

Carnegie Mellon University
School of Computer Science



Language
Technologies
Institute

Master of Science in Intelligent Information Systems

Student Handbook 2023-2024

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The information contained in this graduate handbook template focuses on the resources and locations available at the Carnegie Mellon Pittsburgh Campus.

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1 Welcome

Welcome to the Language Technologies Institute. While this handbook (and your college graduate student handbook) is specific to your academic experience in the LTI, there are several other resources and offices that graduate students are encouraged to consult during their tenure at Carnegie Mellon University. Information about The Word, the student handbook, the Office of Graduate and Postdoc Affairs, the Office of the Dean of Student Affairs, and others, are included in Appendix A of this handbook.

1.1 Vision

Carnegie Mellon University will have a transformative impact on society through continual innovation in education, research, creativity, and entrepreneurship.

1.2 Mission

To create a transformative educational experience for students focused on deep disciplinary knowledge; problem solving; leadership, communication, and interpersonal skills; and personal health and well-being.

To cultivate a transformative university community committed to (a) attracting and retaining diverse, world-class talent; (b) creating a collaborative environment open to the free exchange of ideas, where research, creativity, innovation, and entrepreneurship can flourish; and (c) ensuring individuals can achieve their full potential.

To impact society in a transformative way – regionally, nationally, and globally – by engaging with partners outside the traditional borders of the university campus.

1.3 The MIIS Degree

The Master of Science in Intelligent Information Systems (MIIS) is a professional degree offered by the Language Technologies Institute (LTI), a graduate department in the School of Computer Science at Carnegie Mellon University. The MIIS degree provides advanced study and practical experience in areas of Computer Science focused on the processing and analysis of unstructured and semi-structured information, for example, text, image, video, speech, and audio information. It is a practice-oriented professional degree designed for students who want to rapidly master advanced content-analysis, mining, and intelligent information technologies prior to beginning or resuming leadership careers in industry and government.

There are significant differences between CMU's different departments and degree programs in philosophical approach, procedures, policies, and regulations. Each department issues a

handbook that informs graduate students of their program requirements and procedures and ensures that students have written access to the standard information outlined below. This handbook describes the policies, procedures, and requirements for the Master of Science in Intelligent Information Systems (MIIS) degree.

While this handbook is specific to your academic experience in the department, there are several other resources and offices graduate students are encouraged to consult during their tenure at Carnegie Mellon University. Information about The Word, the Student Handbook, the Office of Graduate and Postdoc Affairs, the Office of the Dean of Student Affairs and others are included in Appendix A of this handbook.

All policies not explicitly described in this document conform to School of Computer Science (SCS) policies and university policies described in The Word, the Student Handbook and at the University Policies website. It is the responsibility of each member of the Carnegie Mellon community to be familiar with university policies and guidelines.

1.4 MIIS Contact Information

The people responsible for administering the MIIS degree are:

Brianna Eriksen
Academic Program Manager
GHC 6415
412-268-4277
bfreema2@andrew.cmu.edu

Teruko Mitamura
Program Director, MIIS
Professor, LTI
GHC 6711
412-268-6596
teruko@andrew.cmu.edu

Kate Schaich
Administrative Manager
GHC 6415
412-268-4788
kschaich@andrew.cmu.edu

Robert Frederking
Chair of Graduate Programs, LTI
Principal Systems Scientist
412-268-6656
ref@cs.cmu.edu

Mona Diab
Director, LTI
GHC 5415
412-268-3669
mdiab@andrew.cmu.edu

In addition, students may confer with the Graduate Education Office (graded@andrew.cmu.edu) regarding issues of process or other concerns as they navigate conflicts.

The Language Technologies Institute is located primarily on the 5th and 6th floors of the Gates Hillman Complex (GHC) on Carnegie Mellon's Pittsburgh campus. The address and contact information of the LTI are:

Language Technologies Institute
Carnegie Mellon University
5000 Forbes Avenue
Gates Hillman Complex 5404, LTI
Pittsburgh, PA 15241-3891

412-268-6591 (phone)
412-268-6298 (fax)

<http://www.lti.cs.cmu.edu/>

1.5 Carnegie Mellon University Statement of Assurance

Carnegie Mellon University does not discriminate in admission, employment or administration of its programs or activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, handicap or disability, age, sexual orientation, gender identity, religion, creed, ancestry, belief, veteran status or genetic information. Furthermore, Carnegie Mellon University does not discriminate and is required not to discriminate in violation of federal, state, or local laws or executive orders.

Inquiries concerning the application of and compliance with this statement should be directed to the university ombudsperson, Carnegie Mellon University, 5000 Forbes Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15213, telephone 412-268-1018. Obtain general information about Carnegie Mellon University by calling 412-268-2000.

Carnegie Mellon University publishes an annual campus security and fire safety report describing the university's security, alcohol and drug, sexual assault, and fire safety policies, and containing statistics about the number and type of crimes committed on the campus, and the number and cause of fires in campus residence facilities during the preceding three years. You can obtain a copy by contacting the Carnegie Mellon Police Department at 412-268-2323. The annual security and fire safety report also is available online at www.cmu.edu/police/annualreports.

Information regarding the application of Title IX, including to admission and employment decisions, the sexual misconduct grievance procedures and process, including how to file a report or a complaint of sex discrimination, how to file a report of sexual harassment, and how the university responds to such reports is available at www.cmu.edu/title-ix. The Title IX coordinator may be reached at 5000 Forbes Ave., 140 Cyert Hall, Pittsburgh, PA 15213; 412-268-7125; or tix@cmu.edu.

1.6 The Carnegie Mellon Code

Students at Carnegie Mellon, because they are members of an academic community dedicated to the achievement of excellence, are expected to meet the highest standards of personal, ethical, and moral conduct possible.

These standards require personal integrity, a commitment to honesty without compromise, as well as truth without equivocation and a willingness to place the good of the community above the good of the self. Obligations once undertaken must be met, commitments kept.

As members of the Carnegie Mellon community, individuals are expected to uphold the standards of the community in addition to holding others accountable for said standards. It is rare that the life of a student in an academic community can be so private that it will not affect the community as a whole or that the above standards do not apply.

The discovery, advancement and communication of knowledge are not possible without a commitment to these standards. Creativity cannot exist without acknowledgment of the creativity of others. New knowledge cannot be developed without credit for prior knowledge. Without the ability to trust that these principles will be observed, an academic community cannot exist.

The commitment of its faculty, staff and students to these standards contributes to the high respect in which the Carnegie Mellon degree is held. Students must not destroy that respect by their failure to meet these standards. Students who cannot meet them should voluntarily withdraw from the university.

The Carnegie Mellon Code can also be found on-line at <https://www.cmu.edu/student-affairs/theword/>.

1.7 University Policies and Expectations

It is the responsibility of each member of the Carnegie Mellon community to be familiar with university policies and guidelines. In addition to this departmental graduate student handbook, the following resources are available to assist you in understanding community expectations:

The Word/Student Handbook	www.cmu.edu/student-affairs/theword//index.html
Academic Integrity Policy	https://www.cmu.edu/policies/student-and-student-life/academic-integrity.html
University Policies Website	www.cmu.edu/policies/

Due to the changing nature of conditions and expectations surrounding public health and safety requirements, please visit www.cmu.edu/coronavirus for the most up to date information.

Please see Appendix A for additional information about The Word and University resources.

1.8 Academic Calendar

The Academic Calendar can be found at <https://www.cmu.edu/hub/calendar/index.html> and provides information on all deadlines including registration dates, class start dates, add/drop deadlines, exam dates and more.

2 The Language Technologies Institute

2.1.1 Mailboxes & Office Supplies

The LTI mailboxes, printers, copiers, and other departmental resources are in GHC 5404.

2.1.2 Photocopies and Printers

The use of a photocopier or printer requires you to log in with your CMU ID card. LTI's printers are located in GHC 5404 and GHC 6604. The School of Computer Science provides a number of black-and-white and color printers for use by students. The SCS Computer Facilities publishes a list of printers online at <http://www.cs.cmu.edu/-help/printing/>.

2.1.3 Office Space for MS Students

To help create a sense of community, full time students in the LTI's MIIS program have access to a shared office space.

2.1.4 Computers for MS Students

Students are expected to provide their own laptop computers that can be used to access university resources and complete course assignments. Laptops running Windows, MacOS, and Linux software are all acceptable.

Master's students will be given a CS user id. A CS user id is required to use the LTI computer cluster, and other SCS services. The School of Computer Science has a Help Center located at

GHC 4201. They can be contacted at help@cs.cmu.edu, extension 8-4231 from a campus phone, or 412-268-4231 from an outside line.

MS students will be given access to the LTI's computer cluster on an as-needed basis, to be used for course assignments, directed study projects, and/or the capstone project. The LTI cluster provides storage and computation for projects involving large datasets and/or lengthy computation.

3 CMU Degree Completion and Certification

3.1 Standard Degree Requirements & Degree Certification

Carnegie Mellon graduate students are expected to complete their degree requirements within the standard length of time for their program of study as outlined in the relevant Graduate Student Handbook. Standard program lengths for graduate students vary significantly ranging from two semesters for some full-time master's programs to several or more years for doctoral programs. Upon completion of the graduate program degree requirements, the degree will be certified by the student's academic program in the semester in which the student completes the requirements.

