



UNIVERSITY OF CENTRAL FLORIDA

# Graduate Program Handbook - 2024/25

*Optics and Photonics MS Program*

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*Reference this handbook to learn about the unique policies, requirements, procedures, resources, and norms for graduate students in the Optics and Photonics MS Program.*

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Patrick LiKamWa o 6/7/2024 o CREOL, the College of Optics and Photonics



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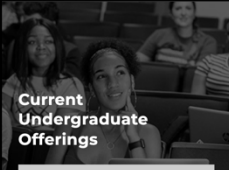
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# Navigating Policy and Resources at the University of Central Florida

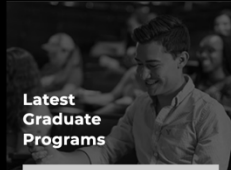
This handbook is one of many sources to consult as you become familiar with the policies, procedures, requirements, resources, and norms of graduate education at the University of Central Florida.

## ACADEMIC CATALOGS


These online catalogs can help you quickly locate and save details about our undergraduate and graduate programs. Whether you are a prospective student or already enrolled, you can easily see what the University of Central Florida has to offer!




Current Undergraduate Offerings  
VISIT CATALOG



Latest Graduate Programs  
VISIT CATALOG



Prior Years' Catalogs  
VISIT ARCHIVES



## THE GOLDEN RULE STUDENT HANDBOOK

## STUDENT LIFE

ORLANDO, FL | 73°F

### Student Handbook



### Knight Life at UCF

Don't just go to college — get the most out of it. At UCF, you'll have many ways to get involved inside and outside of the classroom. From application to graduation, you'll be inspired to do amazing things. So whether you prefer academics and research or campus activities and athletics, we'll provide you with the tools and support you need to find your place and foster your purpose.

Discover your next adventure at UCF.

### GRADUATE STUDENT HANDBOOK

[Student Handbook Intro](#)  
[Financial Matters](#)  
[Role of the College of Graduate Studies](#)

### Understanding Your Graduate Experience

## UCF Regulations



HOME NOTICE ARCHIVES SUBSCRIBE TO NOTIFICATIONS UCF POLICIES

## Pathways to Success

Personal and Professional Development Opportunities



## Chapter 5: Students

## How to Use This Handbook

Together, the [Graduate Student Handbook](#) and your graduate program handbook should serve as your main guide throughout your graduate career. The Graduate Student Handbook includes university information, policies, requirements and guidance for all graduate students. Your program handbook describes the details about graduate study and requirements in your specific program. While both of these handbooks are wonderful resources, know that you are always welcome to talk with faculty and staff in your program and in the Graduate College.

## Who to Contact for Questions

Many of your questions about how to meet expectations and thrive as a graduate student will be answered by the various sources of policies, procedures, requirements, resources, and norms listed in this document. Several key positions in this department and on campus are ready to answer your remaining questions:

### **Graduate Program Staff**

Ms. Krystal Villarrubia  
Graduate Program Coordinator  
CREOL rm 208  
Tel: 407-823-4726

Mr. Lawrence Lipe  
Graduate Admissions Specialist  
CREOL rm 208  
Tel: 407-823-6986

### **Associate Dean of Academic Programs**

Dr. Patrick LiKamWa  
Associate Dean for Academic Programs  
Professor of Optics and Photonics  
CREOL rm 209  
Tel: 407-823-6816

### **College of Graduate Studies Services**

For general graduate inquiries and graduate student services from the Graduate School, please review the [College of Graduate Studies](#) website as an additional resource.

## Onboarding

A meeting with the Associate Dean to establish a preliminary Plan of Study is required. A Plan of Study (POS) is a listing of course work agreed to by the student and the degree program specifying course degree requirements. The student will be able to change the preliminary Plan of Study until it is firmed up during the second term of full-time study with the approval of the Associate Dean (and the thesis advisor in the case of a Thesis Option MS).

