

Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering

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Degrees offered: Bachelor of Science (BS), Master of Engineering (ME), Master of Science (MS), Electrical Engineer (EE), and Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) in Electrical Engineering; BS in Computer Engineering

Undergraduate Programs

Department Mission Statement

The mission of the Electrical and Computer Engineering (ECE) Department is to develop students into outstanding electrical and computer engineers. The department is dedicated to superb teaching, research, and service.

Program Descriptions

The ECE Department offers a balanced curriculum of classwork, laboratory work, and design experiences to prepare students for careers in engineering. The Bachelor of Science programs in Electrical Engineering and Computer Engineering are accredited by the Engineering Accreditation Commission of the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology (EAC/ABET). The research program of the department, which includes undergraduates as well as graduate students, is internationally acclaimed in the fields of aerospace instrumentation and measurements, image compression, communications, electromagnetics, controls, and robotics.

Electrical Engineering

The Electrical Engineering program is dedicated to producing engineers who: (1) contribute to engineering practice, advance engineering knowledge, and contribute to the good of society; (2) are advancing their education in engineering and other professions; and (3) take a leadership role in engineering and society.

Each student is given a solid foundation in electricity, electronics, signals, and systems, with individual practical experience. Upon this basic foundation, the students then build expertise in advanced areas, stressing actual design practice, to prepare them for productive engineering careers. The focus areas can be categorized into the following: analog and digital electronics, controls, signal processing, communications, electromagnetics, microwaves, and space systems.

Computer Engineering

The Computer Engineering program is dedicated to producing engineers who: (1) apply fundamental principles to solve practical

engineering problems; (2) are continually engaged in professional, personal, and community development; (3) are implementing well-planned, top-down designs of complex systems; and (4) function well as team members and interact well with other professionals and nonengineers.

Building on a solid curriculum in computing hardware and software, the program begins with a strong foundation in electricity, digital logic design, and computer science, then leads into advanced software engineering and microcomputer systems. Advanced courses provide experience in formal design methods, high-performance architectures, data communications, concurrent programming, and real-time and embedded systems. Students are also required to complete advanced course sequences in computer science.

Students in the BS programs in both electrical engineering and computer engineering are permitted and encouraged to take courses in the other program. Many courses, such as controls, digital signal processing, and robotics, draw heavily on skills in both areas.

Assessment

In addition to the regular national accreditation, the ECE Department employs a number of means to assess the quality of departmental programs. The primary indicator is the success of ECE graduates in obtaining professional employment. At several intervals following graduation, the department keeps track of student placement. Other major tools include annual quantitative assessment of program objectives, semi-annual reviews of the curriculum and facilities by the ECE Industrial Advisory Board, interviews of undergraduate and graduate students upon completion of their programs, regular monitoring of faculty members by peers, and periodic surveys of ECE graduates working in industry.

Requirements

Prior to entry into the upper-division classes, the student must meet the standards for entry into the Professional Engineering Program. Additional information concerning these items is given in the College of Engineering write-up (pages 112-113). It is the responsibility of students to be aware of these rules and procedures; however, advisor assistance is available.

Admission to Pre-Professional Program

Admission requirements for students desiring to major in Electrical Engineering or Computer Engineering are the same as those governing admission to the College of Engineering (see page 111), *except* that students must also be "calculus ready." That is, they must: (1) achieve a score of 27 or higher on the math ACT test; (2) complete MATH 1050 and 1060 *or* MATH 1210; or (3) achieve an AP score of at least 3 on the AB Calculus or BC Calculus test.

Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering

The program leading to a Bachelor of Science degree in electrical engineering is nominally a four-year program. The required program consists of a basic foundation of mathematics, science, computer science, engineering fundamentals, and laboratory and design experiences. Elective courses providing for one or more areas of technical focus, communication skills, and University Studies complete the program and prepare students for productive and rewarding careers in the electrical engineering profession.

Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering

Bachelor of Science in Computer Engineering

The program leading to a Bachelor of Science in computer engineering is nominally a four-year program. The required program consists of a basic foundation of mathematics, science, computer science, engineering fundamentals, and laboratory and design experiences. Elective courses providing for one or more areas of technical focus, communication skills, and University Studies complete the program and prepare students for productive and rewarding careers in the computer engineering profession.

