

GRADUATE STUDIES IN COMPUTER SCIENCE

Ian Goldberg, Graduate Director



DAVID R. CHERITON SCHOOL OF COMPUTER SCIENCE



UNIVERSITY OF
WATERLOO

CONTEXT

- One of the largest computer science departments in the world with 80+ faculty members
- Ranked among the top 50 programs in the world, and top three in Canada
- About 325 current graduate students; about half in the PhD program
- Fun facts
 - The first PhD in Computer Science at Waterloo was awarded in 1969
 - David R. Cheriton, after whom the School is now named, was awarded a CS PhD in 1978, and was one of the first investors in Google



BREADTH OF RESEARCH

- Research spans many areas

17 research areas	
Algorithms and Complexity	Human Computer Interaction
Artificial Intelligence	Information Retrieval
Bioinformatics	Networks and Distributed Systems
Computational Statistics	Programming Languages
Computer Graphics	Quantum Computing
Cryptography, Security and Privacy	Scientific Computation
Database Management	Software Engineering
Formal Methods	Symbolic Computation
Health Informatics	



MASTERS PROGRAMS

- Three options:
 - Thesis option – 4 courses + thesis
 - Research paper option – 7 courses + research paper
 - Coursework option – 8 courses
- One specialized Masters program
 - Masters in Quantum Information (QI)
- We have an accelerated program for UWaterloo undergraduate students
 - Students can take two graduate courses their their 4A/4B terms



PHD PROGRAMS

- Most students apply to the PhD program after completing a Masters degree
- Possible to apply for direct admissions to the PhD program
- There are two PhD programs
 - PhD in Computer Science
 - PhD in Quantum Information (an interdisciplinary program)



FUNDING

- Full-time students in all programs are funded, except those in the course-based MMath program
- Funding provided by research assistantships (RA), teaching assistantships (TAs) and scholarships
 - Research Assistantship – Paid by your supervisor from research grants
 - Teaching Assistantship – Paid by the School
 - Many types of scholarships, including Cheriton scholarships

Your funding

Your offer of admission will specify the funding that you are being offered.



GRADUATE SUPERVISORS

- Every graduate student in the research-oriented MMath and PhD programs is supervised by a computer science faculty member
- Faculty members typically supervise 3-5 students at a time
- Your supervisor provides some of your funding
- Your supervisor has chosen to supervise you
- Switching supervisors is possible (though not common)

Your supervisor

Your offer of admission will identify your supervisor.



SCHOLARSHIPS

- We offer many types of scholarships external awards
 - NSERC (awarded by the Natural Science and Engineering)
 - OGS (Ontario Graduate Scholarship)
- Internal awards
 - President's Scholarships
 - Cheriton Scholarships
 - Go-Bell Scholarship
 - UW Graduate Scholarship
 - Provost's Doctoral Scholarships (for women)

Website

<https://cs.uwaterloo.ca/future-graduate-students/scholarships-and-awards>



APPLYING: WHAT YOU'LL NEED

- Online application form (\$100 fee)
 - Biographic and contact information
 - Academic history and program choices
- Post-secondary transcripts
- Computer science supplementary information
 - Resume, statement of interest
- Three letters of reference
 - Identify references in your application
 - UWaterloo will contact them and invite them to submit letters on your behalf
- Record of landing (if applicable)
- TOEFL/GRE test reports (international applicants, if applicable)



HOW TO APPLY

Apply online

<https://cs.uwaterloo.ca/future-graduate-students/applying-admissions>

- Computer science admits graduate students for January, April and September
- Most new graduates start in September
- Application deadline for September 2017 admission is December 15, 2016



HOW ADMISSIONS DECISIONS ARE MADE

- Applications are reviewed in two steps
 1. Pre-screening
 2. Faculty review
- Admission to research programs requires that a faculty member agree to supervise and support you during your studies

Stand out in your application!

You can increase your admissions chances by making yourself known to potential graduate supervisors.



QUESTIONS

- You can find out more information about graduate studies in computer science

Information	
Website	https://cs.uwaterloo.ca/future-graduate-students
Phone	Cheryl Sutor, Graduate Admissions Coordinator and Scholarships Assistant 519-888-4567 x 36468
Email	csggrad@uwaterloo.ca
In person	Graduate Studies, Computer Science University of Waterloo DC 2599