## Introduction/Overview Section

### Complete Name of Degree

MS in Optics and Photonics

### College

College of Optics and Photonics

### Department

CREOL

### Program Type

Master of Science

### Program Website

<https://creol.ucf.edu/academics/graduate-programs/>

### Program Overview Narrative

The Optics and Photonics MS program requires a minimum of 30 credit hours beyond the bachelor's degree. The program offers a thesis and non-thesis option. Students are allowed considerable freedom in planning their study programs, although some foundation Optics courses are strongly recommended as core courses.

### Program Professional Conduct / Ethics Statement

The central activities and missions of a university rest upon the fundamental assumption that all members of the university community conduct themselves in accordance with a strict adherence to academic and scholarly integrity. As a graduate student and member of the university community, you are expected to display the highest standards of academic and personal integrity.

Here are some resources to help you better understand your responsibilities:

- [Academic Honesty](#)
- [Academic Integrity Training](#)
- [Plagiarism](#)

## Professional Development

As students progress in their academic career, the University of Central Florida also provides many opportunities for professional development. The following is a listing of several organizations offering outstanding development opportunities.

### Career Services and Experiential Learning Center

- **Career Expo**  
Held in the fall and spring, this event provides the opportunity for employers to discuss internship, career, and employment opportunities with University of Central Florida students and alumni.
- **Internship Job Fair**  
Provides the opportunity for employers to discuss internship, career, and employment opportunities with University of Central Florida students and alumni through the Internship Fair and Spring Career Expo.
- **Statewide Job Fair**  
Joint effort from all Florida universities to provide the opportunity to Florida students to meet with employers and discuss internship, career, and employment opportunities.
- **Employment Prep Fair**  
Held prior to each Career Expo, this event provides students with the opportunity to meet with employers to learn more about job search techniques, resumes, interviewing, and negotiating job offers. Employers are available to critique resumes and offer practice interviews. This event is designed to better prepare students for success at Career Expo.
- **Externship Information Sessions**  
Provide students with information on how to participate in winter and spring externships. The Externship Program offers students the opportunity to shadow an employer in their professional area of interest to learn more about the career field as well as the organizations culture, products, and services.
- **Career Panels**  
Provide students with opportunities to hear employers talk about potential careers and jobs relative to their majors. These employer panels are ideal for anyone considering a major or already declared in a major relevant to the panel's professional field.

### Pathways to Success Workshops

Coordinated by the College of Graduate Studies, the Pathways to Success program offers free development opportunities for graduate students including workshops in

Academic Integrity, Graduate Grantsmanship, Graduate Teaching, Personal Development, Professional Development, and Research. For more information and how to register, please visit [graduate.ucf.edu/pathways-to-success/](https://graduate.ucf.edu/pathways-to-success/).

## Graduate Research Forum

Sponsored by the College of Graduate Studies the [Graduate Research Forum](#) is an opportunity for students to showcase their research and creative projects and to receive valuable feedback from faculty judges. Awards for best poster and best oral presentation in each category will be given and all participants will receive recognition. The Research Forum is usually held in the spring semester. Students may contact the college or the College of Graduate Studies for more information.

## Graduate Student Association

The Graduate Student Association (GSA) is UCF's graduate organization committed to enrich graduate students' personal, educational and professional experience. To learn more or get involved, please visit [facebook.com/SGAUCF/](https://facebook.com/SGAUCF/).

## Advising/Mentoring

Advising for students in the non-thesis option consists of the formulation of the Plan of Study and adjustments to it as the student progresses along in the program. The Associate Dean serves as academic advisor for students pursuing the non-thesis option.

Additionally, for students pursuing the thesis option MS degree, a thesis advisor needs to be selected before beginning their second year of full-time study. The thesis advisor must be selected from the list of approved graduate faculty and must be qualified to serve as chair of a thesis committee.

