TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY, COMPUTER SCIENCE DEPARTMENT – MASTER'S COMPREHENSIVE EXAM APPLICATION

Use this form to apply to take the Master's Comprehensive Exam. This exam may only be administered to students who have been admitted to candidacy and who are registered for at least 3 credit hours in the examination semester (usually the semester of graduation).
PLEASE FILL IN THIS FORM COMPLETELY AND CLEARLY BY TYPING OR PRINTING USING A MEDIUM POINT, BLACK OR BLUE INK PEN.

Personal Information

Name:_____ ID_____
Last Name First Name Middle Name

E-Mail Address:_____ Work Phone:_____ Home Phone: _____

Degree (Check One): ☐ MSCS ☐ MSSE (Degree Plans Prior to Fall 2011) Graduation Date: Month_____ Year_____

Section I Courses (specify two)

Course Num/Title	Semester	Instructor	Grade
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

Section II Courses (specify two)

Course Num/Title	Semester	Instructor	Grade
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

Section III Courses (specify two)

Course Num/Title	Semester	Instructor	Grade
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

Exam Date (select one)

☐ Fall: November 1, 2013, 1:30 PM to 4:30 PM – Application Deadline: September 20, 2013

☐ Spring: April 4, 2014, 1:30 PM to 4:30 PM – Application Deadline: February 21 , 2014

☐ Summer: June 13, 2014, 1:30 PM to 4:30 PM – Application Deadline: April 25, 2014

*The following professors are usualy available to write exams in the summer (check for an up-to-date list with the graduate advisor): Drs. Michael Gelfond, Rattikorn Hewett, Gopal Lakhani, Sunho Lim, Noe Lopez-Benitez, Susan Mengel,Nelson Rushton, Michael Shin, Akbar Saimi-Namin, Mohan Sridharan, Richard Watson, Eun Youn, Yuanlin Zhang, Yu Zhuang

Student Signature

I certify that this master's comprehensive exam application form is true and correct at the time of submission. I understand that I must be admitted to candidacy and registered for at least 3 credit hours. I understand that in my graduation semester, I must be registered for at least three credit hours as well.

Signature:_____ Date:_____

Graduate Advisor Signature

Graduate Advisor: _____ Date:_____

TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY, COMPUTER SCIENCE DEPARTMENT – MASTER'S COMPREHENSIVE EXAM GUIDELINES

- The comprehensive exam consists of three sections which are listed below for each degree. The duration of the exam is three hours; one hour for each section.
- Exams are closed book, note, etc.
- No cell phones may be used during the exam.
- Calculators are allowed when permitted by the instructor writing the exam.
- Students are only allowed to attempt the examination twice. Please study for the exam so that you can pass it the first time and not have to take it the second time.
- Be aware that exams are written for complete courses; so, you must study for the entire course even if you are still in the process of taking it. You should only list completed courses if at all possible particularly on Section III.
- The exam is scheduled three times a year. It is usually set to be about three to eight weeks before the corresponding Graduate School's deadline for official reports on final comprehensive examinations for the Master's degree.
- Normally, the professor of a course will write the exam. If that professor is unavailable, however, another professor will write the exam possibly according to how they taught the course previously; so, be sure to find out what to study from them. On Section III, please be flexible and change to a different course if a professor is not available to write the exam.
- In the summer, a limited number of professors are available to write exams. A list of professors is given on the application form, but check with the graduate advisor for an updated list.
- Students under the Fall 2011 and beyond MSSE degree plan are not eligible for the exam as a capstone project is currently required.
- The exam may be taken at the following site:
    - Lubbock site, http://www.cs.ttu.edu/, map is available at http://www.ttu.edu/CampusMap/; the Computer Science Department main office is housed in the Engineering Center, room 211, located in Zone 9 (Texas Tech Seal Zone).

MSCS		
Section I - Theory	**Section II - Systems**	**Section III - General Study**
The purpose of this portion is to measure the students' understanding of the underlying theory of computer science. The student is expected to address all questions from two of the following courses: • CS 5381 Analysis of Algorithms • CS 5383 Theory of Automata • CS 5384 Logic for Computer Scientists	The aim of this section is to test your knowledge on problems related to systems design. It focuses on specific problems in computer science and the methodologies that have been developed around them. The student is expected to address all questions from two of the following courses: • CS 5368 Intelligent Systems • CS 5375 Computer Systems Organization and Architecture • CS 5352 Advanced Operating Systems Design	This section tests your breadth in other areas of CS. You are to answer questions from any two CS graduate courses taught in semesters prior to the Comprehensive Exam Semester.

MSSE (Degree Plans Prior to Fall 2011)		
Section I – Software Engineering	**Section II – Systems**	**Section III - General Study**
The purpose of this portion is to measure the students' understanding of the fundamentals of Software Engineering, as embodied in the core Software Engineering courses. The student is expected to address all questions from two of the following courses: • CS 5363 Software Project Management • CS 5373 Software Modeling and Architecture • CS 5374 Software Verification and Validation	The aim of this section is to test your knowledge on problems related to systems design. It focuses on specific problems in computer science and the methodologies that have been developed around them. The student is expected to address all questions from two of the following courses: • CS 5332 Special Topics in software Engineering • CS 5352 Advanced Operating Systems Design • CS 5355 Real Time and Time Sharing Systems • CS 5369 Web-Based Software Systems • CS 5377 Distributed Computing • CS 5379 Parallel Processors and Processing • CS 5380 Fault-Tolerant Computer Systems	This section tests your breadth in other areas of CS. You are to answer questions from any two CS graduate courses taught in semesters prior to the Comprehensive Exam Semester.