Required Courses

Required courses are shown in the accompanying paragraphs; however, because of differences in high school or transfer student preparation, it is strongly recommended that students meet with the college academic advisor to plan a detailed semester-by-semester schedule for completing the preprofessional requirements. Particular attention must be paid to course prerequisites, requiring some students to take longer than four semesters to complete the preprofessional program. Students transferring into the department should consult with the college academic advisor for transfer credit evaluation and proper placement in the curriculum.

AP and CLEP credit may be used to meet some of the required technical and University Studies courses. Details concerning courses acceptable as electives are available from the Electrical and Computer Engineering Department.

Electrical Engineering

Pre-professional Program*

Suggested Semester Schedule

Freshman Year (30 credits)

Fall Semester (15 credits)

MATH 1210 (QL) Calculus I	4
CS 1700 Introduction to Computer Science—CS 1	3
ECE 1010 Introduction to Electrical and Computer Engineering.....	2
University Studies Breadth Courses.....	6

Spring Semester (15 credits)

MATH 1220 (QL) Calculus II	4
CS 1720 (QI) Introduction to Computer Science—CS 2	3
PHYX 2210 (QI) General Physics—Science and Engineering I.....	4
ECE 2530 Digital Circuits	4

Sophomore Year (33 credits)

Fall Semester (16 credits)

MATH 2210 (QI) Multivariable Calculus	3
PHYX 2220 (BPS/QI) General Physics—Science and Engineering II ..	4
University Studies Breadth Courses.....	9

Spring Semester (17 credits)

MATH 2250 (QI) Linear Algebra and Differential Equations.....	4
ECE 2410 Electrical Circuits	4
ENGL 2010 (CL) Intermediate Writing: Research Writing in a Persuasive Mode.....	3
Technical Elective Course	3
University Studies Depth Course (DSS).....	3

*All classes listed above with specific prefixes and course numbers are required for admission to the Professional Engineering Program (PEP). Courses are listed under the semesters in which they best fit.

Professional Program

Because of the variations in schedules, it is recommended that students meet with an advisor to work out a schedule for their junior

and senior years. The following courses are required for students selecting the **Professional Program in Electrical Engineering**.

Suggested Semester Schedule

Junior Year (31 credits)¹

Fall Semester (16 credits)

ECE 3410 Microelectronics I	4
ECE 3620 Circuits and Signals	3
ECE 3870 Electromagnetics I	3
ECE 5530 Digital System Design	3
MATH 5710 Introduction to Probability.....	3

Spring Semester (15 credits)

ECE 3640 Signals and Systems	3
ECE 3710 Microcomputer Hardware and Software	4
ECE 3820 Design I.....	2
Math/Science Elective Course	3
ECE Elective Course	3

Senior Year (31-32 credits)

Fall Semester (15 credits)

ECE 4840 (CI) Design II.....	3
PHYX 2710 Introductory Modern Physics	3
ECE Elective Courses	9

Spring Semester (16-17 credits)

ECE 4850 (CI) Design III	2
ECE Elective Courses	9
Technical Elective Course	3
University Studies Depth Course (DHA)	2-3

¹Some of the junior classes can be delayed until the senior year, but this may limit a student's choice of electives during his or her senior year.

Technical Elective Courses (select 30 or more credits)

Electrical Engineering Electives (select 21-27 credits)

ECE 3720 Microcomputer Systems Programming.....	3
ECE 4740 Computer and Data Communications	3

Also, any ECE 5000-level course (including ECE 5930 when topic relates to electrical engineering) may be counted as an Electrical Engineering Elective.

Math and Science Electives (select 3-9 credits)

MATH 3310 Discrete Mathematics (F,Sp,Su).....	3
MATH 4200 (CI) Foundations of Analysis (F,Sp).....	3
MATH 4310 (CI) Introduction to Algebraic Structures (F,Sp).....	3
MATH 4630 Computer Aided Math for Scientists and Engineers (Sp) ..	3
MATH 5210 Introduction to Analysis I (F).....	3
MATH 5220 Introduction to Analysis II (Sp).....	3
MATH 5270 Complex Variables (Sp).....	3
MATH 5310 Introduction to Modern Algebra (Sp)	3
MATH 5340 Theory of Linear Algebra (Sp)	3
MATH 5420 Partial Differential Equations (Sp)	3
MATH 5460 Introduction to the Theory and Application of Nonlinear Dynamical Systems (Sp)	3
MATH 5510 Introduction to Topology (F).....	3
MATH 5610 Computational Linear Algebra and Solution of Systems of Equations (Sp).....	3
MATH 5620 Numerical Solution of Differential Equations (Sp)	3
MATH 5720 Introduction to Mathematical Statistics (Sp).....	3
MATH 5760 Stochastic Processes (F)	3
AP Biology	4
BIOL 1210 Biology I (F).....	4
BIOL 2000 Human Physiology (F,Sp,Su)	4
BIOL 3300 General Microbiology (F,Sp)	4