Early Completion

Graduate students who consider the completion of all degree requirements in less than the standard length of time for their program of study may consult with their degree-granting program or department to determine if early degree certification is allowed and under what circumstances.

Extended or Longer-than-Standard Completion

Longer-than-standard degree completion may occur due to academic interruptions in making progress toward the degree as defined by the academic program, interruptions of full-time study or progress towards the degree due to serious, documented medical issues, or other unusual or unforeseen circumstances.

Master's students who require longer than the standard time to complete their degree requirements are expected to remain in close contact with their graduate program, and will be certified at the end of the semester in which they have completed their degree requirements. Students shall reference CMU Policy on Master's Student Statute of Limitations: www.cmu.edu/policies/student-and-student-life/masters-students-statute-of-limitations.html regarding guidelines and restrictions which place an upper limit on the maximum length of time allowable for master's degree completion and certification.

3.2 Statute of Limitations

As outlined in the Master's Students Statute of Limitations, <https://www.cmu.edu/policies/student-and-student-life/masters-students-statute-of-limitations.html> students will complete all requirements for the master's degree within a maximum of seven years from original matriculation as a master's student, or less if required by a more restrictive department, school or college policy. Once this time-to-degree limit has lapsed, the person may resume work towards a master's degree only if newly admitted to a currently offered master's degree program under criteria determined by that program.

Under extraordinary circumstances, such as leave of absence, military or public service, family or parental leave, or temporary disability, a school or college may, upon the relevant department's recommendation and with the written approval of the dean (or designate), defer the lapse for a period commensurate with the duration of that interruption. Students who are pursuing a master's degree as part-time students for all semesters of their program, as approved by their program, may also appeal to their program or department for extension of the time to degree limit.

3.3 Additional Guidance for Students

Program of Study

Students seeking guidance about their program of study and degree requirements should consult with their academic advisor and/or appropriate associate dean.

Financial Aid and Student Account

Students are expected to make normal progress toward their degree in order to graduate within the standard timeframe for their program of study. Under U.S. Federal Title IV regulations, student eligibility for federal financial aid is contingent upon enrollment in and successful completion of courses that are counted as credit toward their current degree program. To receive the maximum amount of federal financial aid for which they may be eligible, students must enroll each semester in at least 36 units that count toward their current degree level. (See separate guidance regarding integrated degree completion.) Students should consult with their designated college liaison in The HUB regarding billing and financial aid, particularly for early completion, longer-than standard completion, or integrated undergraduate and master's degree programs.

International Students

Immigration status for students in F-1 and J-1 nonimmigrant status is tied to making normal progress toward completing degree requirements. Therefore, F-1 and J-1 students who are considering completing their degree requirements early, anticipating longer-than-standard completion, or moving from an undergraduate to a graduate student classification (integrated undergraduate-graduate study) should consult with their designated advisor in the Office of International Education (OIE) to ensure compliance with immigration regulations.

4 MIIS Degree Requirements and Related Policies/Protocols

4.1 Program Options

The MIIS degree is offered in two options:

Option 1. Standard MIIS degree (MIIS-16) - A 16-month track that is completed in three academic semesters (fall, spring, fall) and a summer internship.

Option 2. MIIS: Advanced Study degree (MIIS-21) - A 21-month track that is completed in four academic semesters (fall, spring, fall, spring) and a summer internship.

MIIS: Advanced Study track offers in depth degree in one of the following areas of concentration:

- Human Language for Language Technologies
- Language Technology Application
- Machine Learning for Language Technologies

Part-time options are available in some cases.

4.2 Required Units for Degree Attainment

To complete the Master of Science in Intelligent Information Systems, a student must satisfy three types of requirements. *Curricular* requirements ensure that MIIS students receive instruction in core intelligent information systems technologies while also allowing an opportunity to specialize in areas of personal interest. *Practice* requirements are opportunities to apply and hone new skills while building state-of-the-art systems. *Grade* requirements ensure that students have demonstrated a certain level of skill while completing degree requirements. All three types of requirements are described below.

MIIS-16 students must take at least 84 units (typically 7 12-unit courses) of qualifying and elective courses that satisfy human language, machine learning, and language technology applications breadth requirements and 66 practice units for a total of 150 units to attain the Standard MIIS degree.

MIIS-21 students must take at least 108 units (typically 9 12-unit courses) of qualifying and elective courses and 66 practice units to satisfy their degree requirements, making it a total of 174 units to attain the MIIS: Advanced Study degree.

4.3 Core Requirements

A MIIS student must complete the following curricular requirements:

1. **Qualifying courses:**

MIIS-16 students must pass 72 units (typically 6 12-unit courses) and MIIS-21 students must complete 96 units (typically 8 12-unit courses) in qualifying master's courses.

A qualifying master's course is defined as:

- a. Any graduate course (600-level or higher) offered by the Language Technologies Institute; and
 - b. Any graduate course (600-level or higher) from the list of approved qualifying courses (Section 3.2.4).
2. **Free elective:** Students must pass 12 units (typically 1 course) in elective master's course(s). A free elective is defined as:
- a. A graduate course (600-level or higher) with content relevant to the MIIS program objectives offered by the School of Computer Science; and
 - b. A course approved by the student's advisor and the degree Program Director.
 - c. A student may not use the same course to satisfy both a qualifying course requirement and an elective course requirement.
3. **Breadth requirements:** Students must demonstrate breadth by passing one course in each of the following areas. In addition, MIIS-21 students must take two more LTI courses (24 units total) in one of the following areas of concentration:
- Human language;
 - Machine learning; and
 - Language technology applications.

The department maintains and publishes a list of courses that satisfy each of these requirements (Sections 3.2.5 – 3.2.7). Some courses used to satisfy a breadth requirement can also satisfy qualifying course requirements. A student should get approval from the director for the breadth courses, if not listed below.

4.4 Approved Qualifying Courses

Any graduate course (600-level or higher) offered by the Language Technologies Institute is a qualifying course.

Any two graduate courses (600-level or higher) offered by departments within the SCS relevant to the MIIS degree other than LTI (Machine Learning or Computer Science departments, etc.) may be counted as approved qualifying courses.

Any course from the following list is an *approved qualifying course*.

- 02-712, Computational Methods for Biological Modeling and Simulation
- 05-631, Software Structures for User interfaces
- 05-813, Human Factors
- 10-708, Probabilistic Graphical Models
- 16-720, Computer Vision
- 17-631 Information Security, Privacy & Policy
- 17-781, Mobile and IoT Computing Services

4.4.1 Breadth Courses: Human Language

- 11-611, Natural Language Processing
- 11-624, Human Language for Artificial Intelligence
- 11-711, Advanced NLP
- 11-722, Grammar Formalisms
- 11-724, Human Language for Artificial Intelligence
- 11-727, Computational Semantics for NLP
- 11-737, Multilingual NLP

4.4.2 Breadth Courses: Language Technology Applications

- 11-642, Search Engines
- 11-688, Concepts in Digital Multimedia and Cyber Forensics
- 11-692, Speech Processing
- 11-697, Introduction to Question Answering
- 11-751, Speech Recognition and Understanding
- 11-767, On-Service Machine Learning
- 11-797, Question Answering
- 11-830, Computational Ethics For NLP

4.4.3 Breadth Courses: Machine Learning

- 11-641, Machine Learning for Text and Graph-Based Mining
- 11-661, Language and Statistics
- 11-663, Applied Machine Learning
- 11-747, Neural Networks for NLP
- 11-755, Machine Learning for Signal Processing
- 11-761, Language and Statistics
- 11-777, Multimodal Machine Learning

- 11-785, Introduction to Deep Learning
- 10-601, Introduction to Machine Learning (Master's)
- 10-605, Machine Learning with Large Datasets
- 10-701, Introduction to Machine Learning (PhD)
- 10-707, Advanced Deep Learning
- 10-708, Probabilistic Graphical Models
- 10-714, Deep Learning Systems
- 10-715, Advanced Introduction to Machine Learning

4.5 Practice Requirements

A student must complete at least 66 practice-oriented course units and satisfy the following practice-oriented requirements for both MIIS-16 and MIIS-21 programs.

1. **Directed study requirement:** Students must pass 24 units (typically 12 units x 2 semesters) in directed study under the supervision of their advisor. Directed study is a structured, task-oriented form of independent study that provides deep, hands-on experience in a particular technology area and an opportunity to work closely with a member of the faculty.
2. **Internship requirement:** Students must complete a one-semester (typically summer) internship at an organization (typically a company or government agency) approved by the MIIS Program Director. Internships are an opportunity to apply new skills in a professional setting and to learn about software development in a 'real world' organization. Students with prior professional experience may petition the MIIS Program Director to waive this requirement.

MIIS students that do an internship during the summer semester are required to present their internship at a poster session at the beginning of the following Fall semester. The poster and the student's participation in the poster session are part of the internship requirement. Participation is required unless waived in writing by the MIIS Program Director.

