IACS Master's Programs
Thesis Proposal Guidelines

Students enrolled in the IACS master's programs - Computational Science and Engineering and Data Science – are able to complete a master's thesis project to satisfy research experience requirement. Students who wish to choose this option must first submit a thesis proposal and have it accepted by the faculty committee overseeing their degree program.

Timeline
IACS thesis proposals are due by **Friday, March 29, 2019** and should be submitted to Daniel Weinstock, Assistant Director of Graduate Studies in Applied Computation (dweinsto@seas.harvard.edu), together with a letter of support from the faculty advisor who will be supervising the project.

Proposal Contents
CSE ME thesis proposal should address each of the following topics:

1. Title
   The title of your project.

2. Advisor
   List the faculty member who will be supervising your project. Projects must be advised or co-advised by Harvard FAS faculty members or IACS lecturers.

3. Abstract
   A one-paragraph summary of your project that succinctly describes the problem and the proposed methodology.

4. Motivation and Background
   Discuss your reasons for choosing this project, especially mentioning any background, research interests, or future plans that may have influenced your decision.

5. Goals
   Discuss the goals of the project and the expected outcomes.

6. Scientific Justification
   Describe why this project is scientifically interesting and innovative.

7. Literature Review
   Provide a short summary of other relevant work in the area this project addresses.

8. Methodology
   Give an overview of the methodology, software and technologies you will use. Describe the computational elements and techniques to be used in the project. Projects should be mainly computational.