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AP Chemistry.....	8
CHEM 1210 Principles of Chemistry I (F,Sp)	4
CHEM 1220 (BPS) Principles of Chemistry II (F,Sp,Su)	4
CHEM 1230 Chemical Principles Laboratory I (F,Sp)	1
CHEM 2310 Organic Chemistry I (F)	4
CHEM 3700 Introductory Biochemistry (Sp)	3
CHEM 3710 Introductory Biochemistry Laboratory (Sp)	1
FRWS 2200 (BLS) Ecology of Our Changing World (F,Sp)	3
PHYX 3550² Intermediate Classical Mechanics.....	3
PHYX 3600 Intermediate Electromagnetism.....	3
PHYX 3700³ Thermal Physics.....	3
PHYX 3750 Foundations of Wave Phenomena	3
PHYX 4550 Advanced Classical Mechanics	3
PHYX 4600 Advanced Electromagnetism	3
PHYX 4650 Optics I (F).....	3
PHYX 4680 Optics II (Sp).....	3
PHYX 4700 Quantum Mechanics I.....	3
PHYX 4710 Quantum Mechanics II.....	3

Technical Electives (select 0-6 credits)

CS 2200 (QI) Algorithms and Data Structures—CS 3 (F,Sp,Su).....	3
CS 2370 (CI) Software Engineering (F,Sp)	3
CS 3100 Operating Systems and Concurrency (F,Sp).....	3
CS 3550 Computer Architecture (F,Sp)	3
CS 4700 Programming Languages (F,Sp)	3
CS 5000 Theory of Computability (Sp).....	3
CS 5050 Advanced Algorithms (F,Sp)	3
CS 5100 Graphical User Interfaces and Windows Programming (Sp)..	4
CS 5200 Distributed and Network Programming (F).....	4
CS 5300 Compiler Construction (F)	4
CS 5370 Advanced Software Engineering (F).....	3
CS 5400 Computer Graphics I (F).....	4
CS 5450 Multimedia Systems (Sp)	4
CS 5500 Parallel Algorithms (Sp).....	3
CS 5600 AI: Problem Solving and Expert Systems (F)	3
CS 5650 CVPRIP I: Computer Vision, Pattern Recognition, and Image Processing (F).....	3
CS 5700 Object-Oriented Software Development (F)	3
CS 5800 Introduction to Database Systems (F).....	3
CS 5850 Systems Analysis (Sp).....	3
CEE 4200 Engineering Economics (F).....	2
ECE 3260 (QI) Science of Sound (F)	3
ECE 4250 Internship/Co-op (F,Sp,Su)	3
ENGR 2000 Engineering Mechanics Statics (F,Sp)	2
ENGR 2020 Engineering Mechanics Dynamics (F,Sp)	3
ENGR 2040 Strength of Materials (F,Sp)	2
ENGR 5500 High Performance Computing for Engineers (F).....	3
MAE 2060 Material Science (F,Sp)	3
MAE 2400 Thermodynamics I (Sp,Su).....	3

²Students cannot receive credit for both Engineering Mechanics *and* Analytical Mechanics.
³Students cannot receive credit for both Engineering Thermodynamics *and* Thermal Physics.