3. **Capstone requirements:** Students must complete a capstone project (36 units) and a capstone planning seminar (6 units). The capstone requirement gives students experience with collaborative, team-oriented software development; significant hands-on experience with the techniques studied in the classroom; and an opportunity to work on a large software application.
 - a. The capstone project (36 units) is a large, group-oriented demonstration of student skill in one or more areas covered by the degree. Typically, the result of the capstone project is a major software application. The capstone project is supervised by a member of the faculty who meets with students on a weekly basis to monitor progress and provide guidance.

- b. The capstone planning seminar (6 units) organizes students into groups; defines capstone project goals, requirements, success metrics, and deliverables; and identifies and acquires data, software, and other resources required for successful completion of the project. The planning seminar must be completed in the semester prior to taking the capstone project.

4.6 Registration Process/Procedures

Students are responsible for registering for their courses. Use the [Stellic Degree Audit Application](#) to monitor your progress and plan your degree. Students can search for relevant courses in a number of ways and share your plan with your advisor directly through the application.

Navigate to the [SIO Academic Info](#) tab and select Enrollment Status and the upcoming semester to confirm the following:

- Enrollment Status is 'Eligible to Enroll' (if not, email thehub@andrew.cmu.edu)
- Maximum units for which you can plan to register for (overloads are reviewed and permitted **only after** registration week)
- Class Level, College and Department are correct (if incorrect, please contact your home academic department)

The registration process can be completed within SIO (Student Information Online) by following 4 easy steps: <https://www.cmu.edu/hub/registrar/docs/4-easy-steps.pdf>

If students have any questions about course selection, students may reach out to MIIS program director, Teruko Mitamura.

4.7 Drop/Add/Withdraw Procedures

Students taking undergraduate and master's level courses must follow the procedures and deadlines for adding, dropping, or withdrawing from courses as identified on the academic calendar. Information can be found at <https://www.cmu.edu/hub/registrar/course-changes/index.html>. Please note that there is a separate calendar for doctoral courses that does not apply to Masters' students.

4.8 Transfer Courses and Pittsburgh Council on Higher Education (PCHE)

Carnegie Mellon University offers students the opportunity to take courses for credit through a cross-registration program (see Pittsburgh Council on Higher Education (PCHE) and Cross-registration below) and through the receipt of transfer credit from other accredited institutions. The Carnegie Mellon University transcript will include information on such courses as follows: Carnegie Mellon courses and courses taken through the university's cross-registration program will have grades recorded on the transcript and be factored into the QPA. All other courses will be recorded on this transcript indicating where the course was taken, but without grades. Such courses will not be considered for academic actions, honors or QPA calculations.

<https://www.cmu.edu/policies/student-and-student-life/transfer-credit-evaluation-and-assignment.html>

NOTE: Suspended students may take courses elsewhere; however, they may receive transfer credit only if their college's and department's policies allow this.

4.9 Internships

If the experience will have units attached to it, the program should have deliverables from the student commensurate with the number of units they are taking. This can be in the form of interim and final reports on the experience, presentations in the following semester regarding the experience, assessments of their experience as it relates to their course of study, etc. Students are responsible for identifying and applying for internships on their own. The LTI and the university provide several types of support for students seeking internships.

An annual poster session helps spread information from MIIS students that recently completed internships to MIIS students that will soon seek internships; other LTI professional master's programs have similar internship-oriented poster sessions that MIIS students may attend. The university offers resume-writing and interviewing workshops to help prepare students and fall and spring employment fairs to help students connect with companies. The university's Career & Professional Development Center <https://www.cmu.edu/career/> provides other services as well.

If a student cannot find an internship, the MIIS program will arrange an on-campus internship with a university-based project. This internship may be unpaid.

International students are required to consult with Office of International Education for eligibility before seeking an internship/co-op or signing an offer contract (required addition to ensure the university is in compliance with immigration laws for F & J status students).

4.10 Advising

Each student has a faculty advisor charged with guiding the education and monitoring the progress of the student through the program. The advisor also supervises the student's directed study projects. This personal student-advisor relationship ensures that every student receives the necessary faculty mentoring. The advisor also provides the student with career advice.

How and when the advisor is selected: Advisors are selected during the first month of the program. Students are expected to attend the LTI Orientation Faculty Research Talks in which faculty describe their interests and areas of expertise, and to be proactive about meeting individually with potential advisors. Typically, if a student and faculty member agree to enter an advising relationship, it is approved by the Program Director. If a student has not found an advisor after one month in the program, the Program Director will assign an advisor to the student.

How to change advisors: The initial advisor selection should be made carefully. However, it is possible to change advisors. To do so, the student should find another faculty member willing to serve as an advisor, and then make a request to the Program Director to switch advisors. The LTI follows the long-standing SCS policy that both the new and old advisors need to agree to the change; typically, this is not a problem, assuming the new advisor has agreed in advance, as described here. It is to the student's advantage to avoid switching advisors, especially late in their graduate studies, because forging a strong student-advisor relationship takes time.

4.11 LTI Orientation

Prior to the beginning of each Fall semester the LTI provides lectures and faculty research talks to help students learn about the work done by CMU faculty and to provide an opportunity for advisors to recruit new students. Students are expected to attend them and to treat them as seriously as a course, because they provide a good introduction to the broad range of research done at the LTI. Students do not have to register for the LTI Orientation Faculty Research Talks, nor do they receive a grade, however the department is serious about its expectation that new students will attend these talks.

The LTI Orientation Canvas course is a mandatory course designed to increase incoming LTI graduate students' awareness and understanding of CMU's community standards and the resources that CMU offers the students. The course includes several administrative tasks, training, and educational sessions. The students will be enrolled into the course by the program administrator in early August. All MIIS students are expected to complete all assignments by the end of their first semester in the program. Each assignment has its own due date.

4.12 Summary of Graduate Student Appeal and Grievance Procedures

Graduate students will find the Summary of Graduate Student Appeal and Grievance Procedures on the Graduate Education Resource webpage. This document summarizes

processes available to graduate students who seek review of academic and non-academic issues. Generally, graduate students are expected to seek informal resolution of all concerns within the applicable department, unit, or program before invoking formal processes. When an informal resolution cannot be reached, however, a graduate student who seeks further review of the matter is to follow the formal procedures outlined here. These appeal and grievance procedures shall apply to students in all graduate programs of the University. Students should refer to the department specific information in this handbook for department and college information about the administration and academic policies of the program.

[Summary of Graduate Student Appeal and Grievance Procedures - Office of Graduate and Postdoctoral Affairs - Carnegie Mellon University \(cmu.edu\)](#)

4.13 Intellectual Property Policy

The MIIS degree program adheres to Carnegie Mellon University policy on intellectual property: <http://www.cmu.edu/policies/documents/IntellProp.html>

5 Grading and Evaluation

5.1 Grading Scale/System

Students must demonstrate their mastery of material taught in courses and their success in applying their skills in directed study and capstone projects by satisfying the following grade requirements:

- 1. Minimum grade:** A student must obtain a B- or better grade in all courses, which count towards core requirements. If a student receives a C or better, that course may count as an elective towards the degree requirements.
- 2. Minimum QPA:** A student must maintain an average QPA of at least 3.0 in courses and projects used to satisfy degree requirements.
- 3. Pass/fail:** Pass/fail grades are not permitted for courses and projects used to satisfy a degree requirement. Graduate students who are required to take additional undergraduate courses to build up the core foundations of computer science may not elect the pass/fail option for these courses.

5.2 Pass/Fail Grades

Pass/fail grades are not permitted for courses used to satisfy a degree requirement, except for the 11-696 (A) Capstone Planning Seminar and 11-935 (R) LTI Practicum that are a Pass/Fail.

Graduate students who are required to take additional undergraduate courses to build up the core foundations of computer science may not elect the pass/fail option for these courses.

5.3 Independent Study

An independent study can be counted as an Elective course, but it cannot be counted as a Qualifying course.

5.4 University Policy on Grades

This policy offers details concerning university grading principles for students taking courses and covers the specifics of assigning and changing grades, grading options, drop/withdrawals, and course repeats. It also defines the undergraduate and graduate grading standards.

<https://www.cmu.edu/policies/student-and-student-life/grading.html>

5.5 Process for Appealing Final Grades

Final grades will be changed only in exceptional circumstances and only with the approval of the instructor and the department, unit or program. Grading is a matter of sound discretion of the instructor and final grades are rarely changed without the consent of the instructor who assigned the grade. The following circumstances are the unusual exceptions that may warrant a grade appeal: (a) the final grade assigned for a course is based on manifest error (e.g., a clear error such as arithmetic error in computing a grade or failure to grade one of the answers on an exam), or (b) the faculty or staff member who assigned the grade did so in violation of a university policy.

[Summary of Graduate Student Appeal and Grievance Procedures - Office of Graduate and Postdoctoral Affairs - Carnegie Mellon University \(cmu.edu\)](#)

5.6 Policy on Grades for Transfer Courses

Carnegie Mellon University offers students the opportunity to take courses for credit through a cross-registration program (see Pittsburgh Council on Higher Education (PCHE) and Cross-registration below) and through the receipt of transfer credit from other accredited institutions. The Carnegie Mellon University transcript will include information on such courses as follows: Carnegie Mellon courses and courses taken through the university's cross-registration program will have grades recorded on the transcript and be factored into the QPA. All other courses will be recorded on this transcript indicating where the course was taken, but without grade. Such courses will not be taken into account for academic actions, honors or

QPA calculations. (Note: Suspended students may take courses elsewhere; however, they may receive transfer credit only if their college's and department's policies allow this.)

