# The Computer Science Graduate School at UWO in 2018

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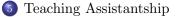
September 4, 2018



#### 2 People







#### 6 Graduate Programs



#### 2 People





- 5) Teaching Assistantship
- 6 Graduate Programs

#### **Orientation week**

Today's agenda

10:00 Presentation by the Graduate Chair and Graduate Assistant

10:45 SOGS https://sogs.ca

11:00 PSAC https://www.psac610.ca/

11:30 Let's talk to Science

http://outreach.letstalkscience.ca/uwo.html

#### For the rest of the week

Tuesday http://grad.uwo.ca/career\_development/own\_your\_ future/index.html Own your future (12:30 - 14:30 Arts and Humanities Building, Room 1R40)

Wednesday Graduate Student Conference on Teaching (9:00 - 14:000, Health Science Bldg. Room 40)

- Thursday School of Graduate Studies http://grad.uwo.ca/ (10:00 14:30, Alumni Hall)
- Thursday Introduction to the Research Network (15:00 15:30, Mr. Jeff Shantz, Systems Group)

Friday Introduction of Faculty Members and Graduate Courses (10:00

- 13:30, MC 320 then group picture then GC)









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#### **Computer Science Department: Administration**

#### Administration

Department Chair (acting): Dr. Hanan Lutfiyya Assistant to the Chair: Dianne McFadzean Graduate Chair: Dr. Marc Moreno-Maza Graduate Program Assistant: Janice Wiersma Undergraduate Chair (acting): Dr. Mahmoud El-Sakka Undergraduate Assistant: Cheryl McGrath

#### Support from the office Staff to graduate students

- Janice Wiersma (admin issues)
- Cheryl McGrath (supplies, help with copying)
- Dianne McFadzean (Keys)

#### System Group

- Joe Clarke (System Administrator)
- Gary Molenkamp (System Administrator)
- Art Mulder (Web Manager / Software Specialist)
- Jeff Shantz (Manager, Technology and Computing Services)
- Hisham Shoblaq (Client Support Specialist)

#### **Computer Science Department: Research**

#### Statistics

- 20 faculty members + 1 full-time lecturer
- 149 graduate students (increase by 15 w.r.t. 2017-2018 and 40 w.r.t. 2016-2017)
- A research intensive department
- Good contacts with industry (in particular through MITACS and with Bell, IBM, Microsoft, Maplesoft, ...)
- More on all this during the Faculty Introductions on Friday.



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#### **Office space**

#### For graduate students

- Grad Student/Faculty offices:
  - Middlesex College: 3rd, 4th floors, part of 2nd floor and basement
- Access to all undergraduate labs (Middlesex College 2nd & 3rd floors)
- All graduate students receive office space and computer
- Graduate Lounge: MC 312
- Keep your work space clean and tidy (no eating or drinking in office/lab)

UWO account: Wireless access, campus email CSD account: Machines within the department Web page: You are encouraged to create your own Web page



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#### Before your academic year can start

- Do not forget to pick up your student card and bus pass (already included in your tuition fee)
- You must present your original valid citizenship and immigration
  Canada student authorization document to the School of Graduate
  & Post-Doctoral Studies (SGPS) asap (otherwise not allowed to unroll)
- You must attend the SGPS Orientation from 10:00 to 14:30 at the Alumni Hall, this Thursday
- Please read all documents in your information package
- You need to complete SGPS Academic Integrity Module or you will not be able to register for the next term. See also:

ttps://www.uwo.ca/ombuds/academic/graduate/academic\_ integrity.html

This short module is designed to provide you with the necessary knowledge and resources to abide by academic principles during your graduate career and to help combat scholastic offenses.

- If an instructor does not specify a penalty, the following will apply:
  - The penalty for a first offense is mark = 0%.
  - The penalty for a second offense is withdrawal from the university.
- Ignorance is NOT an excuse.

#### **English Proficiency**

- You will be expected to write and speak in English as part of your classes:
  - · Giving presentations, writing technical documents
  - Communication of results and ideas is an essential part of this profession.
- If you are not a native English speaker, we recommend that you take advantage of the following resources:
  - Teaching Support Centre: http://www.uwo.ca/tsc/
  - Writing Support Centre: http://www.sdc.uwo.ca/writing/
- More on this at 9:00 and at the
- Graduate Student Conference on Teaching TA Day

https:

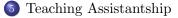
//teaching.uwo.ca/programs/allprograms/ta-day.html



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#### 6 Graduate Programs

## Teaching assistantship (1/2)

#### In brief

- Many of you will be a TA for undergraduate courses
- Recall: Graduate Student Conference on Teaching TA Day

https:

//teaching.uwo.ca/programs/allprograms/ta-day.html

## TA rules (1/2)

- Do not date your students
- Do not embarrass your students
- Do not discuss students, or their work, with other students (enrolled in the course or in the graduate school)
- Do not blame your students
- Always explain the reasons for a student's grade on an assignment or examination.