Computer Engineering

Pre-professional Program**

Suggested Semester Schedule

Freshman Year (30-31 credits)

Fall Semester (15-16 credits)

MATH 1210 (QL) Calculus I	4
CS 1700 Introduction to Computer Science—CS 1	3
CS 1710⁴ Introduction to Computer Science—CS 1 Lab	(1)
ECE 1010 Introduction to Electrical and Computer Engineering.....	2
University Studies Breadth Courses.....	6

Spring Semester (15 credits)

MATH 1220 (QL) Calculus II	4
CS 1720 (QI) Introduction to Computer Science—CS 2	3
PHYX 2210 (QI) General Physics—Science and Engineering I.....	4
ECE 2530 Digital Circuits	4

Sophomore Year (33-34 credits)

Fall Semester (17 credits)

ENGL 2010 (CL) Intermediate Writing: Research Writing in a Persuasive Mode.....	3
CS 2200 (QI) Algorithms and Data Structures—CS 3.....	3
MATH 2250 (QI) Linear Algebra and Differential Equations.....	4
PHYX 2220 (BPS/QI) General Physics—Science and Engineering II ..	4
University Studies Breadth Course	3

Spring Semester (16-17 credits)

MATH 3310 Discrete Mathematics.....	3
ECE 2410 Electrical Circuits	4
CS 2370 (CI) Software Engineering	3
Technical Elective Course	3-4
University Studies Breadth Course	3

⁴Students desiring a Computer Science minor must take CS 1710 as a freshman. The rest of the minor is built into the curriculum. This lab is *not required* for the Computer Engineering major.

**All classes listed above with specific prefixes and course numbers (*except* for CS 1710 and CS 2370) are required for admission to the Professional Engineering Program (PEP). Courses are listed under the semesters in which they best fit.

Professional Program

Suggested Semester Schedule

Because of the variation in schedules, it is recommended that students meet with an advisor to work out a schedule for their junior and senior years. The following courses are required for students selecting the Professional Program in Computer Engineering.

Suggested Semester Schedule

Junior Year (32 credits)⁵

Fall Semester (15 credits)

ECE 3410 Microelectronics I	4
ECE 3620 Circuits and Signals	3
ECE 3710 Microcomputer Hardware and Software	4
ECE 3860 Transmission Lines	1
ECE 5530 Digital System Design	3

Spring Semester (17 credits)

CS 3100 Operating Systems and Concurrency	3
ECE 3640 Signals and Systems	3
ECE 3720 Microcomputer Systems Programming.....	3
ECE 3820 Design I.....	2
MATH 5710 Introduction to Probability.....	3
University Studies Breadth Course	3

Senior Year (30-31 credits)

Fall Semester (15-16 credits)

ECE 4740 Computer and Data Communications.....	3
ECE 4840 (CI) Design II.....	3
Computer Science Elective Course.....	4
Computer Engineering Elective Course	3
University Studies Depth Course (DHA)	2-3

Spring Semester (15 credits)

ECE 4850 (CI) Design III.....	2
High-Level Technical Elective Courses	7
Math/Science Elective Course	3
University Studies Depth Course (DSS).....	3

⁵Some of the junior classes can be delayed until the senior year, but this may limit a student's choice of electives during his or her senior year.

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High-Level Technical Elective Courses

(select 14-19 credits)

Students must complete a total of *at least* 14 credits within high-level technical electives. Courses listed in this departmental section as Computer Engineering Electives or Computer Science Electives may be used to fulfill this requirement. Also, courses having an ECE or CS prefix, which are numbered at the 5000 level, may be used as high-level technical electives.

Technical Elective Courses (select 22 or more credits)

Computer Engineering Electives (select 3-15 credits)

ECE 5320	Mechatronics (Sp)	4
ECE 5640	Real-Time Processors (Sp)	4
ECE 5740	Concurrent Programming (F)	3
ECE 5750	High-Performance Microprocessor Architecture (Sp)	3
ECE 5770	Microcomputer Interfacing (Sp)	4
ECE 5780	Real-Time Systems (F)	4

Computer Science Electives (select 4-12 credits)

CS 5100	Graphical User Interfaces and Windows Programming (Sp)	4
CS 5200	Distributed and Network Programming (F)	4
CS 5400	Computer Graphics I (F)	4

Math and Science Electives (select 3-9 credits)