<https://www.cmu.edu/policies/student-and-student-life/transfer-credit-evaluation-and-assignment.html>

5.7 End of Semester Evaluation

Near the end of each semester, the student must prepare a statement that describes their achievements in the current semester and plans for the next semester. At the end of the semester, the faculty evaluates each student's academic progress. The student's advisor serves as the student's advocate in this process. The result of the evaluation is a letter from the faculty to the student that indicates whether the student is making *satisfactory progress* towards completing the degree.

A **good letter** typically indicates that the student is making *satisfactory progress*. If the student is doing exceptionally good work, a stronger adjective such as *excellent* might be used, but this is unusual.

If a student seems to be having trouble, the faculty determines whether it believes that the student can finish the degree, and if so, what needs to be accomplished to get back on track. This type of letter should be considered a serious warning. It is **not** a permanent "black mark" on the student's record; if the student begins making satisfactory progress again, there is no official record of the letter in the student's transcript.

In the most serious cases, the faculty gives the student an *N-1 letter* that specifies a list of conditions that the student must satisfy by specific deadlines. Failure to meet all the specified conditions may result in the student's termination from the program.

5.8 Satisfactory Progress

If a student does not make satisfactory progress each semester toward completing the degree, the LTI may remove the student from the program or strongly encourage the student to consider switching to the four-semester program (MIIS-21) to complete all the requirements.

5.9 Academic Integrity

Please review the University Policy on Academic Integrity <https://www.cmu.edu/policies/student-and-student-life/academic-integrity.html>. The policy includes the University expectations around academic integrity and provides definitions of cheating, plagiarism, and unauthorized assistance.

A review of the University's Academic Disciplinary Actions procedures <https://www.cmu.edu/student-affairs/theword/academic-discipline/index.html> is also recommended. These procedures outline the process for investigating, reporting, and adjudicating violations of the University Policy on Academic Integrity. The procedures also outline the appeal process.

In the midst of self-exploration, the high demands of a challenging academic environment can create situations where some students have difficulty exercising good judgment. Academic challenges can provide many opportunities for high standards to evolve if students actively reflect on these challenges and if the community supports discussions to aid in this process. It is the responsibility of the entire community to establish and maintain the integrity of our university.

Carnegie Mellon University educates its students to become professionals who will serve society with integrity. The university also creates and disseminates new knowledge and expressions of knowledge in ways that benefit society. Carnegie Mellon strives to serve the changing needs of society through the three primary goals outlined in its mission statement: to create and disseminate knowledge and art through research and artistic expression, teaching and learning and transfer to society, to serve students by teaching them leadership and problem-solving skills, and the values of quality, ethical behavior, responsibility to society and commitments to work, to pursue the advantages provided by a diverse community, open to the exchange of ideas, where discovery and artistic creativity can flourish.

In any presentation, creative, artistic or research, it is the ethical responsibility of each student to identify the conceptual sources of the work submitted. Failure to do so is dishonest and is the basis for a charge of cheating or plagiarism, which is subject to disciplinary action.

The university has a very clear and specific protocol for responding to alleged violations of academic integrity. Carnegie Mellon's Academic Disciplinary Actions Overview for Graduate Students describes procedures for disciplinary actions against graduate students in cases of alleged violations of academic regulations and the appeal process.

Important note: The LTI implements the above policy's option of "conven[ing] a disciplinary hearing according to the procedures of the department/program". Our procedure is as follows: a first violation is grounds for dismissal from the graduate program. If we decide to not immediately dismiss, the first violation will result in the student being on disciplinary probation. If a student commits a second violation while on probation, the penalty is dismissal from the graduate program.

6 Academic Policies

6.1 MIIS Academic Policies

6.1.1 Double Counting Courses

A Masters student who uses courses taken as part of another degree program (at Carnegie Mellon or elsewhere) toward their program requirements cannot use those same courses toward any other M.S. degree offered by the School of Computer Science without prior approval. (SCS policy)

6.1.2 Duration of Study

MIIS-16 students enrolled for full-time study are expected to complete the degree in three semesters of academic study and one summer internship (16 months total).

MIIS-21 students enrolled for full-time study are expected to complete the degree in four semesters of academic study and one summer internship (21 months total).

MIIS-16 students enrolled for part-time study are expected to complete the program in six semesters of academic study and one summer internship (27 months total).

MIIS-21 students enrolled for part-time study are expected to complete the program in seven semesters of academic study and one summer internship (31 months total).

See also the ‘Statute of Limitations’ policy.

6.1.3 Deferral

MIIS students are given the opportunity to defer their enrollment. The deferral request must be approved by the program director. The deferral can only be used once for the period of one academic year.

6.1.4 Maximum and Minimum Course Loads

A student in the program may not take more than sixty (60) units per semester without permission from the program director.

A student in the program must be registered for a **minimum** thirty-six (36) units per semester to be considered a full-time student or twelve (12) units per semester to be considered a part-time student. All international students are required by US Federal law to maintain full-time status. Reduced Course Load is not permitted for MIIS students. Failure to maintain full-time status will result in loss of a student visa (and, therefore, “permit of stay”). (MIIS policy)

6.1.5 Transfer Credit

An equivalent graduate course previously completed at Carnegie Mellon, or another institution may be permitted to satisfy one of the MIIS breadth requirements. The decision on whether a course may be used to satisfy a breadth requirement is made by the MIIS Program

Director. Typically, the student will provide the Program Director with the syllabus of the external course, and the Program Director will use that and the student's transcript to make the decision.

Satisfying a breadth requirement with a course from another institution does not reduce the number of CMU course units that must be taken to attain the MIIS degree.

See the section on "Definition of transfer credit versus course exemption" on page 25.

6.1.6 Transferring into the MIIS Program

Transfers into the MIIS program are not permitted during a student's first semester at CMU. Students must begin their study at CMU in the program that admitted them.

Students may request to transfer into the MIIS program after completing their first semester and before the add/drop deadline of the spring semester. The student must make the request in writing (or email) to the MIIS Program Director. The MIIS Program Director will inform the student about what application materials are required, for example, an explanation of why a transfer is desired, a proposed plan of study, a proposed advisor, and CMU transcripts. Students that are already enrolled in an LTI degree program are not required to retake GRE and TOEFL/IELTS/Duolingo exams or to produce new transcripts from other universities.

The MIIS program will conduct an expedited admissions process after receiving such a request. The program will explicitly consider whether the coursework done prior to the transfer will allow the student to be "on schedule" by the end of the spring semester, so that the student can participate in a capstone project with other MIIS students during the next fall semester.

MIIS students are allowed to switch tracks (MIIS-16 to MIIS-21 and vice versa) after beginning their first semester at CMU. Ideally, all switch requests must be filed within the first semester of the program. **It is highly recommended to not switch tracks more than once!** Though not forbidden, multiple track switching may negatively impact immigration records of international students. Students also must understand that extension of their stay in the program will lead to additional financial obligations.

U.S. citizens, virtually, have no restrictions on how many times they can switch if it is done for a legitimate reason. To confirm legitimacy of the reason to switch tracks **ALL** students must seek their advisor's approval and the approval of the Director of the MIIS program.

6.1.7 Transferring Out of the MIIS Program

The MIIS program does not prevent students from transferring to another degree program. Each degree program has its own rules about whether and when transfers into the program are permitted. A student that is interested in transferring out of the MIIS degree program should consult the handbook and Program Director of the desired degree program to learn whether transfers are permitted, and if so, how, and when to request such a transfer.

6.2 LTI Academic Policies

6.2.1 Verification of Enrollment

Enrollment Services is the only University office that can provide an official letter of enrollment, official transcript, and enrollment verification. Enrollment verification can be requested online through The HUB at <https://www.cmu.edu/hub/registrar/student-records/verifications/enrollment.html>.

6.2.2 “Grandfather” policy

A student can graduate under the policies in effect at the time that the student entered the program; or, at the student's choice, the student can graduate under policies that are adopted after the student entered the program. If it is not realistic to follow a particular policy exactly, the department may approximate the policy as closely as possible; this situation is rare and typically arises only when a student is enrolled in the program for an extended period.

6.2.3 Time Away from Academic Responsibilities

Graduate students should not assume that their time-off follows the academic calendar of courses. Many are coming from an undergraduate environment where their university employment followed their course schedule. For many graduate degree programs, there is an expectation that graduate students continue research during academic breaks and time away from campus which may or may not be negotiated with the students. If there are requirements for student time beyond a typical week day, this should be specified. Clarify that University Holidays are also student holidays, and students need to consult their faculty about coverage if they have challenges with taking time off during University Holidays. For example, if experiments are running that need to be monitored continuously students should speak with their faculty about arrangements to take an equal number of days off at another time.

6.2.4 Definition of transfer credit versus course exemption

The LTI may grant transfer *credit* or issue an *exemption* for equivalent graduate courses previously completed at another institution. This decision rests with the director of the program. If a student is *exempt* from a required course due to prior courses or experience, the student can replace that course with an open elective. The student does not receive credit for the external course but can take any course that could normally count toward the degree in its place. If a student receives *credit* for prior coursework completed at CMU or elsewhere, the student receives that many units of credit, and the total amount of required coursework is reduced by that amount.

