

# Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering

## ENCS 8011 Doctoral Seminar

Approved at the Department Council Meeting on May 17, 2024

### 1. Calendar Description

The PhD Seminar (2 credits) is designed to train students to communicate the results of their research projects to the community and participate in research discussions. The student's evaluation is based upon attendance in all seminars, a report on the student's thesis research under the direction of the thesis supervisor(s), and a presentation.

**Pre-requisite:** ENCS 8511 Doctoral Research Proposal

**Note:** Students may register in the PhD seminar course four months after becoming a PhD

candidate (i.e., passing the doctoral research proposal exam).

### 2. Report

The student should prepare a written report (20-30 pages, excluding references) with the following main objectives:

- i. Introducing the research problem and justifying any potential deviation from the research goals stated in the proposal. The introduction should also include a brief, but more recent, literature survey.
- ii. Presenting the progress made on the research problem since the proposal. The report should contain results as well as the methodology leading to them.
- iii. Briefly discussing the remaining work and giving an estimate of the time needed for the completion of the work.
- iv. Concluding remarks

### 3. Presentation

Each scheduled seminar will consist of two parts: (i) the student's presentation (max 25 minutes) and (ii) questions and answers.

The supervisor and at least one additional examiner (normally internal examiner) must be present during the seminar.

The supervisor is responsible for scheduling the PhD Seminar and providing all relevant information (seminar date, room request and/or Zoom link and seminar report) to the Graduate Program Coordinator a minimum of two weeks before the seminar. The Graduate Program Coordinator will then share the PhD Seminar report to the examiners and invite all students enrolled in the course to attend the presentation. The PhD Seminar report will automatically be shared with students. If the supervisor and the student do not want the report to be shared with students for confidentiality reasons, they are responsible to mention it to the GPC when they submit the report. The presentation should be scheduled no later than the last day of classes of the term the student is enrolled in.

Each presentation and the Q/A session will be chaired by the respective thesis supervisor. All registered students are strongly encouraged to ask questions.

### 4. Evaluation

The Ph.D. seminar course is graded as Pass or Fail. Following the presentation of a seminar, the examiners will make a Pass or Fail decision and the supervisor will submit the grade by email to the Graduate Program Coordinator.