MATH 2210 (QI)	Multivariable Calculus (F,Sp,Su)	3
MATH 4200 (CI)	Foundations of Analysis (F,Sp)	3
MATH 4310 (CI)	Introduction to Algebraic Structures (Sp)	3
MATH 4630	Computer Aided Math for Scientists and Engineers (Sp)	3
MATH 5210	Introduction to Analysis I (F)	3
MATH 5220	Introduction to Analysis II (Sp)	3
MATH 5270	Complex Variables (Sp)	3
MATH 5310	Introduction to Modern Algebra (Sp)	3
MATH 5340	Theory of Linear Algebra (Sp)	3
MATH 5420	Partial Differential Equations (Sp)	3
MATH 5460	Introduction to the Theory and Application of Nonlinear Dynamical Systems (Sp)	3
MATH 5510	Introduction to Topology (F)	3
MATH 5610	Computational Linear Algebra and Solution of Systems of Equations (F)	3
MATH 5620	Numerical Solution of Differential Equations (Sp)	3
MATH 5720	Introduction to Mathematical Statistics (Sp)	3
MATH 5760	Stochastic Processes (F)	3
AP Biology		4
BIOL 1210	Biology I (F)	4
BIOL 2000	Human Physiology (F,Sp,Su)	4
BIOL 3300	General Microbiology (F,Sp)	4
AP Chemistry		8
CHEM 1210	Principles of Chemistry I (F,Sp)	4
CHEM 1220 (BPS)	Principles of Chemistry II (F,Sp,Su)	4
CHEM 1230	Chemical Principles Laboratory I (F,Sp)	1
CHEM 2310	Organic Chemistry I (F)	4
CHEM 3700	Introductory Biochemistry (Sp)	3
CHEM 3710	Introductory Biochemistry Laboratory (Sp)	1
FRWS 2200 (BLS)	Ecology of Our Changing World (F,Sp)	3
PHYX 2710	Introductory Modern Physics	3
PHYX 3550 ⁶	Intermediate Classical Mechanics	3
PHYX 3600	Intermediate Electromagnetism	3
PHYX 3700 ⁷	Thermal Physics	3
PHYX 3750	Foundations of Wave Phenomena	3
PHYX 4550	Advanced Classical Mechanics	3
PHYX 4600	Advanced Electromagnetism	3
PHYX 4650	Optics I	3
PHYX 4680	Optics II	3
PHYX 4700	Quantum Mechanics I	3
PHYX 4710	Quantum Mechanics II	3

Technical Electives (select 0-8 credits)

CS 3550	Computer Architecture (F,Sp)	3
CS 4700	Programming Languages (F,Sp)	3
CEE 4200	Engineering Economics (F)	2
ECE 4250	Internship/Co-op (F,Sp,Su)	3
ECE 5310	Control Systems (F)	3
ENGR 2000	Engineering Mechanics Statics (F,Sp)	2
ENGR 2020	Engineering Mechanics Dynamics (F,Sp)	3
ENGR 2040	Strength of Materials (F,Sp)	2
MAE 2060	Material Science (F,Sp)	3
MAE 2400	Thermodynamics I (Sp,Su)	3
ENGR 5500	High Performance Computing for Engineers (F)	3

Any upper-division (3000, 4000, or 5000 level) ECE class not required by the major may also be used as a Technical Elective course.

However, specific courses must be approved in writing before the student registers for the course.

⁶Students cannot receive credit for both Engineering Mechanics and Physics Mechanics.

⁷Students cannot receive credit for both Engineering Thermodynamics and Physics Thermodynamics.

Minors

Students should have all minors approved by the minor department. Minors may be filled by using the Technical Electives credits for courses in the chosen minor area. All courses required for the minors must be completed with grades of C- or better.

Mathematics Minor

Required courses include:

MATH 1210 (QL)	Calculus I (F,Sp,Su)	4
MATH 1220 (QL)	Calculus II (F,Sp,Su)	4
MATH 2210 (QI)	Multivariable Calculus (F,Sp,Su)	3
MATH 2270 (QI)	Linear Algebra (F)	3
MATH 2280 (QI)	Ordinary Differential Equations (Sp)	3

Two additional courses (6 credits) numbered above 4000, excluding MATH 4300, 4400, 4500, 4620, 5570, and 5580, are also required. MATH 2250 may substitute for MATH 2270 and 2280.

Physics Minor

PHYX 2210 (QI)	General Physics—Science and Engineering I	4
PHYX 2220 (BPS/QI)	General Physics—Science and Engineering II	4

Students must also select 10 credits from courses in Physics numbered 2710 or above.