6.2.5 External Employment/Consulting

Since the MIIS program places heavy demands on student time, external employment and/or consulting are strongly discouraged. Exceptional students who wish to consult should discuss this with their Advisor. International students must also have approval in advance from the Office of International Education (OIE) for any outside employment.

6.2.6 Leave of Absence

The LTI discourages Leaves of Absence (LOA), since students usually do not return, despite good intentions. However, a student in good standing may be granted a LOA of at most 1 year, upon written request to the Program Director and with consent of the student's advisor. It is the responsibility of the student on LOA to contact the LTI to initiate a return to the program.

6.2.7 Withdrawal of a Degree

The University reserves the right to withdraw a degree even though it has been granted should there be discovery that the work upon which it was based or the academic records in support of it had been falsified. In such a case, withdrawal of the degree will occur promptly upon discovery of the falsification. The complete reference to this University policy is available at <https://www.cmu.edu/policies/student-and-student-life/withdrawal-of-a-degree.html>.

6.2.8 Winter and Summer Breaks

Students supported by research projects are expected to remain on campus working during breaks in classes. A two-week vacation is typically allowed in the summer. The normal winter break policy is that the student works 40 hours per week for two weeks and takes vacation for the other two weeks.

7 Safeguarding Educational Equity

7.1 Assistance for Individuals with Disabilities

<http://www.cmu.edu/education-office/disability-resources/>

The Office of Disability Resources at Carnegie Mellon University has a continued mission to provide physical, digital, and programmatic access to ensure that students with disabilities have equal access to their educational experience. We work to ensure that qualified individuals receive reasonable accommodations as guaranteed by the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. Students who would like to receive accommodations can begin the process through Disability

Resources' secure online portal (<https://rainier.accessiblelearning.com/cmu/>) or email access@andrew.cmu.edu to begin the interactive accommodation process.

Students with physical, sensory, cognitive, or emotional disabilities are encouraged to self-identify with the Office of Disability Resources and request needed accommodations. Any questions about the process can be directed to access@andrew.cmu.edu, or call (412) 268-6121.

7.2 Sexual Misconduct Policy

The University prohibits sex-based discrimination, sexual harassment, sexual assault, dating/ domestic violence, and stalking. The University also prohibits retaliation against individuals who bring forward such concerns or allegations in good faith.

The University's Sexual Misconduct Policy is available at

<https://www.cmu.edu/policies/administrative-and-governance/sexual-misconduct/index.html>.

The University's Policy Against Retaliation is available at

<https://www.cmu.edu/policies/administrative-and-governance/whistleblower.html>.

If you have been impacted by any of these issues, you are encouraged to make contact with any of the following resources:

- Office of Title IX Initiatives
 - <https://www.cmu.edu/title-ix/>, 412-268-7125, tix@cmu.edu
- University Police
 - <https://www.cmu.edu/police/>, 412-268-2323

Additional resources and information can be found at:

<https://www.cmu.edu/title-ix/resources-and-information/resources.html>.

7.3 Gestational and Parental Accommodations

<https://www.cmu.edu/graduate/programs-services/maternity-accommodation-protocol.html>

Providing holistic student support is a top priority at Carnegie Mellon. The protocols on this page are designed to support the parental needs of students and their families.

Students seeking any of the Parental Accommodations described below must register with the Office of the Dean of Students by contacting the office for an appointment by calling 412-268-2075.

Students are encouraged to register with the Office of the Dean of Students ninety (90) days in advance of the anticipated arrival of the child as applicable in the individual circumstance. At the time of registering, students will have the opportunity to consult about resources, procedures, funding options and preparation for discussing academic accommodations with the student's academic department. Students should also consult with their academic advisors either before or in conjunction with registering with the Office of the Dean of Students.

Accommodations for Gestational Parents

The birth of a child is a significant life event that may require time away from academic pursuits for delivery and recovery from delivery of a newly born child. Students whose anticipated delivery date is during the course of a semester may need to take time away from their academic responsibilities. Carnegie Mellon students seeking time away are afforded two options as possible accommodation:

- Short-Term Accommodation for Gestational Parents – A short term absence from academic responsibilities up to a maximum of six (6) weeks. Short-Term Accommodation may be extended by two (2) weeks, for a total of eight (8) weeks, where a longer absence is medically necessary. Prior to the absence students must work with relevant university faculty and staff to adjust their course work, research, teaching and other academic responsibilities during the period of absence. This may include extensions of time to complete assignments, incomplete grades, and/or dropping courses, shifting research responsibilities and adjusting TA assignments. Students who take a Short-Term Accommodation will remain enrolled.
- Formal Leave of Absence– A formal leave of absence under the Student Leave Policy. Generally, the Student Leave Policy permits students to take a leave of absence for a full-semester, mini-semester, or for the time remaining in the semester during which the leave is taken. Students who take a Formal Leave of Absence (<https://www.cmu.edu/policies/student-and-student-life/student-leave.html>) drop all remaining courses for the semester and are unenrolled for the semester. International students must consult with the Office of International Education (<https://www.cmu.edu/oie/>) before considering this option due to visa implications.

Financial Assistance for Student Parents

Carnegie Mellon also offers the following options for financial assistance to students who become parents while enrolled:

Interest Free Loan – Any student who becomes a parent is eligible to apply for an interest-free parental loan (<https://www.cmu.edu/student-affairs/dean/loans/>) from the Office of the Dean of Students.

7.4 Consensual Intimate Relationship Policy Regarding Undergraduate Students

This policy addresses the circumstances in which romantic, sexual, or amorous relationships/interactions with undergraduate students, even if consensual, are inappropriate and prohibited. The purpose of this policy is to assure healthy professional relationships. This policy is not intended to discourage consensual intimate relationships unless there is a conflicting professional relationship in which one party has authority over the other as in the policy.

<https://www.cmu.edu/policies/student-and-student-life/consensual-relationships.html>

7.5 Employment Eligibility Verification

If you are receiving a stipend, are a TA, or are planning to have a position with CMU then Employment Eligibility Verification is required. Form I-9 must be completed within 3 business days of beginning work for any type of compensation (stipend or employment). Additional details are highlighted below. To ensure compliance with federal law, Carnegie Mellon University maintains the Employment Eligibility Verification (I-9) Policy

<https://www.cmu.edu/hr/assets/hr/restrict/employment-eligibility-verification-policy.pdf> covering the university's I-9 and E-Verify requirements:

- Every individual receiving a stipend from CMU or employed by CMU must comply with the I-9 Policy by completing the Form I-9 within three business days following the first day of stipend start date/employment.
- Individuals who expect to work on a federally funded project are further responsible for submitting an E-Verify Processing Request Form to the Office of Human Resources if required.
- For more information, please see CMU's Guidance for Completing the Form I-9 and E-Verify Requirements at CMU <https://www.cmu.edu/hr/assets/recruiting/restrict/i-9-guidance.pdf>, or visit the Human Resources Service website to learn more about Form I-9 and E-Verify <https://www.cmu.edu/hr/service-center/new-faculty-staff/i-9-e-verify/index.html> and to schedule an appointment to complete the Form I-9 <https://go.oncehub.com/I9Appointment>.
- Students who fail to complete the Form I-9 in a timely manner may have stipend payments suspended. If employed by the university, an individual who fails to timely complete the Form I-9 may be subject to disciplinary action up to and including termination of employment.

8 Financial Support

8.1 Graduate Student Funding

The LTI does not provide financial aid or support to students in the professional master's programs. Students are encouraged to seek financial aid and support from other sources. The HUB website (<https://www.cmu.edu/sfs/financial-aid/index.html>) provides the Graduate Financial Aid Guide, information about funding options and how to apply for financial aid and other helpful links. Additional information on financial issues for graduate students can be found on the web at <http://www.cmu.edu/hub/new-grad/>.

Teaching assistantships are awarded to faculty members who then award these positions to selected students. Teaching assistant duties include, but are not limited to, holding office hours, conducting recitation classes, and grading. There are minimum English proficiency requirements that must be met for a student to accept a teaching assistantship. Pennsylvania state law requires that all students who are not native speakers of English take and pass a state administered proficiency test. Support for teaching activities can be found through the Eberly Center for Teaching Excellence, located in Warner Hall 425. Students who will be T.A.s for the department are encouraged to visit the Teaching Center and to take advantage of the information and services located there.

Students in the professional master's programs are not prohibited from seeking support as Teaching Assistants and Research Assistants. However, typically, fulltime master's students do not have time for these activities. Research Assistantships are most likely to be awarded to students in CMU's research-oriented degree programs.

MIIS students can apply for TA positions only with the permission of the program director. Teaching Assistantships are especially discouraged for first semester students.

8.2 University Financial Aid

Graduate students should consult the graduate student financial aid information found on The HUB website (<http://www.cmu.edu/finaid/graduate/index.html>.) Students will find the Graduate Financial Aid Guide, information about funding options and how to apply for financial aid and other helpful links.

