



**SOUTH DAKOTA BOARD OF REGENTS
ACADEMIC AFFAIRS FORMS**

Substantive Program Modification Form

UNIVERSITY:	SDSU
CURRENT PROGRAM DEGREE:	Master of Science (M.S.)
CURRENT PROGRAM MAJOR/MINOR:	Computer Science
CURRENT SPECIALIZATION:	N/A
CIP CODE:	11.0101
UNIVERSITY DEPARTMENT:	McComish Department of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science
BANNER DEPARTMENT CODE:	SEEC
UNIVERSITY COLLEGE:	Jerome J Lohr College of Engineering
BANNER COLLEGE CODE:	3E

University Approval

To the Board of Regents and the Executive Director: I certify that I have read this proposal, that I believe it to be accurate, and that it has been evaluated and approved as provided by university policy.

Dennis D. Hedge

Vice President of Academic Affairs or
President of the University

4/16/2025

Date

1. This modification addresses a change in:

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Total credits required within the discipline | <input type="checkbox"/> Total credits of supportive course work |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Total credits of elective course work | <input type="checkbox"/> Total credits required for program |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Program name | <input type="checkbox"/> Existing specialization |
| <input type="checkbox"/> CIP Code | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (explain below) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Modification requiring Board of Regents approval | |

Must have prior approval from Executive Director or designee

2. Effective date of change: 2025-2026 Academic Year

3. Program Degree Level:

Associate Bachelor's Master's Doctoral

4. Category:

Certificate Specialization Minor Major

5. If a name change is proposed, the change will occur:

- On the effective date for all students
- On the effective date for students new to the program (enrolled students will graduate from existing program)

Proposed new name:

6. Is the program being modified associated with a current articulation agreement? Yes No

- a. If yes, will the articulation agreement need to be updated with the partner institution following the approve of the program change? Please explain:**

7. Primary Aspects of the Modification:

Existing Curriculum				Proposed Curriculum (Highlight Changes)			
Pref	Num	Title	Cr Hrs	Pref	Num	Title	Cr Hrs
				CSC	7XX	Electives	6
CSC	705	Design and Analysis of Computer Algorithms (COM)	3	CSC	705	Design and Analysis of Computer Algorithms (COM)	3
CSC	710	Structure and Design of Programming Languages (COM)	3	CSC	710	Structure and Design of Programming Languages (COM)	3
CSC	720	Theory of Computation (COM)	3	CSC	720	Theory of Computation (COM)	3
CSC	770	Software Engineering Management	3	CSC	770	Software Engineering Management	3
		Select one of the following: <i>Thesis</i>				Select one of the following: <i>Thesis</i>	
CSC	798	Thesis	6	CSC	798	Thesis	6
		Electives	12			Electives	18
		<i>Non-Thesis</i>				<i>Non-Thesis</i>	
		Electives	18			Electives	24
Total number of hours required for degree				Total number of hours required for degree			
Thesis			30	Thesis			30
Non-Thesis			30	Non-Thesis			30

Additional Graduation Requirements

Current:

All CS graduate candidates must pass a comprehensive written examination. The comprehensive written examination is offered twice during each academic year. The four graduate core courses are the subjects of the comprehensive written examination.

Comprehensive Written Exam Requirements

- All CS graduate candidates must pass a comprehensive written examination. The comprehensive written examination is offered twice during each academic year. It is usually during the third week of both the fall and spring semester. The four graduate core courses (listed below) are the subjects of the comprehensive written examination.
- CS graduate students can take the comprehensive exam up to three times as long as they have an average score of 50 or higher in the comprehensive exam and a minimum score of 40 or higher in each of the core course exams. If at any time in the students' scores fall below the criteria, the student loses the option of retaking the exam.
- If a student submits an application to take the comprehensive exam, that application will be counted as one of their three opportunities.

Final Oral Exam Requirements

The final oral exam is required for both thesis and non-thesis students. It is scheduled for approximately two hours. The first part of the exam includes the candidate's thesis or design paper defense, and the second part of the exam comprises the candidate's course work.

Proposed:

~~All CS graduate candidates must pass a comprehensive written examination. The comprehensive written examination is offered twice during each academic year. The four graduate core courses are the subjects of the comprehensive written examination.~~

Comprehensive Written Exam Requirements

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during the third week of both the fall and spring semester. The four graduate core courses (listed below) are the subjects of the comprehensive written examination.

- CS graduate students can take the comprehensive exam up to three times as long as they have an average score of 50 or higher in the comprehensive exam and a minimum score of 40 or higher in each of the core course exams. If at any time in the students' scores fall below the criteria, the student loses the option of retaking the exam.
- If a student submits an application to take the comprehensive exam, that application will be counted as one of their three opportunities.

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The final oral exam is required for both thesis and non-thesis students. It is scheduled for approximately two hours. The first part of the exam includes the candidate's thesis or design paper defense, and the second part of the exam comprises the candidate's course work.

8. Explanation of the Change:

The McComish Department of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science has requested this change to provide students with increased flexibility in designing their MS studies, considering their diverse backgrounds and career goals. Additionally, the existing core courses are no longer more critical than other 700-level courses within the program.