

Ph. D. Thesis Proposal Details

1. Prepare a 40 page proposal document (or longer). (1) This document should include an abstract indicating the research area to be explored and why it is important from a fundamental research perspective as well a from the view of possible applications. (2) It should include a chapter with an extensive review of the literature in the field (with a complete set of references). (3) It should include a chapter on the methods and techniques to be utilized. (4) It should include a detailed plan for the proposed research. Note that Items (2) and (3) can be expanded and used later in the Ph. D. thesis. Hence it pays to be thorough.
2. Secure the proposal forms from the Office of Graduate Studies/MtSE Office
3. Schedule a thesis proposal defense date
4. After preparing the document with your advisor, submit it to the committee 1 month before the defense date.
5. You should keep in mind that the you will be urged to publish your work in peer reviewed journals (NOT conference proceedings) You should consult the top journals of your field to calibrate the quality of your work.