Department of Computer Science
Graduate Orientation

Dr. Cihan Varol, Graduate Coordinator
CVarol@shsu.edu

Department New Graduate Student Website:
http://www.shsu.edu/~cxv007/graduate/newstudents/newstudents.html
Welcome!

Congratulations to all new students in our three graduate degree programs and four graduate certificate programs:

- Computing and Information Science (CIS)
- Digital Forensics (DF)
- Information Assurance and Security (IAS)
- Cyber Security Certificate
- Data Assurance Certificate
- Digital Investigation Certificate
- Educational Technology Certificate
Contacts

Graduate Advisor:
  Dr. Cihan Varol, cvarol@shsu.edu, AB1-216F, 936-294-3930

Department Secretary:
  Kathryn Robertson, kbw001@shsu.edu, AB1-214, 936-294-3846

Note: you should check your SHSU email on daily basis
Current Department Graduate Faculty

Dr. Min Kyung An, an@shsu.edu, 936-294-4333, AB1-216J

Dr. Hyuk Cho, hyukcho@shsu.edu, 936-294-1535, AB1-216H

Dr. Peter Cooper, cooper@shsu.edu, 936-294-1569, AB1-214A

Dr. Umit Karabiylk, uzk006@shsu.edu, 936-294-4785, AB1-212E

Dr. Qingzhong (Frank) Liu, liu@shsu.edu, 936-294-3569, AB1-216D

Dr. Timothy McGuire, mcguire@shsu.edu, 936-294-1571, AB1-212G

Dr. Khaled Rabieh, kxr051@shsu.edu, 936-294-4198, AB1-216A

Dr. Li-Jen Lester, lys001@shsu.edu, 936-294-1582, AB1-216C

Dr. Narasimha (Karpoor) Shashidhar, nks001@shsu.edu, 936-294-1591, AB1-216B

Dr. Gary Smith, gsmith@shsu.edu, 936-294-1493, AB1-216G

Dr. Donggil Song, dxs059@shsu.edu, 936-294-2696, AB1-212J

Dr. Cihan Varol, cvarol@shsu.edu, 936-294-3930, AB1-216F

Dr. Mingkui Wei, mxw032@shsu.edu, 936-294-3832, AB1-212A

Dr. Bing (Jenny) Zhou, bxz003@shsu.edu, 936-294-1590, AB1-216E
Other department faculty

Dr. David Burris, david.burris@shsu.edu, 936-294-1568, AB1-212C

Kirk Burns, lib_kab@shsu.edu

Hacer Varol, hxv002@shsu.edu, 936-294-1075, AB1-212J
New Graduate Students

Please introduce yourself:

What is your name?
Where are you from?
Which graduate program are you in?
Where and when did you get your bachelor and other post-graduate degrees?
What are your study and research interests?
What do you expect to get from your current graduate program?
What are your hobbies?
Forms to be filed electronically with graduate advisor by the 2nd week of the semester

Department New Graduate Student Website: 
http://www.shsu.edu/~cxv007/graduate/NewStudents/NewStudents.html

Forms and instructions are posted on same website; forms should be filed via email with Dr. Varol (cvarol@shsu.edu)

**GN-01: Graduate Study Plan Form** (must be filed for all degree and non-degree students)

**GN-02: Department Graduate Orientation Form** (must be filed for all students)

**GN-03: Graduate Studies Admission Form** (only for change of major or change of admission status)
Study – degree programs and certificates

A master degree program is **36 credits** in total

- **CIS**
  - Thesis (30 credits course + COSC 6348 and 6049) or Non-Thesis (33 credits course + capstone master project course COSC 6347)

- **DF or IAS**
  - Non-Thesis (33 credits course + capstone master project course DFSC 6347)

- **core (required) and electives (optional)**

- **max 6 credits from Special Topic courses**

- **students graduating in 12 months** must visit and go through all information on the [website for graduating students in 12 months](#)

- **students graduating within 1 semester** must visit and go through all information on the [website for graduating students](#)

- **capstone master project course COSC/DFSC 6347** – counts 3 credits in total regardless of times taken; required to register in the graduating semester
double major (DF + IAS is not possible)

a certificate program is 15 credits in total

master degree with certificate option
  ◦ need to apply for certificate
  ◦ courses can be applied to both degree and certificate

Non-degree ➔ degree
  ◦ Need to apply for degree program
  ◦ may apply up to 18 credits to degree program (with approval by Dean of COS)
Study – classes and credits