Your thesis advisor should be a faculty member in the program whose expertise and project/research interests match closely with those that you intend to acquire. To learn more about the faculty in your program, consider consulting the following sources:

- Our program website (<https://creol.ucf.edu/people/faculty/>)
- Faculty publications
- Students currently in a prospective advisor's group/lab

No faculty member is obligated to accept a student's request to serve as advisor, though invitations are often accepted



## Plan of Study

A Plan of Study (POS) is a listing of course work agreed to by the student and the degree program specifying course degree requirements. A specific Plan of Study, which will vary from student to student, must be formulated jointly by the student and their thesis advisor. Non-thesis students will form their Plan of Study with the Associate Dean. The completed Plan of Study must comply with the graduate catalog current at the time it is proposed. Once completed, the Plan of Study must be approved by the thesis advisor and/or the Associate Dean prior to the second term of full-time enrollment. For a graduate student carrying a reduced load, the establishment of a Plan of Study may be delayed up to the registration for the tenth graduate semester hour. The student may make changes in the Plan of Study at any time with approval of the thesis advisor and/or the Associate Dean.

Students requesting to transfer credits from a previous institution must note those classes on the Plan of Study. Additionally, students are required to provide the appropriate documentation for transferring credits at the time of submitting the Plan of Study (See Frequently Cited Policies section). Requests to transfer credits without the appropriate documentation will be denied.

As described, the MS degree requires 30 graduate credit hours according to the requirements below.

### **Thesis Option Plan of Study must be comprised of:**

- At least 24 hours of graduate science and engineering course work, satisfying all of the following requirements:
- At least 15 hours must be Optics courses
- 6 hours of thesis (OSE 6971)
- No Research hours or Directed Research may be applied to the Master's Thesis plan of study.

### **Non-thesis Plan of Study must be comprised of:**

- At least 30 hours of graduate science and engineering course work,
- At least 21 hours must be Optics courses

No more than 3 hours of directed research (OSE 6918), or Research report (OSE 6909) may be included in the plan of study.

## How to Get Involved

As a graduate student at UCF, you have a multitude of opportunities to become involved on campus and in your academic discipline. This involvement often enhances your academic, professional, and personal growth through developing advanced leadership, communication, and collaboration skills. It also provides opportunity for professional networking.

## Curriculum Section

Please visit the [Graduate Catalog](#) to see the current curriculum for our program.

### Timeline for Completion

There is not a specific timeline for students enrolled into the MS in Optics and Photonics program. However, the MS program is designed to span three semesters or one full year. The total credit hour requirement for the program is thirty hours, which must be charted out and approved using the Plan of Study form (see Plan of Study section).

### Other

Please visit the [Courses webpage](#) on the [College of Optics and Photonics website](#) for a course timetable, schedule by course, schedule by instructor and schedule by semester.

## Examination Section

### Comprehensive Examination

An oral master's comprehensive examination, based on the core courses (OSE 6115 Interference, Diffraction & Coherence (or OSE5041 Introduction to Wave Optics as substitute), OSE 6111 Optical Wave Propagation, and OSE 6525 Laser Engineering (or OSE 6536 Semiconductor Lasers as substitute) must be passed as a graduation requirement for the MS degree in Optics and Photonics. Students will be required to take this exam within one semester after completing the core courses.

The exam may be taken twice.

## Thesis Oral Defense Examination

The thesis is a culmination of research conducted while enrolled in the Optics and Photonics MS program. Thesis topics are decided upon jointly by the student and thesis advisor. The format of a thesis consists of an introduction and literature review, details of the study, and results and conclusions. Since the work is original, it is very important that care is taken in properly citing ideas and quotations of others.

An oral defense of the thesis is required. The approved thesis must be written and prepared in accordance with the College of Optics and Photonics and university graduate policies. Students are required to announce the date of thesis defense at least two weeks prior to the scheduled date. Before submitting a thesis announcement, students are required to have all the necessary details set (room reservation and time). Thesis announcements absent of room reservations or time spans will be denied. Once the defense is over, students are required to submit the Thesis Approval form to notify the college of the outcome of the defense.

The UCF Thesis and Dissertation Manual describes formatting requirements for theses and outlines the steps that graduate students must follow in order to submit their theses electronically to UCF Graduate Studies. See the University Thesis Requirements section below for details.