Computer Science Minor

A minimum of 16 credits (with a cumulative GPA of 2.5 or higher and a C- or better in each class) is required. Students must complete the following courses:

CS 1700	Introduction to Computer Science—CS 1 (F,Sp,Su)	3
CS 1710	Introduction to Computer Science—CS 1 Lab (F,Sp,Su)	1
CS 1720 (QI)	Introduction to Computer Science—CS 2 (F,Sp,Su)	3
CS 2200 (QI)	Algorithms and Data Structures—CS 3 (F,Sp,Su)	3

Students must also complete two additional computer science classes. One of these two classes must be numbered at the 3000 level or above. Students should contact the Computer Science Department for information about classes that may not be used toward the Computer Science Minor.

Other minors should be approved by the minor department.

Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering

Student Research Opportunities

Undergraduate students are extensively involved with research activities in the department. Electrical engineering majors and computer engineering majors have presented papers at research conferences and have won prizes. They have also designed satellites for deployment from the space shuttle. Electrical and Computer Engineering faculty members are dedicated to helping students and providing a challenging and interesting learning atmosphere. For additional information, see the *Research* section under *Graduate Programs* (page 230).

Departmental Honors

Students who would like to experience greater academic depth within their major are encouraged to enroll in departmental honors. Through original, independent work, Honors students enjoy the benefits of close supervision and mentoring, as they work one-on-one with faculty in select upper-division departmental courses. Honors students also complete a senior project, which provides another opportunity to collaborate with faculty on a problem that is significant, both personally and in the student's discipline. Participating in departmental honors enhances students' chances for obtaining fellowships and admission to graduate school. Minimum GPA requirements for participation in departmental honors vary by department, but usually fall within the range of 3.30-3.50. Students may enter the Honors Program at almost any stage in their academic career, including at the junior (and sometimes senior) level. The campus-wide Honors Program, which is open to all qualified students regardless of major, offers a rich array of cultural and social activities, special classes, and the benefit of Honors early registration. Interested students should contact the Honors Program, Merrill Library 374, (435) 797-2715, honors@cc.usu.edu. Additional information can be found online at: <http://www.usu.edu/honors/>

Financial Support

Scholarships, assistantships, grants-in-aid, and work-study programs are available through the University. In addition, the department employs undergraduate and graduate students to assist in engineering research and development.

Concurrent BS/Master's Program

The concurrent BS/Master's program allows engineering students to begin taking graduate-level classes during their senior year. This permits them to complete requirements for both the BS degree and the master's degree concurrently during two years. Students in this program have a greater selection of graduate courses, since many graduate courses are taught during alternate years. In addition, the student's senior design project could be a start for a graduate design project or thesis. After completing their BS degree, students in the program can earn a master's degree in only one additional year. Both the BS and the master's degree can generally be earned with 150 total credits. Finally, students with a master's degree can expect a much higher starting salary following graduation. The department requires that students have a minimum GPA of 3.3, in order to qualify for acceptance into the concurrent BS/Master's program. (For more information, see the *College of Engineering* section of this catalog, pages 113-114.)

Additional Information

For more information about Bachelor of Science requirements and the sequence in which courses should be taken, see major requirement sheet, available from the Electrical and Computer Engineering Department, or online at: <http://www.usu.edu/ats/majorsheets/>

Graduate Programs

Admission Requirements

See general admission requirements on pages 93-94. Applicants with a bachelor's degree in Electrical or Computer Engineering from an ABET accredited program and having a 3.1 GPA or better can generally be admitted without restriction. Additional coursework in electrical and computer engineering fundamentals may be required in individual cases. Students must take the general GRE exam; however, the subject GRE is not required. All graduate students are expected to have a working knowledge of a computer language (preferably C or C++).

Applications will be considered throughout the year. However, students desiring financial aid should submit application materials by January 1 to be considered for the following fall semester and July 1 to be considered for the following spring semester.

No applications will be considered until all required information arrives in the office of the School of Graduate Studies.

Degree Requirements

Specific requirements for the ME, MS, EE, and PhD degrees are outlined below; these are in addition to the general requirements of the School of Graduate Studies. All graduate degree programs in the ECE Department require a grade of *B-* or better in all courses applied toward the requirements listed below.

Master of Engineering (ME) and Master of Science (MS)

The ME degree is based on coursework and is designed to give graduates a strong practical foundation. The MS degree requires substantial thesis or project work in a specific area and prepares students for advanced study or advanced work in that area. The MS degree has two options. Under Plan A, the student completes a thesis. Under Plan B, the student prepares an engineering project report.

