

# PROJECT/THESIS TOPIC FORM

## MS in COMPUTER SCIENCE - MS in SOFTWARE ENGINEERING

Student's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ SAC STATE ID: \_\_\_\_\_  
Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
Tel. No. (cell): \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Tel. No. (other): \_\_\_\_\_ Faculty Sponsor: \_\_\_\_\_  
Topic Title \_\_\_\_\_  
(print): \_\_\_\_\_

Description of proposed project/thesis (*provide a typewritten attachment*).  
Outline of Methodology and Timetable (*provide a typewritten attachment*).  
Faculty Sponsor's Comments (*If thesis, please also explain how it qualifies as a thesis*):

(Print) Faculty Sponsor: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Second Reader: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Third\*\*\* Reader: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
\*\*\*Third required for Thesis ONLY\*\*\*

**If you are changing your faculty sponsor, the signature of the previous sponsor on file is required.**

Previous Faculty Sponsor Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Graduate Coordinator Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

### IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING YOUR MASTER'S THESIS OR PROJECT

(Please check one box and read all instructions)

**Project:** You are required to make an oral presentation on your MS project, which can reflect your project work at any stage (preliminary, in progress, or near completion). You should present it in one of the following forums: (1) the Graduate Student Symposium organized once every semester; (2) a graduate level course with prior approval of both your project advisor and the course instructor; or (3) a professional conference. It is recommended that if you plan to leave the Sacramento area before you complete your project, you conduct your oral presentation before you leave.

In which semester do you plan to complete your oral presentation requirement? \_\_\_\_\_

**Thesis:** You are required to defend your thesis in a separately scheduled seminar.

**The department-level deadline each semester for submitting an MS project report or thesis to the Graduate Coordinator's Office, already approved and signed by the Committee Chair and its members, is 10 working days before the University (Office of Graduate Studies) deadline. Please include this deadline in your timetable.**

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Have you received credit for CSc 209? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_ Semester Taken: \_\_\_\_\_

**Computer Science Department**  
**GUIDELINES FOR MS PROJECT/THESIS**  
Approved by the Department May 9, 2007

1. An MS project/thesis must be original work.
2. MS projects/theses are academic publications, which are public information. A work-related project must first resolve any intellectual property issues before it starts.
3. Completed work in any context other than an MS project should not be used to enroll into CSc 502.
4. A course project should not be used to enroll into CSc 502 unless there is a significant extension (of the work previously done) and approval by both the project supervisor and the original course instructor.
5. Students should choose their MS project supervisors carefully. In particular, students are encouraged to select faculty members with expertise in their MS project topic areas.
6. The oral presentation must be on the same project used toward the degree completion.
7. Project completion should be based on the quality of the project judged by the project committee. Other factors such as job commitment should not be used as excuses for demanding completion.
8. Each student is required to do an individual oral presentation and write an individual MS project report.
9. Students should follow other established guidelines for changing project supervisors and for completing the oral presentation requirement.