8.3 Health Insurance

Carnegie Mellon has a Student Health Insurance policy requiring full-time, degree seeking students to carry adequate medical insurance. Students must either purchase the plan offered by the University or an application for a waiver can be made if the student is "enrolled as the dependent, partner/spouse or principal in an employer or government-sponsored insurance plan" (see the Carnegie Mellon University Student Health Insurance Policy at <https://www.cmu.edu/policies/student-and-student-life/student-health-insurance.html>).

It is the responsibility of each student to make arrangements with Student Health Services to either pay for their insurance at the beginning of the semester or elect a payment plan over the

course of the academic year. More information is available at the Student Health Services Web site www.studentaffairs.cmu.edu/HealthServices/insurance.

8.4 Emergency Loans

<https://www.cmu.edu/sfs/billing/emergency-loans.html>

All students regardless of their program are eligible for the Emergency Student Loan, which is an interest-free and emergency-based loan repayable within 30 days. It is available through the Office of the Dean of Student Affairs; students may apply for the loan by stopping into the Student Affairs Office, Warner Hall 301, or by calling (412) 268-2075 for an appointment.

8.5 Office of the Dean of Students Emergency Support Funding

Graduate students who find themselves in need of immediate funds for emergency situations should contact the Office of the Dean of Students: <https://www.cmu.edu/student-affairs/dean/> to inquire about the types of emergency funding available to enrolled students.

9 Additional University Resources

9.1 The HUB Student Services Center

thehub@andrew.cmu.edu and <http://www.cmu.edu/hub/>

The HUB is located in Warner Hall, Lower Level. The HUB staff delivers comprehensive service and counsel to students and families regarding financial aid, billing and payment, registration, and academic records. The Assistant Directors in The HUB serves as contacts for specific colleges and assist enrolled students with key aspects of the enrollment process. Student can find their assigned HUB Assistant Director on their Student Information Online (SIO) Resource page. Questions that need specialized, in-depth attention can be directed to the student's assigned Assistant Director. For general questions and information, students may email The HUB or call 412-268-8186.

9.2 Student Information Online (SIO)

Student Information Online (SIO) is a secure site where students can find important, personalized information, including E-Bills and student account information, financial aid status and eligibility, grades and QPA, and course schedules. Students can update their and their spouse's or domestic partner's contact information, sign up for E-Check & E-Refund, authorize their spouses, domestic partners or other individual to receive a copy of their E-Bill,

request verifications, view their housing and meal plan assignments, and much more. Students can log on to SIO by going to www.cmu.edu/hub/sio and entering their Andrew User ID and password.

On SIO, students will designate an emergency contact address of a relative or family friend to be contacted in the case of an emergency. If students do not want their name and address published in the campus directory, they must notify the HUB in writing.

MIIS students are responsible for notifying the University of all address changes in a timely manner. Students will be held responsible for any failure to receive official college notices due to not having a correct address on file; F-1 students may jeopardize their status if address information is not kept current.

Students can change their address using SIO, which is available via the HUB website (<http://www.cmu.edu/hub/index.html>).

9.3 ID Cards

Graduate students can obtain their ID card from The HUB once they have been entered into SIO for the semester. These cards identify their holders as members of the campus community. Student cards are deactivated upon the cardholder's separation from the university.

Affiliate ID Cards are available for spouses and partners of graduate students that allow them to access Carnegie Mellon's campus. These cards are available through The HUB to spouses and partners of graduate students who are enrolled for the current academic year in a full-time graduate degree program. The card is valid for one year. For information about domestic partner registration, visit the Office of the Dean of Student Affairs webpage: <https://www.cmu.edu/student-affairs/dean/domestic-partner/index.html>.

For more information about student and affiliate ID cards (spouse, domestic partners and dependent children), please visit: <https://www.cmu.edu/idplus/idcards/index.html>.

9.4 Transcripts

Information about and instructions for ordering transcripts are available at: <https://www.cmu.edu/hub/registrar/student-records/transcripts/>. Transcript questions may be directed to uro-transcripts@andrew.cmu.edu.

9.5 Student Privacy Rights and FERPA

<https://www.cmu.edu/policies/student-and-student-life/privacy-rights-students.html>

This university policy notifies students of their rights under the federal Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA). According to FERPA, students have the right to:

- inspect and review their education records;
- request an amendment to their education record if they believe they are inaccurate or misleading;
- request a hearing if their request for an amendment is not resolved to their satisfaction;
- consent to disclosure of personally identifiable information from their education records, except to the extent that FERPA authorizes disclosure without consent;
- file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education Family Policy Compliance Office if they believe their rights under FERPA have been violated.

For questions about Student Privacy Rights, FERPA or filing a complaint, contact John Papinchak, University Registrar, jp7p@andrew.cmu.edu, in Enrollment Services.

9.6 Professional Development

<https://www.cmu.edu/career/>

The Career and Professional Development Center (CPDC) at Carnegie Mellon is a centralized career center staffed by a team of seasoned and highly educated professionals who orchestrate the career exploration, experiential learning, and career networking needs of students and alumni.

CMU's career and professional development model is grounded in discipline-specific career development, experiential learning, and employer relations shaped by strong connections with the university's seven academic colleges. The center's success is founded upon a solid understanding of career and professional development theory, integration of technology, and an unwavering commitment to providing personalized attention towards meeting the unique individual needs of students, alumni, and employers. The CDPC is located on the Lower Level of the University Center, 412-268-2064

The Office of the Assistant Vice Provost for Graduate Education (AVPGE) offers a robust schedule of professional development opportunities. Some are geared towards a specific population (master's students, PhD students at the beginning of their program, graduate students seeking tenure track positions, etc.) and others are open to all graduate students (time management, balancing, staying healthy). A full schedule of programs can be found at: <http://www.cmu.edu/graduate/>.

9.7 University Libraries

<http://search.library.cmu.edu>

There are three main libraries at Carnegie Mellon: Hunt Library, Mellon Institute Library and Engineering & Science Library with the combined mission of providing access and help to graduate students in finding the information needed, teaching graduate students to evaluate available information and use reliable sources. The libraries' digital resources and services, including off-campus/ wireless access to databases and e-journals, offer online access. There are also two neighboring libraries open to Carnegie Mellon graduate students: Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh and University of Pittsburgh Libraries. Visit the University Libraries website for information about all mentioned library locations and hours, on-line resources, and FAQ's.

9.8 Computing Services

www.cmu.edu/computing/

Computing Services is located in Cyert Hall 285. Computing Services develops, maintains, and supports the computing infrastructure for Carnegie Mellon students, faculty members and staff members. This includes the campus wired and wireless networks, public computer labs or "clusters," cable television and telephone services, computing related documentation and support through the Help Center. In addition, Computing Services provides standard classroom technologies for over 100 lecture halls, classrooms, and seminar rooms across campus. The website contains addition information regarding The Help Center hours, location and contact information, computing cluster hours and location, the Carnegie Mellon web portal, computing security and policies and guidelines. Students can email the Help Center at advisor@andrew.cmu.edu with questions and for assistance.

9.9 Family and Dependents Resources

The Graduate Student Assembly website maintains a resource page for spouses, domestic partners and families of graduate students: <https://www.cmu.edu/stugov/gsa/Resources-for-Graduate-Students/Partner-and-Family-Resources.html>, including The Student Parent Association, new mother rooms, and links to resources around campus and the Pittsburgh area.

Affiliate ID Cards are available for spouses and domestic partners of graduate students that allow them to access Carnegie Mellon's campus. These cards are available through The HUB to spouses and partners of graduate students who are enrolled for the current academic year in a full-time graduate degree program. The card is valid for one year. For more information about student and affiliate ID cards, please visit: <https://www.cmu.edu/idplus/idcards/sponsored.html>.

9.10 Domestic Partner Registration

Carnegie Mellon extends certain benefits to domestic partners of students. Eligible students may elect benefits for their domestic partners through the registration process orchestrated by the Office of the Dean of Student Affairs, 3rd floor Warner Hall. Information regarding the benefits available for domestic partners, eligibility for domestic partner benefits, registration instructions and forms can be located at: <https://www.cmu.edu/student-affairs/dean/domestic-partner/index.html>.

9.11 Housing

The university does not currently offer housing to graduate students. The Office of Housing and Dining Services does provide community housing information to assist graduate students who are seeking housing in the communities surrounding the university, including information on the legal aspects of renting an apartment, moving checklists and the off-campus housing database. This information can be located at: <https://www.cmu.edu/housing/>.

9.12 Dining

<https://www.cmu.edu/dining/>

Dining services and operations are offered through the Office of Housing and Dining Services. The office operates dining locations open around campus in academic buildings, Hunt Library, and the University Center. These locations offer flexible hours with options from the early morning through late night. The Dining Service website contains information about dining locations, hours of operation, graduate student dining plans forms, nutritional information, and weekly menus for dining locations.

9.13 Parking and Transportation

<https://www.cmu.edu/parking/>

Graduate students will find information about parking and availability, parking policies, transportation options and Port Authority Transit usage with a valid university ID on the Parking and Transportation Services site. The Parking and Transportation Services office is located in the lower level of the University Center, LL#8. There is limited parking on campus and the varying permit rates can be found on the website. All parking areas of campus are either by permit, metered or by the hour in the garage. Parking and Transportation Services will ticket any car parked in a permit area without a permit or at an expired meter. The city monitors the metered parking along Margaret Morrison, Frew and Tech Streets and will ticket at expired meters as well.