## Exit Interview

Prior to commencement, students must complete an exit interview with the Dean and/or the Associate Dean. This provides the student with an opportunity to inform the college about his/her experience in the graduate program. Students who continue in the PhD program are exempted from this requirement.

## Thesis Section

### Master's Thesis - Overview

The College of Graduate Studies [Thesis and Dissertation page](#) contains information on the university's requirements for dissertation formatting, format review, defenses, final submission, and more. A step-by-step completion guide is also available on [Thesis and Dissertation Services](#) Site.

All university deadlines are listed in the [Academic Calendar](#). Your program or college may have other earlier deadlines; please check with your program and college staff for additional deadlines.

**The following requirements must be met by thesis students in their final term:**

- Submit a properly formatted file for initial format review by the format review deadline
- Submit the Thesis and Dissertation Release Option form well before the defense
- Defend by the defense deadline
- Receive format approval (if not granted upon initial review)
- Submit signed approval form by final submission deadline
- Submit final dissertation document by final submission deadline

Students must format their thesis according to the standards outlined in [Thesis and Dissertation Webcourse](#). Formatting questions or issues can be submitted to the Format Help page in the [Thesis and Dissertation Services](#) site. Format reviews and final submission must be completed in the [Thesis and Dissertation Services](#) site. The Dissertation Approval Form is also available in the Thesis and Dissertation Services site.

The College of Graduate Studies offers several thesis and dissertation [Workshops](#) each term. Students are highly encouraged to attend these workshops early in the dissertation process to fully understand the above policies and procedures.

## Thesis Progress

Students are expected to successfully progress in their thesis research each year. Upon admittance into the master's program, students are held to a deadline of seven years to graduate before completed courses are considered outdated and removed off the GPS degree audit. In order to ensure students are continuously working on their thesis, it is required that once enrolling in thesis hours (6971) the student must continuously enroll (including summers) in thesis hours until actual defense. For more information on the before mentioned policies, please reference the current catalog.

## Graduate Research

For information on research in the discipline including a list of research areas, groups, laboratories and publications visit the [Research webpage](#) on the [College of Optics and Photonics website](#).

As a graduate college for optical science and engineering education and research, the research activities of COP faculty span the spectrum from basic science to prototype development. Additionally, the faculty vigorously pursue joint research projects with industry, academia, and government laboratories. The main facilities of the COP are

housed in a state-of-the-art 96,000 ft building dedicated to optics and photonics research and education.

The COP faculty collaborate closely with other UCF research units, including the Center for Nanoscience and Technology, the Burnett School of Biomedical Sciences, the Advanced Materials Processing and Analysis Center (AMPAC), the Institute for Simulation and Training (IST), and the Florida Solar Energy Center. Several COP faculty hold joint appointments in these and other UCF departments, which facilitates access to the outstanding facilities in these units and encourages interdisciplinary research.

## Research Policies and Student Responsibility

Research is an integral part of the college and its graduate programs. Master's students can be funded as research assistants at the discretion of their thesis advisors depending on the availability of funds. Provided that a research assistantship is awarded, a tuition waiver may also be granted.

Students are expected to take an active role in the laboratory and in the classroom, thereby taking full advantage of the college's outstanding facilities. However, before beginning their work as a research assistant, students have the responsibility to familiarize themselves with the university's policies governing research as detailed on the UCF Research and Commercialization and the Office of Graduate Studies websites.

As graduate students employed by or attending the university, each action, whether bearing positive or negative results, is a reflection of not only that student but of the university. Therefore, students who commit research ethics violations, Golden Rule violations, or do not meet their thesis advisor's expectations may lose financial support. In serious cases, students may face possible removal from their graduate program and potential referral to the Office of Student Conduct for university disqualification. If a student is removed from the graduate program or university, an appeal process can be initiated by the student (See Graduate Academic Grievance Procedure in the Frequently Cited Policies section).