## Teaching assistantship (2/2)

#### TA rules (1/2)

- **Deadlines** for grading assignments **must be met**
- Office and/or laboratory hours are to be kept
- If you have a problem, try to arrange for a substitute. At the least, let the instructor know
- Unauthorized absences, such as for vacation, are not permitted.

#### Frequently asked questions (FAQ)

#### I don't know all the material in the course that I'm assigned to

- This is to be expected sometimes: Science and, even more, Computer Science evolve quickly!
- Talk to the instructor and other TAs.
- Basically, you may have to learn something new. And that is healthy!

#### I'm working too many hours

- First, discuss this with the instructor.
- If this doesn't work, then talk to the undergraduate chair
- Other people in the Department to talk to are the Graduate Chair and the Graduate Program Assistant
- You can also go to the TA union.

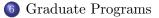
1 Agenda

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#### **Graduate courses**

## In brief

- We have three levels of courses: 95XX, 96XX, 98XX
- The department also has reading courses for MSc students:
  - Each professor has their own reading course number.
  - If you are signing up for one, just write "reading course" and the professor's name on the course registration form.
  - Janice will assign the course number.

#### Advice for success

- Come to class on time, do your assignments on time, start projects early and follow through on things.
- Ask questions! Don't be shy!
- Pursue topics that interest you:
- Learning how to learn on your own is an invaluable skill
- Budget your time carefully: Everything takes longer than you think it will, in particular in developing research projects, writing papers and theses.

MSc degrees (1/3)

#### MSc Thesis Degree

- Four courses
- Constraints:
  - At most one course can be a MSc reading course
  - At most one course 95xx
  - At most one course at the graduate level can be taken outside the department with supervisor approval
- Thesis:
  - Equivalent to four courses
  - Should contain novel and original research : Explained clearly, thorough literature review
  - Public presentation of thesis
  - Committee 3 members (2 from department, 1 from outside)

MSc Coursework Degree: courses

- Eight courses
- Constraints:
  - One course must Directed Study
  - At most one reading course
  - At most two courses at the graduate level can be taken outside the department, with the permission of the Graduate Chair.
  - The other courses must be CS grad courses.

#### MSc Coursework Degree: directed Study

- Supervised work on an approved project
- Equivalent to one course
- Should involve an investigation of issues related to computer science, but not specifically covered in other courses
- Well written report detailing the work
- should be submitted at the end of the course
- Pass/Fail
- You must find your own supervisor

## PhD Degree (1/7)

#### Requirements

- 4 graduate courses
- Undergraduate Breadth Requirement :
  - We have forms that most of you have already filled, which we will use to assess your CS background.
  - If you lack background in some area you will be required to take and pass a 3rd year course in that area.
- Advisory committee
- In-depth study
- Yearly seminar
- Yearly progress report
- Dissertation

#### Ph.D. Graduate Courses

A student must complete four graduate courses:

- At most one course can be a 95xx course
- At most one course at the graduate level can be taken outside the department with supervisor approval.

## Advisory Committee

- Should be appointed within one year after registration
- Must consist of 3 faculty members, including the supervisor
- All members must be members of the SGPS and approved by the Graduate Chair
- The Committee reviews the student's progress and is available for research advice.

## PhD Degree (4/7)

### Ph.D. In-depth Study

#### • The objective is to test the student's ability

- to master a research area
- demonstrate ability to do critical analysis of research papers, and
- generate new ideas.
- The Research Topics Survey/Proposal (TSP) consists of:
  - a literature search
  - a research proposal: identify research directions
- The TSP should be submitted by the 4-th term
- Examination to be done by 5-th term
- Two examiners from the Department

#### Yearly Seminar

- Each PhD candidate must present at least two publicly announced seminars
- At least one in the third year and at least one in the fourth year of the program
- UWORCS the yearly CSD grad meeting is an excellent venue for satisfying this requirement

2015: https://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=a. 10155375358065364.1073741837.465984595363&type=3

2017: http://www.csd.uwo.ca/conf/UWORCS/2017/

- Conference presentation counts as a seminar
- Do not count: Presentation in a course, proposal presentation and PhD defence presentation.

#### Yearly Progress Report

• Each Ph.D. student must submit a yearly progress report:

- what has been achieved
- what is planed for the next year
- Evaluated by supervisor and advisory committee
- No report = no progress
- The idea is to make sure you are on the right track

#### Dissertation

- Requirements:
  - Thesis document
  - Public presentation
- Examination:
  - Committee of four examiners (2 from department, one from outside the department, and one from outside the university)
  - Questions will be asked from the committee

## Questions?