

## **Florida Institute of Technology**

### **Doctor of Philosophy in Electrical or Computer Engineering**

The Doctor of Philosophy in Electrical or Computer Engineering is conferred primarily in recognition of creative accomplishment and ability to investigate engineering problems independently, rather than for completion of a definite course of study. The work should consist of advanced studies and research leading to new knowledge and significant contribution to a chosen research area. In addition, to demonstrate the achievement of new knowledge in the field, a publication in a professional journal or conference proceedings is required.

General degree requirements are presented in the *Academic Overview* section of the catalog. To earn a Doctor of Philosophy degree in Electrical or Computer Engineering, students are required to complete the following:

- 24 Credits of doctoral coursework beyond the master's degree.
- 24 Credits of dissertation work

The general procedure is as follows:

- Choose an advisor  
Meet and choose an advisor based on your research interest. See the department website for the list of faculty and their research interests. You must choose your advisor at least 90 days before the comprehensive exam.
- Create a thesis committee  
Work with your advisor to create a thesis committee. The committee must have at least four faculty members with one of those outside the ECE Dept. You should also complete a program plan at this time.
- Take the PhD comprehensive exam  
The exam is organized by your advisor and involves three subjects of study.
- Present proposal  
The proposal is organized by your advisor. After successful completion of the proposal you are admitted to candidacy. Note the following:
  - Only 9 credit hours of coursework can be applied to the degree when taken in semesters before being admitted to candidacy.
  - Once dissertation credits are taken, they must be taken continuously until graduation.
  - The proposal must come at least one year before the dissertation defense.
- Defend dissertation

More information can be found at: <http://www.fit.edu/grad-programs/thesis.php>

Graduate policies can be found at: <http://www.fit.edu/grad-programs/policies.php>