## Master's Thesis – Committees

The Thesis Advisory Committee will consist of a minimum of three College of Optics faculty members who hold a full or primary joint appointment in the college. External committees are permitted, by approval of the Associate Dean, and conditional that the majority of membership is comprised of College of Optics faculty. If the external member is a UCF faculty member, he or she must be a member of the graduate faculty in his or her own program. If the external member is from outside the university, they

must be approved as a graduate faculty scholar by the College of Optics and Photonics curriculum committee and the UCF College of Graduate Studies. The College of Graduate Studies maintains a list of graduate faculty on their website, however, just because a person is listed as a Graduate Faculty Scholar does not automatically qualify him/her to serve on any committee. Such approvals are specific to each thesis. Further questions on the composition of thesis advisory committees can be answered by the Associate Dean.

Prior to enrolling in thesis hours, these members must be identified and approved by filling out the Thesis committee form and submitting it to the college for subsequent university approval. Please allow at least two weeks for this process before attempting to enroll in thesis hours

## Thesis Progress

Students are expected to successfully progress in their thesis research each year. Upon admittance into the master's program, students are held to a deadline of seven years to graduate before completed courses are considered outdated and removed off the GPS degree audit. In order to ensure students are continuously working on their thesis, it is required that once enrolling in thesis hours (6971) the student must continuously enroll (including summers) in thesis hours until actual defense. For more information on the before mentioned policies, please reference the current catalog.

## Master's Thesis – Defense

Once the thesis advisor certifies the student is ready for graduation, the student must ensure that the university is notified by filing an online Intent to Graduate Form by logging into myUCF and navigating to the Student Center – Intent to Graduate: Apply. International students are encouraged to seek advisement from the Associate Dean for Academic Programs and the [International Services Center](#) when intending to graduate. The announcement of the dissertation defense is due to the CREOL Graduate Office at least two weeks prior to the scheduled oral defense date. Announcing an upcoming defense can be done by completing the Thesis Abstract and Announcement of Thesis Defense form and submitting the form to the CREOL Graduate Office. The written Thesis needs to be provided to the committee members at least two weeks before the date of the oral defense. To avoid time conflicts among committee members, the oral defense should be scheduled well in advance. After the intent and announcement are submitted, students are responsible for meeting all additional university graduation requirements and deadlines as outlined in the academic calendar. Failure to complete a dissertation format review by the format review deadline, and/or to meet the thesis defense deadline, and/or to submit the thesis by the final submission deadline will result in removal from the graduation list for that term.

The thesis defense must be open to the public. Virtual dissertation defenses (student off-campus defenses) are not normally permitted. The thesis defense must satisfy the following:

- The student should be present at the campus location of the public defense.
- The committee chair and all committee members should be present at the campus location of the public defense.
- However, in rare occurrences, one or more committee members (other than the chair) may be allowed to attend the oral defense via videoconferencing.

Any deviation from the above policy needs to be approved by the associate dean of Academic Programs or the college dean.

After evaluation of the dissertation and the defense, the committee may either pass the student immediately, or may require that the student carries out additional work to satisfactorily complete the thesis.

After the defense but prior to leaving, each graduate student must attend an exit interview. Students may contact the CREOL Graduate Office to schedule an appropriate time.

## Program and Institutional Policies

### Student Responsibility for University Communication

UCF uses email as the official means of notifying students of important university business and academic information concerning registration, deadlines, financial assistance, scholarships, student accounts (including tuition and fees), academic progress and problems, and many other critical items for satisfactory completion of a UCF degree program. The university sends all business-related and academic messages to a student's UCF Email address to ensure that there is one repository for that information. Every student must register for, and maintain a UCF Email account and check it regularly to avoid missing important and critical information from the university. Any difficulty with establishing an account or with accessing an established account must be resolved through the [UCF Computer Services Service Desk](#) so that a student receives all important messages.

Additionally, each student must have an up-to-date emergency e-mail address and cell phone number by which to be reached in case of a crisis on campus. This emergency contact information will be used only for emergency purposes. Also, both permanent and local mailing addresses must be on the record, so that any physical documents that must be mailed can be delivered.

