduate prerequisite.

Specifically, the correspondences are as follows:

CDA 5155 for CDA 3100

COT 5405 for COP 4530

COP 5611 for COP 4610

**A passing grade ("B-" or higher) will satisfy the undergraduate prerequisite to satisfy Option A.**

**Option B** - The graduate student can study the required course materials for the undergraduate prerequisite course and request to take a comprehensive exam for the course; the comprehensive exam will be administered by the course committee. Please check with the director of graduate studies to confirm who is on the course committee for that given semester. The student will satisfy the undergraduate prerequisite if the student scores a "B-" or higher on the exam.



**Option C** - A graduate student is permitted to take any undergraduate course offered by FSU, however the student is responsible for the tuition for the course even if he or she is receiving a tuition waiver. Tuition waivers do not pay for undergraduate coursework. The student can take the undergraduate prerequisite course to satisfy the requirement. *In this case, the graduate student is responsible for the tuition for the undergraduate course. Additionally if a student is receiving a tuition waiver, the student will still need to be enrolled in 9 hours of graduate level coursework to satisfy the full-time enrollment requirement on the waiver.*

Director of Graduate Studies Name (Printed):

Director's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Student's Name (Printed):

Student's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

**“Option A” Disclosure:** the graduate student must be informed about the inherent risk in taking a graduate course without proper prerequisites: The graduate courses in the Computer Science Department assume the knowledge and skills as specified in the prerequisites in order for the students to learn the topics successfully. Lack of the knowledge and skills can significantly increase the difficulty level, increase the amount of the time needed for the courses, and even result in a failure grade. A failure grade will affect the student's GPA and can lead to probation (and therefore loss of funding), and even dismissal from the program and university.

Option A Student Acknowledgement Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Option A Faculty Advisor Acknowledgement Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

**“Option B” Completion:** If the graduate student decides to exercise Option B, the student must obtain the signature of the faculty member in charge of testing for those pre-requisite courses to confirm that this has been completed using the signature lines below.

CDA 3100 Test Administrator Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

COP 4530 Test Administrator Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

COP 4610 Test Administrator Signature: \_\_\_\_\_