

# Preparation for Writing Project or Thesis

## CS 297

Spring 2026 Section 07 In Person 3 Unit(s) 01/22/2026 to 05/11/2026 Modified 01/21/2026

### Contact Information

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(<https://www.sjsu.edu/people/vuthea.chheang/>).

#### Office Hours

Tuesday, 3:00 PM to 4:00 PM, MH 216

### Course Information

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Weekly meetings will take place *in person* on Tuesday from 3–4 p.m. in MacQuarrie Hall 216.

The final prototype and proposal should be completed two weeks before the semester end.

### Course Description and Requisites

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Supervised individual research and project work to prepare for a Master's writing project or thesis.

Prerequisite(s): Fully classified standing in the MS Computer Science, MS Bioinformatics, or MS Data Science program, department chair consent. Not available to Open University Students.

CR/NC/I Graduate

### Program Information

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Diversity Statement - At SJSU, it is important to create a safe learning environment where we can explore, learn, and grow together. We strive to build a diverse, equitable, inclusive culture that values, encourages, and supports students from all backgrounds and experiences.

## ✓ Grading Information

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For CS 297, the final grade is either:

- Credit (**CR**): The student passed the course with a sufficient grade.
- No Credit (**NC**): Meaning you get no units.

## University Policies

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Per [University Policy S16-9 \(PDF\)](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S16-9.pdf) (<http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S16-9.pdf>), relevant university policy concerning all courses, such as student responsibilities, academic integrity, accommodations, dropping and adding, consent for recording of class, etc. and available student services (e.g. learning assistance, counseling, and other resources) are listed on the [Syllabus Information](https://www.sjsu.edu/curriculum/courses/syllabus-info.php) (<https://www.sjsu.edu/curriculum/courses/syllabus-info.php>) web page. Make sure to visit this page to review and be aware of these university policies and resources.

## Course Schedule

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The course schedule is subject to change with one week's notice.

Week	Topic	Note
1	Introduction	
2	Identifying research problems and project goals	
3	Literature review strategies; citation management	
4	Writing the literature review; identifying research gaps	
5	Research methodologies in computer science (theoretical, experimental, applied, design-based)	
6	Structuring the thesis/project proposal	
7	Research ethics and IRB overview	

8	Drafting IRB application	
9	Problem statement and research objectives submission	
10	Drafting methodology section and experimental/prototyping design	
11	Initial project implementation or prototype development checkpoint (progress report)	
12	Project planning	
13	Academic writing styles and formatting	
14	Proposal presentations	
15	Revising and integrating feedback	
16	Submission of final proposal	