It is critical that students maintain and regularly check their UCF Email account for official announcements and notifications. Communications sent to the UCF Email address on record will be deemed adequate notice for all university communication, include issues related to academics, finances, registration, parking, and all other matters. The University does not accept responsibility if official communication fails to reach a student who has not registered for, or maintained and checked on a regular basis, their UCF Email account. Please ensure that this information is current and that any changes in contact information are made online through the myUCF portal at <https://my.ucf.edu/>.

## Continuous Enrollment

All graduate students are required to enroll in at least one class over the span of the Academic year. Failure to enroll in 3 consecutive terms results in dismissal from the program. The UCF policy can be found in the graduate catalog at [Continuous Enrollment and Active Students](#).

## Absences

Students who anticipate that they may not be able to enroll continuously due to external circumstances should apply for [Special Leave of Absence](#). Specifically, students who are taking courses should apply for a Special Leave of Absence when they cannot enroll in more than two consecutive semesters. Students who are in thesis/dissertation hours should apply for a Special Leave of Absence when they cannot enroll in every semester (including summer).

To qualify for a Special Leave of Absence, the student must demonstrate good cause (e.g., illness, family issues, financial difficulties, personal circumstances, recent maternity/paternity, employment issues). The specific reason for the Leave of Absence request must be indicated by the student on the [Leave of Absence Form](#). Due to current U.S. government regulations, international students must be enrolled every fall and spring semester. For students in this category, a Special Leave of Absence is only available for documented medical reasons.

## Patent and Invention Policy

UCF has three fundamental responsibilities with regard to graduate student research. They are to (1) support an academic environment that stimulates the spirit of inquiry, (2) develop the intellectual property stemming from research, and to (3) disseminate the intellectual property to the general public. UCF owns the intellectual property developed



using university resources. For further information on UCF's Patent and Invention policies, students are encouraged to reference the current graduate catalog.

## Diversity Statement

The University of Central Florida considers the diversity of its students, faculty, and staff to be a strength and critical to its educational mission. UCF expects every member of the university community to contribute to an inclusive and respectful culture for all in its classrooms, work environments, and at campus events. Dimensions of diversity can include sex, race, age, national origin, ethnicity, gender identity and expression, intellectual and physical ability, sexual orientation, income, faith and non-faith perspectives, socio-economic class, political ideology, education, primary language, family status, military experience, cognitive style, and communication style. The individual intersection of these experiences and characteristics must be valued in our community.

Title IX prohibits sex discrimination, including sexual misconduct, sexual violence, sexual harassment, and retaliation. If you or someone you know has been harassed or assaulted, you can find resources available to support the victim, including confidential resources and information concerning reporting options at <https://letsbeclear.ucf.edu> and <http://cares.sdes.ucf.edu/>.

If there are aspects of the design, instruction, and/or experiences within this course that result in barriers to your inclusion or accurate assessment of achievement, please notify the instructor as soon as possible and/or contact [Student Accessibility Services](#).

For more information on diversity and inclusion, Title IX, accessibility, or UCF's complaint processes contact:

- Title IX – OIE <http://oie.ucf.edu/> & [askanadvocate@ucf.edu](mailto:askanadvocate@ucf.edu)
- Disability Accommodation – Student Accessibility Services – <http://sas.sdes.ucf.edu/> & [sas@ucf.edu](mailto:sas@ucf.edu)
- Diversity and Inclusion Training and Events – [www.diversity.ucf.edu](http://www.diversity.ucf.edu)
- Student Bias Grievances – Just Knights response team – <http://jkrt.sdes.ucf.edu/>
- UCF Compliance and Ethics Office – <http://compliance.ucf.edu/> & [complianceandethics@ucf.edu](mailto:complianceandethics@ucf.edu)
- Ombuds Office – <http://www.ombuds.ucf.edu>

## Golden Rule

The Golden Rule is the university's policy regarding non-academic discipline of students and limited academic grievance procedures for graduate (grade appeals in individual courses, not including thesis and dissertation courses) and undergraduate students.

