

### **ENCS 8511 Doctoral Research Proposal** (6 credits)

The goal of the doctoral research proposal is to focus the student's Ph.D. research. The proposal must include an extensive critical review of previous work on the subject of the thesis, and a detailed research plan of action and expected milestones. Students are required to defend their doctoral research proposal before a committee that will normally be comprised of the same members as the comprehensive examination committee.

### **Ph.D. Proposal Report Guideline**

- A student may use an appropriate style manual as specified by the supervisor.
- The proposal should be typed using a 12-point "times new roman" font with 1.5 line spacing.
- The main body of the Research Proposal (all chapters and appendices) should be at most 40 pages including figures, tables ....
- The written report format may follow the following suggested outline:

Cover Page

Abstract

Table of Contents

List of Symbols

List of Abbreviations

#### **Chapter 1** Introduction (Try to use layout non specialized technical language)

Problem Statement

Motivation/Applications (important for the non-specialists)

Objectives/Problems

Basic Assumption/Limitations

Literature Review

#### **Chapter 2** Background

Different sections as appropriate to building the theoretical background for the topic emphasizing the most recent activities relevant to the subject.

#### **Chapter 3** Proposed Research

Theory, Techniques, Preliminary results if available

#### **Chapter 4** Future Work and Conclusions

A detailed research plan of action and expected milestones.

Potential Implications to knowledge/theory/practice

References

Appendices

### **Process for Scheduling a Ph.D. Proposal defence:**

- Supervisor schedules the date and time of the proposal presentation with Committee members, including the **coordinator** (who acts as Chair of the presentation).
- Supervisor informs Graduate Assistant via email of the student's name, I.D. number, date and time of the presentation and a list of committee members.
- Graduate Assistant books the room.
- Student delivers copies of the Research Proposal to Graduate Assistant. One copy for each committee member and one for the Chair **AT LEAST 3 WEEKS IN ADVANCE** of the presentation date.
- Graduate Assistant will prepare the Notice of Presentation and distribute the copies of the research proposal to committee members. Graduate Assistant will email members of the committee and student of the confirmed date and time of defence.