The university offers shuttle and escort services operated through University Police. The Shuttle Service operates several routes within Oakland, Squirrel Hill and Shadyside areas, as

well as to university sites located outside of the main campus. The Escort Service offers vehicle routes within a radius of campus between 6:30 pm-6 am daily. Information regarding up-to-date shuttle and escort schedules, pick-up/drop-off locations, routes and usage policies can be found at: www.cmu.edu/police/shuttleandescort/.

9.14 Copying, Printing and Mailing Services

Carnegie Mellon offers community members easy access to UPS, copy centers, printing and mailing services, and postal services.

Mailing and postal services <https://www.cmu.edu/postoffice/>

Printing and copy services <https://www.cmu.edu/tartanink/copyprint/index.html>

9.15 University Center

www.cmu.edu/university-center

The University Center is a centerpiece of the campus that provides a space for special events, physical fitness, student organizations and various activities, as well as accommodating retail and dining services. As the campus crossroads, the University Center functions as a place for students to interact, get involved and enjoy new experiences. Visit the University Center website for information about campus eateries, ATMs and PNC Bank, fitness rooms and schedules, retail stores, scheduling University Center space, the public prayer room, student organizations and the Wright-Royal Chapel.

The University Center Information Desk is the location if you want to know about upcoming campus events or have questions about Carnegie Mellon in general, call the Information Desk at 412-268-2107. The Information Desk not only provides information about campus events, but also sells postage stamps, makes copies, sends faxes, distributes campus maps, manages a lost & found, and has information brochures about Pittsburgh and the campus.

9.16 Athletic/Fitness Facilities

www.cmu.edu/athletics

For the participant or the spectator, Carnegie Mellon offers intercollegiate athletics, intramural sports, physical education classes and club sports. The Athletics Department also offers aerobics classes in the University Center and Skibo Gym as well as occasional workshops and instruction related to fitness and health. The Athletics Office is located in the Skibo Gymnasium.

Skibo Gym facilities include courts for basketball, volleyball, badminton, as well as weight-training and aerobic equipment. The University Center's recreational facilities include an eight-lane pool, racquetball and squash courts, aerobics room, fitness center and gym for basketball and volleyball. All users must present a current Carnegie Mellon Card to use these facilities.

9.17 CMU Alert

www.cmu.edu/alert

CMU Alert sends voice and/or text messages to registered phones in the event of a campus emergency that threatens public safety or during tests of the system in the spring and fall semesters. Students can register for CMU Alert through the website.

A Appendix

Appendix A

2023-2024

Highlighted University Resources for Graduate Students

Note: The following pages are meant to broadly include only some of the resources available to graduate students. It is not an exhaustive appendix of resources, and students are strongly encouraged to visit the various websites linked below for the most up-to-date information.

A.1 Key Resources for Graduate Student Support

A.1.1 Office of Graduate and Postdoctoral Affairs

<https://www.cmu.edu/graduate>

graded@cmu.edu

The Office of Graduate and Postdoctoral Affairs provides university-wide support for all graduate students and academic programs, with a focus on supporting graduate student success at Carnegie Mellon. Examples of resources offered through the Office of Graduate and Postdoctoral Affairs include, but are not limited to:

- Website with university resources, contact information for CMU programs and services, possible financial assistance and potential funding opportunities, and various procedural and policy information
- Newsletter to all graduate students with information on activities, resources, and opportunities
- Professional development seminars and workshops, and various programming and events for the graduate student community

The Office of Graduate and Postdoctoral Affairs also works directly with the colleges and departments on issues related to graduate students and serve as a resource for developing policy and procedures. The Office of Graduate and Postdoctoral Affairs partners with many other offices and organizations, such as the Graduate Student Assembly, to support the holistic graduate student educational experience.

A.1.2 Office of the Dean of Students

<https://www.cmu.edu/student-affairs/dean/>

The Office of the Dean of Students provides central leadership of the metacurricular experience at Carnegie Mellon including the coordination of student support. Graduate students will find the enrollment information for Domestic Partner Registration and Parental Accommodations in the Office of the Dean of Students or on their website. This Office also manages the Student Emergency Support Funding process. There are currently three forms of support funding for enrolled students: emergency student loans, student parental loans, and the Tartan Emergency Support Fund. Inquiring students will be provided with additional information about the various types of funding during a consultation meeting with a member of the Dean of Students team. Tuition costs are not eligible for Student Emergency Support funding.

College Liaisons and the Student Support Resources team serve as additional resources for graduate students. College Liaisons are senior members of the Division of Student Affairs who work with departments and colleges addressing student concerns across a wide range of issues. College Liaisons are identified on the Important Contacts list in Student Information Online (SIO). The Student Support Resources team offers an additional level of support for students who are navigating a wide range of life events. Student Support Resources staff members work in partnership with campus and community resources to provide coordination of care and support appropriate to each student's situation.

A.1.3 The Division of Student Affairs

The Division of Student Affairs includes (not an exhaustive list):

- Athletics, Physical Education and Recreation
- Career and Professional Development Center (CPDC)
- Center for Student Diversity and Inclusion
- Cohon University Center
- Counseling & Psychological Services (CaPS)
- Dining Services
- Office of Community Standards and Integrity (OCSI)
- Office of Student Leadership, Involvement, and Civic Engagement (SLICE)
- University Health Services (UHS)
- Wellness Initiatives

A.1.4 Center for Student Diversity & Inclusion

<https://www.cmu.edu/student-diversity/>

Diversity and inclusion have a singular place among the values of Carnegie Mellon University. The Center for Student Diversity & Inclusion actively cultivates a strong, diverse and inclusive community capable of living out these values and advancing research, creativity, learning and development that changes the world.

The Center offers resources to enhance an inclusive and transformative student experience in dimensions such as access, success, campus climate and intergroup dialogue. Additionally, the Center supports and connects historically underrepresented students and those who are first in their family to attend college in a setting where students' differences and talents are appreciated and reinforced, both at the graduate and undergraduate level. Initiatives coordinated by the Center include, but are not limited to:

- First generation/first in family to attend college programs
- LGBTQ+ Initiatives
- Race and ethnically focused programs, including Inter-University Graduate Students of Color Series (SOC) and PhD SOC Network
- Women's empowerment programs, including Graduate Women's Gatherings (GWGs)

A.1.5 Assistance for Individuals with Disabilities

<https://www.cmu.edu/disability-resources/>

The Office of Disability Resources at Carnegie Mellon University has a continued mission to provide physical, digital, and programmatic access to ensure that students with disabilities have equal access to their educational experience. The Office works to ensure that qualified individuals receive reasonable accommodations as guaranteed by the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. Students who would like to receive accommodations can begin the process through Disability Resources' secure online portal or email access@andrew.cmu.edu to begin the interactive accommodation Process.

Students with physical, sensory, cognitive, or emotional disabilities are encouraged to self-identify with the Office of Disability Resources and request needed accommodations. Any questions about the process can be directed to access@andrew.cmu.edu, or call (412) 268-6121.

A.1.6 Eberly Center for Teaching Excellence & Educational Innovation

<https://www.cmu.edu/teaching/>

The Eberly Center offers a wide variety of confidential, consultation services and professional

development programs to support graduate students as teaching assistants or instructors of record during their time at Carnegie Mellon University and as future faculty members at other institutions. Regardless of one's current or future teaching context and duties, Eberly's goal is to disseminate evidence-based teaching strategies in ways that are accessible and actionable. Programs and services include campus-wide Graduate Student Instructor Orientation events and our Future Faculty Program, both of which are designed to help participants be effective and efficient in their teaching roles. The Eberly Center also assists departments in creating and conducting customized programs to meet the specific needs of their graduate student instructors. Specific information about Eberly Center support for graduate students is found at:

<https://www.cmu.edu/teaching/graduatestudentsupport/>

A.1.7 Graduate Student Assembly

<https://www.cmu.edu/stugov/gsa/>

The Graduate Student Assembly (GSA) is the branch of Carnegie Mellon Student Government that represents and advocates for the diverse interests of all graduate students at CMU. GSA is composed of representatives from the different graduate programs and departments who want to improve the graduate student experience at the different levels of the university. GSA is funded by the Student Activities Fee from all graduate students. GSA passes legislation, allocates student activities funding, advocates for legislative action locally and in Washington D.C. on behalf of graduate student issues and needs, and otherwise acts on behalf of all graduate student interests. GSA's recent accomplishments are a testament to their making a difference, and steps to implementing the vision laid out by the strategic plan.

<https://www.cmu.edu/stugov/gsa/about-the-gsa/strategic-plan.html>

GSA offers an expanding suite of social programming on and off-campus to bring graduate students from different departments together and build a sense of community. GSA is the host of the Graduate Student Lounge on the 3rd floor of the Cohon University Center. GSA also maintains a website of graduate student resources on and off-campus. GSA continues to rely on student feedback to improve the graduate student experience at CMU. Feel free to contact them at gsa@cmu.edu to get involved, stop by their office in the Cohon University Center Room 304 or become a representative for your department.