- Most graduate courses only appears once in a calendar year
- For degree programs, try to complete core courses as early as possible – core content covered by Comprehensive Exams (may be waived on courses scored an “A”)
- Length of study: degree programs allow max 6 consecutive years
- A student will be automatically out of program if NOT taking any class in two consecutive long-semesters
- Keep your GPA above 3.0, otherwise you will be under probation or terminated
  - Avoid getting “C”
  - Terminated when receiving an “F” or upon second probation or receiving three “C”s

Credit transfers with approval
- Max 6 credits, only equivalent to graduate courses in degree plan
- Only credits with grades B or better
- Use GN-04: Grade/Degree Transfer Request Form, college is “COS”
Research and projects

**Master Capstone Project (Required for all degree programs)**

- More details refer to [website for graduating students in 1 year](#) and [website of graduating students in one semester](#)
- Normally starts after two semesters of graduate study
- Student approaches to graduate faculty regarding choosing project supervisor and two additional committee members, and discusses with committee for topic and details of research project
- Must pass project proposal in semester prior to graduating semester (or earlier); no proposal scheduled in Summer semesters**
- Pay attention to ALL relevant deadlines and file ALL necessary forms!
- Expected project outcome: deliverables such as computer programs, documentation of project, and paper submission to conference or journal

**Other Projects and Funding Support**

- Look for research projects and funding support that may benefit you in graduate studies and future career
Academic integrity

Maintain high academic integrity at all time!

Absolutely NO cheating or plagiarism in any assignment/lab/task/work!
  ◦ Absolutely NO copying of others work in any form!
  ◦ If content reflects existing work from others, you must use proper citations and references!
  ◦ If you have to use the original content, you must use quotations, in addition to proper citations and references!
  ◦ Violation of this may cause serious consequences, e.g. zero in grades, failure in a class, termination from program, etc.
Details of Internship

- **Eligibility** – The student should complete a minimum of 2 full semesters in the university to be eligible for CPT approval.

- **Offer letter** – Offer letter should contain the tenure of work along with number of work hours per week.

- **Approval from Grad Advisor** – The offer letter should be shown to grad advisor for approval and discuss regarding the subject registration for the internship course. (Student should register for minimum of 3 credits of Internship in the department to be eligible for CPT).

- **New I-20 from International Admissions Office** – The offer letter should be given to International Graduate Advisor to obtain a new I-20 and only then the student will be permitted to work.
Scholarships and financial support

**Research Assistantship (RA)** – contact individual professors for possible grant support

**Departmental Teaching/Graduate Assistantship (TA/GA)** – contact Dr. Narasimha Shashidhar (Chair of Departmental Graduate Assistantship Committee)

**College of Sciences Special Graduate Scholarship Award** (see GN-06 form on website); recommended for students who have GRE 300+, GPA 3.33+, TOEFL 85+ or IELTS 7.0+

**Graduate Studies Scholarship** – (see GN-07 form on website); requirements are similar to the above scholarship, send completed nomination form to Dr. Varol (cvarol@shsu.edu) or another faculty each semester.

look for scholarships on university and college websites
(Immigration) status

International students

- Required to register and keep in full time status, e.g. 9 credit hours in Spring and Fall, 6 in Summer

- Summer registration can be waived only when the student has registered full time in both of Fall and Spring semesters of same Academic Year

- TA and RA can register as low as 6 credit hours in Fall or Spring as full time

- Contact Office of International Programs to make sure that you are (will) not (be) out-of-status

- GN-05: Online Course Reporting form must be filed with Office of International Programs for each online class enrolled, this may require face-to-face meetings with professor; see form GN-05 on website

U.S. students – readmission is required when not enrolled in two consecutive long-semesters
Activities

SHACS:
- http://www.shsu.edu/~org_shacs/
- Welcomes all graduate students
- TAs and students on scholarships are required to participate

Sports
- Recreational Sports: http://www.shsu.edu/dept/recreational-sports/
Security and Safety

Lock your doors and windows!
Log off computer when you are away, even for minutes!
Protect your account and passwords!
Avoid walking alone at night, especially at remote or dark places
Drive and travel safely!
Demonstration of usage of college website resources

- **MySam** (The website hosts the personal data related to the students, registration details of subjects for each semester, school fees, student registration, etc.)

- **BlackBoard SHSU** (It is a common interface between professors and students to share the materials related to each subject).

- **Jobs for Kats** (This website helps the student to search for the jobs on campus based on the different eligibility criteria). Every on-campus job is posted on this website.

Note: JobsforKats needs a registration using SamID which may take a week to get activated.