Master's Thesis

A student wishing to complete a master's thesis may enroll in two course units of CIS 597/Masters Thesis Research, which count as electives towards the ten credits needed for the CIS/MSE degree. The student first chooses a thesis advisor, who must belong to the CIS Graduate Group, proposing a suitable thesis topic. The thesis advisor and student discuss and determine the final topic, scope, etc. of the thesis. The advisor and student also determine one other faculty member to be a reader for the thesis. Once the advisor, reader, and topic has been chosen, the student sends an email containing a one page proposal to the CIS Masters chair (Prof. Boon Thau Loo), and copy Mike Felker, the adviser, and reader. Upon email approval, the student enrolls in CIS 597 course units. The advisor and reader will evaluate the thesis and make the determination of its suitability as a research document. An oral presentation of the thesis is required. This can take the form of a public presentation open to all CIS faculty and students to attend, or in lieu of that, a conference presentation or poster presentation (decided by the thesis adviser). Once the final thesis document is approved, it is signed by the advisor, reader, and CIS Masters chair. Thesis formatting instructions can be accessed here. The final version of the thesis with all signatures, and a photocopy of the thesis (both unbound), are submitted to the SEAS Graduate Office, 109 Towne. An electronic copy is emailed to the CIS Masters chair.

More detailed info can be accessed http://www.cis.upenn.edu/current-students/graduate/mse/index.php