A.1.8 Office of International Education (OIE)

<https://www.cmu.edu/oie/>

Carnegie Mellon hosts international graduate and undergraduate students who come from more than 90 countries. The Office of International Education (OIE) is the liaison to the University for all non-immigrant students and scholars, as well the repository for study abroad opportunities. OIE provides many services including: advising on personal, immigration, study abroad, academic, and social and acculturation issues; presenting programs of interest such as international career workshops, tax workshops, and cross-cultural and immigration workshops; international education and statistics on international students in the United

States; posting pertinent information to students through email and the OIE website and conducting orientation and pre-departure programs.

A.1.9 Veterans and Military Community

<https://www.cmu.edu/veterans/>

Military veterans are a vital part of the Carnegie Mellon University community. Graduate students can find information on applying for veteran education benefits, campus services, veteran's groups at CMU, and non-educational resources through the Veterans and Military Community website. There are also links and connections to veteran resource in the Pittsburgh community. The ROTC and Veteran Affairs Coordinator can be reached at urovaedbenefits@andrew.cmu.edu or 412-268-8747.

A.1.10 Carnegie Mellon Ethics Hotline

<https://www.cmu.edu/hr/resources/ethics-hotline.html>

The health, safety and well-being of the university community are top priorities at Carnegie Mellon University. CMU provides a hotline that all members of the university community should use to confidentially report suspected unethical activity, violations of university policy, or violations of law. Students, faculty and staff can anonymously file a report by calling 1-844-587-0793 or visiting <https://cmu.ethicspoint.com/>. All submissions are reported to appropriate university personnel and handled discreetly.

The hotline is NOT an emergency service. For emergencies, call University Police at 412-268-2323.

A.1.11 Policy Against Retaliation

It is the policy of Carnegie Mellon University to protect from retaliation any individual who makes a good faith report of a suspected violation of any applicable law or regulation, university Policy or procedure, any contractual obligation of the university, and any report made pursuant to the Carnegie Mellon University Code of Business Ethics and Conduct. Additional details regarding the Policy Against Retaliation are available at:

<https://www.cmu.edu/policies/administrative-and-governance/whistleblower.html>

A.2 Key Offices for Academic & Research Support

A.2.1 Computing and Information Resources

<https://www.cmu.edu/computing/>

Computing Services maintains and supports computing resources for the campus community,

including the campus wired and wireless networks, printing, computer labs, file storage, email and software catalog. As members of this community, we are all responsible for the security of these shared resources. Be sure to review the Safe Computing (<https://www.cmu.edu/computing/safe/>) section and the University Computing Policy (<https://www.cmu.edu/policies/information-technology/computing.html>) Visit the Computing Services website (<https://www.cmu.edu/computing/>) to learn more. For assistance the Computing Services Help Center is available at 412-268-4357 (HELP) or ithelp@cmu.edu.

A.2.2 Student Academic Success Center

<https://www.cmu.edu/student-success/>

The Student Academic Success Center's (SASC) work to support success focuses on creating spaces for students to engage in their coursework and approach to learning through many group and individual program options. SASC supports student success by providing academic coaching, subject-specific tutoring, effective communication strategies, accommodations for students with disabilities, and language support for multilingual learners. SASC engages with faculty and staff to improve the coordination and professional development for academic advisors. Visit the SASC website for more information about services offered in areas such as communication and language support; language and cross-cultural support; and learning support.

A.2.3 University Libraries

<https://www.library.cmu.edu/>

The University Libraries offers a wide range of information, resources, and services supporting graduate students in coursework, research, teaching, and publishing. The library licenses and purchases books, journals, media, and other needed materials in various formats. Library liaisons, consultants, and information specialists provide in-depth and professional assistance and advice in all-things information, including:

- Locating and obtaining specific resources
- Providing specialized research support
- Advanced training in the use and management of data

Sign up for workshops and hands-on topic-specific sessions such as data visualization with Tableau, cleaning data with OpenRefine, and getting started with Zotero. Weekly drop-in hours for Digital Humanities and for Research Data Research Management are scheduled during the academic year. Start at the library home page to find the books, journals, and databases you need; to identify and reach out to the library liaison in your field; to sign up for scheduled workshops; and to connect with consultants in scholarly publishing, research data management, and digital humanities.

A.2.4 Research at CMU

<https://www.cmu.edu/research/>

The primary purpose of research at the university is the advancement of knowledge in all fields in which the university is active. Research is regarded as one of the university's major contributions to society and as an essential element in education, particularly at the graduate level and in faculty development. Research activities are governed by several university policies. Guidance and more general information are found by visiting the Research at Carnegie Mellon website.

A.2.5 Office of Research Integrity & Compliance

<https://www.cmu.edu/research-compliance/>

The Office of Research Integrity & Compliance (ORIC) is designed to support research at Carnegie Mellon University. The staff work with researchers to ensure research is conducted with integrity and in accordance with federal and Pennsylvania regulation. ORIC assists researchers with human subject research, conflicts of interest, responsible conduct of research, export controls, and institutional animal care & use. ORIC also provides consultation, advice, and review of allegations of research misconduct.

A.3 Key Offices for Health, Wellness & Safety

A.3.1 Counseling & Psychological Services

<https://www.cmu.edu/counseling/>

Counseling & Psychological Services (CaPS) affords the opportunity for students to talk privately about academic and personal concerns in a safe, confidential setting. An initial consultation at CaPS can help clarify the nature of the concern, provide immediate support, and explore further options if needed. These may include a referral for counseling within CaPS, to another resource at Carnegie Mellon, or to another resource within the larger Pittsburgh community. CaPS also provides workshops and group sessions on mental health related topics specifically for graduate students on campus. CaPS services are provided at no cost. Appointments can be made in person, or by telephone at 412-268-2922.

A.3.2 Health Services

<https://www.cmu.edu/HealthServices/>

University Health Services (UHS) is staffed by physicians, advanced practice clinicians and registered nurses who provide general medical care, allergy injections, first aid, gynecological care, and contraception as well as on-site pharmaceuticals. The CMU Student Insurance Plan covers most visit fees to see the physicians and advanced practice clinicians & nurse visits.

Fees for prescription medications, laboratory tests, diagnostic procedures and referral to the emergency room or specialists are the student's responsibility and students should review the UHS website and their insurance plan for detailed information about the university health insurance requirement and fees.

UHS also has a registered dietician and health promotion specialists on staff to assist students in addressing nutrition, drug and alcohol and other healthy lifestyle issues. In addition to providing direct health care, UHS administers the Student Health Insurance Program. The Student Health Insurance plan offers a high level of coverage in a wide network of health care providers and hospitals. Appointments can be made by visiting UHS's website, walk-in, or by telephone, 412-268-2157.

A.3.3 Campus Wellness

<https://www.cmu.edu/wellness/>

At Carnegie Mellon, we believe our individual and collective well-being is rooted in healthy connections to each other and to campus resources. The university provides a wide variety of wellness, mindfulness and connectedness initiatives and resources designed to help students thrive inside and outside the classroom.

A.3.4 Religious and Spiritual Life Initiatives (RSLI)

<https://www.cmu.edu/wellbeing/resources/religious-spiritual/index.html>

Carnegie Mellon is committed to the holistic growth of our students, including creating opportunities for spiritual and religious practice and exploration. RSLI has relationships with local houses of worship from various traditions and many of these groups are members of CMU's Council of Religious Advisors. They also offer programs and initiatives that cross traditional religious boundaries in order to increase knowledge of and appreciation for the full diversity of the worldview traditions. RSLI staff are available to support students across the spectrum of religious and spiritual practice and would be more than happy to help you make a connection into a community of faith during your time at CMU.

A.3.5 University Police

<https://www.cmu.edu/police/>

x2323

The University Police Department is located at 4551 Filmore Street. The department's services include police patrols and call response, criminal investigations, fixed officer and foot officer patrols, event security, and crime prevention and education programming as well as bicycle and laptop registration. Visit the department's website for additional information about the staff, emergency phone locations, crime prevention, lost and found, fingerprint services, and annual statistic reports. Carnegie Mellon University publishes an annual campus security and fire safety report describing the university's security, alcohol and drug, sexual assault, and fire

safety policies. The report also contains statistics about the number and type of crimes committed on the campus and the number and cause of fires in campus residence facilities during the preceding three years. Graduate students can obtain a copy by contacting the University Police Department at [x2323](tel:412-321-2323). The annual security and fire safety report is also available online at:

<https://www.cmu.edu/police/annualreports/>

A.3.6 Shuttle and Escort Services

<https://www.cmu.edu/parking/transport/>

Parking and Transportation coordinates the Shuttle Service and Escort Service provided for CMU students, faculty, and community. The Shuttle & Escort website has full information about these services, stops, routes, tracking and schedules.

A.4 The WORD

<https://www.cmu.edu/student-affairs/theword/>

The WORD is Carnegie Mellon University's online student handbook and serves as the foundation for the department (and sometimes college) handbook. The WORD contains university-wide academic policy information and resources, community policies and resources, and describes the university level procedures used to review possible violations of these standards. It is designed to provide all students with the tools, guidance, and insights to help you achieve your full potential as a member of the Carnegie Mellon community. Graduate students are encouraged to bookmark this site and refer to it often. University policies can also be found in full text at: <https://www.cmu.edu/policies/>.