

**RYERSON UNIVERSITY**  
**DEPARTMENT OF COMPUTER SCIENCE**  
**CPS40A, B – Computer Science Thesis**  
**Course Management Form 2017-2018**

This course is offered at the request of eligible students and by arrangement with one of the faculty members acting as thesis advisor.

**Course Description:**

The Department of Computer Science offers a research thesis option, CPS40A, B, to motivate 4<sup>th</sup> year Computer Science undergraduate students to work on research and development projects under the supervision of a faculty advisor while receiving academic credit. Students will creatively apply the material, learned in courses during the first 3 years, to a significant project in any area of Computer Science. The thesis can be undertaken individually or in a team of students (pending the approval of the supervisor). Thesis studies are two semesters in duration and **require completion of all 3<sup>rd</sup> year courses and a CGPA of at least 3.0** as well as prior approval from the faculty member.

**Project Proposal:**

A project proposal is considered to be a key component in approval and initiation of the thesis and it must include:

- A description of the problem to be worked on, including motivation, originality and significance;
- A description of the scope of background reading to be carried out;
- A description of the research work to be carried out;
- A description of the expected results of the research;
- The signature of a faculty member, signifying endorsement of the project and willingness to supervise and evaluate it.

Thesis proposals along with the signed Approval Form (below) must be approved no later than the last day to add a class for the Fall term, typically the end of the second week of classes, for example Sept. 15, 2017, otherwise the course will be dropped.

**Course Expectations:**

The main objective of this course is to introduce students to the breadth of tasks involved in independent research including:

- Library work and Literature survey;
- Problem formulation and Definition;
- Experimentation, Simulation and Programming;
- Presentation;
- Scientific writing.

Students work closely with faculty advisors to plan and carry out their projects. Projects span the entire 4<sup>th</sup> year. In particular, students must submit a **project proposal** in September, four **monthly reports** (as noted in the Evaluation table) and a comprehensive **written thesis** in April. Students must also present their thesis during a **year-end seminar** for students in this course. Students in this course are required to attend the talks by their CPS040 classmates. Other students and faculty can also attend.

<b>Evaluation:</b>	<b>Deadline:</b>	<b>Weight</b>
Thesis Proposal and Approval	Sept. 16 <sup>th</sup>	10%
Monthly reports Fall Semester	Oct. 30 <sup>st</sup> , Nov. 30 <sup>th</sup>	10%
End of term assessment	First week of Jan.	10%
Monthly reports Winter Semester	Feb. 28 <sup>th</sup> , Mar. 31 <sup>st</sup>	10%
Final report	during April Exams	40%
Oral presentation and 5 reports	during April Exams	20%

**Important Notes:** (1) Students whose thesis is not acceptable by their supervisors will receive a grade of 'F' for both semesters. (2) All five reports must be submitted to both the Department Chair and the Supervisor. (3) The supervisor marks the first five items worth 80%. (4) The Chair and Program Director mark the oral presentation (worth 10%) and (independently from the supervisor) the five reports, (worth 10% in total).

**THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM WILL NOT BE ALTERED WITHOUT PRIOR NOTIFICATION AND DISCUSSION WITH THE STUDENT.**

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Approval Form**

<b>Student's Information (Please Print)</b>	
Last Name:	
First Name:	
ID:	Academic year:
Your CGPA:	
Have you completed your 3 <sup>rd</sup> year courses?	
If you are not meeting the minimum requirements, please explain why you think you qualify to do thesis:	

<b>Faculty Advisor (Please Print)</b>	
Last Name:	
First Name:	
Title of the Proposal:	
Approval Date (no later than end of September):	
Recommendations/Comments:	
<b>Signatures</b>	
Student:	Faculty Advisor:
Date:	Date:

**Important Note: A copy of the Approval is to be submitted to the Department.**