Information concerning The Golden Rule can be found at [www.goldenrule.sdes.ucf.edu/](http://www.goldenrule.sdes.ucf.edu/). Section 11, Student Academic Behavior, addresses appeals of graduate program actions or decisions.

## Harassment

The University of Central Florida values diversity in the campus community. Accordingly, discrimination on the basis of race, sex, national origin, religion, age, disability, marital status, parental status, veterans status, sexual orientation, or genetic information is prohibited.

Sexual harassment, a form of sex discrimination, is defined as unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, or verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature including any of these three situations.

1. Submission to such conduct is made either explicitly or implicitly a term or condition of an individual's employment or enrollment.
2. Submission to or rejection of such conduct by an individual is used as the basis for employment or enrollment decisions affecting such individual.
3. Such conduct has the purpose or effect of substantially interfering with an individual's work performance or enrollment, or creating an intimidating, hostile, or offensive working or academic environment.

Sexual harassment is strictly prohibited. Occurrences will be dealt with in accordance with the guidelines above and university rules. Employees, students, or applicants for employment or admission may obtain further information on this policy, including grievance procedures, from the OIE Coordinator. The Director of the Office of Institutional Equity Programs is the campus Equity Coordinator responsible for concerns in all areas of discrimination. The office is located on the main campus, in Barbara Ying CMMS Building 81, Suite 101. The phone number is (407) 823-1336. Policies and guidelines are available online at <http://www.eeo.ucf.edu>.

## Additional Program Details

### Graduation Requirements

The following link references [Commencement](#) details. Students should follow the steps as outlined in the section "Steps to Graduation for Master's Students".

## Optics Student Associations

- [CREOL Association of Optics Students \(CAOS\)](#)
- [International Society for Optical Engineering, Student Chapter](#)
- [Optical Society of America, Student Chapter](#)
- [The Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers, Photonic Society, Student Chapter](#)
- [Society for Information Display, Student Chapter](#)
- [WiLO, the Organization of Women in Lasers and Optics](#)

## Graduate Student Center

UCF is fortunate to have its own Graduate Student Center. It is a great place to relax, practice a presentation in one of our conference rooms, have your lunch, and to meet other graduate students. A brief description of the Grad Student Center can be found at [Graduate Student Center](#)

## Job Search

### Career Services

UCF's Career Services department offers a wide range of programs and services designed to assist graduate students. These services include evaluation and exploration of career goals, preparation for the job search and job search resources. To learn more, visit their website at [Career Services • UCF](#).

## Forms

- [College of Graduate Studies Forms and References](#)  
A complete listing of general forms and references for graduate students, with direct links, may be found here.
- [Graduate Petition Form](#)  
When unusual situations arise, petitions for exceptions to policy may be requested by the student. Depending on the type of appeal, the student should contact his/her program adviser to begin the petition process.
- [Traveling Scholar Form](#)  
If a student would like to take advantage of special resources available on another campus but not available on the home campus; for example, special course offerings, research opportunities, unique laboratories and library collections, this form must be completed and approved.

## Useful Links/Resources

- [Program Website](#)
- [College of Optics and Photonics Website](#)
- [College of Graduate Studies](#)
- [Academic Calendar](#)
- [Bookstore](#)
- [Campus Map](#)
- [Counseling Center](#)
- [Financial Assistance](#)
- [Golden Rule Student Handbook](#)
- [Graduate Catalog](#)
- [Graduate Student Association](#)
- [Graduate Student Center](#)
- [Housing and Residence Life](#)
- [Housing, off campus](#)
- [Library](#)
- [NID Help](#)
- [Pathways to Success](#)
- [Recreation and Wellness Center](#)
- [Shuttles Parking Services](#)
- [Student Health Services](#)
- [Thesis and Dissertation \(ETD\)](#)
- [UCF Global](#)
- [University Writing Center](#)

## Graduate Faculty

An up-to-date list of Graduate Faculty and Graduate Faculty Scholars in the College of Optics and Photonics can be found at: <https://graduate.ucf.edu/graduate-faculty/#cop>

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