### Doctoral Degree (Ph.D.)

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| **MINIMUM 24 UNITS:**  
  - MAJOR: At least 12 units (200-level courses) with a GPA of 3.5+  
  - INSIDE MINOR: At least six units (at least one 200-level grad course) with a GPA of 3.0+. One or more of these courses may be outside EECS.  
  - OUTSIDE MINOR: At least six units (at least one 200-level grad course) with a GPA of 3.0+. Courses must be outside EECS, with at most one cross-listed with EECS.  
  | The preliminary requirements include an oral exam and breadth courses.  
  | ORAL EXAM: Students must demonstrate an expertise in the areas of the discipline that have been specified for the exam, and be able to produce an acceptable plan for their dissertation.  
  | BREADTH COURSES must:  
  |  • be at a graduate or an advanced undergraduate level  
  |  • be at least three units  
  |  • be for a letter grade  
  | EE students must take two courses in areas different from the oral exam (with A- or better).  
  | CS students must take a course in at least three subject areas passing each with at least a B+.  
  | Upon completion of the prelim requirements, students should submit a "Blue Card" to their Staff Graduate Advisor. The blue card is a non-binding document that the staff reviews to ensure your courses satisfy requirements.  
  | The Qualifying Exam is a university requirement. Students must demonstrate an expertise in the areas of the discipline that have been specified for the exam, and be able to produce an acceptable plan for their dissertation.  
  | The Qualifying Exam should be taken by the end of a student's third year AND only after the preliminary requirements are fulfilled.  
  | At least four weeks prior to the exam, students should plan to organize their committee and submit the following forms to their Staff Graduate Advisor:  
  |  • Online Qualifying exam application through Calcentral  
  |  • Departmental Application for the Qualifying Exam  
  |  • "White Card"  
  | Advancing to candidacy lets the university know that a student is almost ready to graduate. Doctoral students are eligible to advance after successfully passing the Qualifying Exam.  
  | To advance to candidacy, students must organize their dissertation committee and submit an Application for Candidacy through Calcentral. A $90 fee will be assessed to the student's account in Cal Central ("NSF students are eligible to waive the fee).  
  | All EECS doctoral students must serve as a Graduate Student Instructor (GSI) in the EECS department.  
  | REQUIREMENTS:  
  |  • Students must complete a total of 30 hours minimum prior to graduation.  
  |  • Twenty hours of work per week is equivalent to a 50% GSI appointment for a semester. Ten hours of work per week is equivalent to a 25% GSI appointment for a semester.  
  |  • At least 20 hours must be for an EE or CS undergraduate course.  
  |  • First time GSIs must take a 375 Pedagogy course and attend a teaching conference.  
  | Students are expected to give a talk before their final submission on the principal results of their research (this is a departmental graduation requirement). The Dissertation talk must be advertised on the EECS Departmental Calendar at least one week in advance.  
  | All students must also complete and submit the Thesis Seminar Form.  
  | Students must file the thesis by the last day of the semester in which they plan to graduate. Detailed instructions are found on the website at the bottom of this page.  
  | The most important part of filing is submitting the dissertation to the Grad Division and providing the following documents to the Staff Graduate Advisor:  
  |  • Copy of the signed signature page  
  |  • Copy/printout of the title page  
  |  • Copy/printout of the abstract  
  | Students must also upload a copy of the dissertation to the EECS website at https://buffy.eecs.berkeley.edu/PHP/Anydb/detmixed.php?f_database=deptinfo&f_worktable=rr_v_gradrpts&stu did=|

A **graduation checklist** and a recommended timeline are also available for students to ensure they meet all the requirements.