If a student chooses an MS degree, changing to the ME degree is only possible by approval of the major professor, ECE graduate committee, and the department head.

The MS and ME degrees require successful completion of 30 credits of 5000-level or above coursework in a program approved by the student's supervisory committee, with the following stipulations:

Master of Science

1. At least 12 credits of ECE coursework must be completed at or above the 6000 level.
2. MS Plan A students must complete 6 credits of Thesis Research (ECE 6970).
3. MS Plan B students must complete 3 credits of Thesis Research (ECE 6970) and 3 credits of Design Project (ECE 6950).

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4. MS students must have a one- to two-page, double-spaced thesis or project proposal approved by their committee when a project has been identified.

Master of Engineering

1. At least 18 credits of ECE coursework must be completed at or above the 6000 level.
2. At least two ECE courses with substantial lab components must be completed at or above the 5000 level. This requirement may be waived for students who have taken two USU ECE lab intensive courses as undergraduates and who received a grade of B- or better in both of these classes.

All Master's Students

1. At least 3 credits of ECE coursework must be completed at the 7000 level.
2. One credit of ECE 6800 (Electrical Engineering Colloquium) must be completed as soon as possible.
3. Each master's student must form a committee and have a program of study approved by the end of his or her first semester.
4. No more than 10 credits of 5000-level coursework may be applied toward a master's degree.
5. Any exceptions to the master's requirements must be approved by the student's committee and the ECE Graduate Committee.

A course in technical and professional writing, or equivalent writing experience, is required for MS students prior to beginning the thesis. This may be fulfilled as a requirement for a bachelor's degree. MS students may, at the discretion of their supervisors, be required to hire an editor to bring the thesis or paper into acceptable form.

Electrical Engineer

The Electrical Engineer degree is awarded for the successful completion of an advanced program of 60 credits of academic work beyond the BS, or 30 credits beyond the MS, and a comprehensive engineering report earning an additional 10 credits. The degree requirements do not include a comprehensive examination, and the engineering report is given in lieu of the original research dissertation. The degree differs from the PhD by preparing the student for professional engineering work, rather than for research.

Doctor of Philosophy

To qualify for a PhD degree, a student is expected *either* to complete at least 51 credits beyond the requirements for a BS degree; *or* to complete at least 21 credits beyond the requirements for an MS degree, *plus* complete enough credits of dissertation research to have a total of 90 credits beyond the BS degree or 60 credits beyond the MS degree. Completion of this coursework generally requires three semesters of study beyond the MS degree, with up to 18 credits beyond the BS degree being taken in courses outside the Electrical and Computer Engineering Department.

After a student has completed at least 18 credits of coursework beyond the MS degree, he or she must pass a comprehensive examination based on graduate-level courses, as well as pass a dissertation research proposal defense. Near the end of the program, the results of the original (publishable) research work will be presented and publicly defended as a dissertation.

For further information, visit the departmental website at: <http://www.engineering.usu.edu/ece/>

Research

The department conducts extensive research through the following centers:

1. Center for Self-Organizing Intelligent Systems (CSOIS)
2. National Center for the Design of Molecular Function (NCDMF)
3. Space Dynamics Laboratory (SDL)
4. Anderson Center for Wireless Teaching and Research
5. Center for High-Speed Information Processing (CHIP)
6. Center for Advanced Imaging LADAR (CAIL)

Research activities include: robotics, control systems, digital system design, computer networks, concurrent systems, antennas, space systems, image processing, digital signal processing, wireless communications, acoustics, electromagnetic compatibility, and LADAR systems.

Financial Assistance

All applicants who are accepted academically are automatically considered for financial aid. Many successful graduate students in the department do receive some level of financial aid during their degree program.

Electrical and Computer Engineering Faculty

Professors

Doran J. Baker, electromagnetics, infrared measurements, engineering systems in space
Tamal Bose, digital signal processing, communications
Joe R. Doupnik, communications, computers
H. Scott Hinton, photonic switching, Dean of College of Engineering
Todd K. Moon, communications and signal processing
Linda S. Powers, biophysics, molecular engineering

Adjunct Professor

Heng-Da Cheng, pattern recognition, image processing

Trustee Professor Emeritus

Kay D. Baker, electronics, space science

Professors Emeritus

Robert W. Gunderson, control systems, pattern recognition, robotics
Ronney D. Harris, microwaves, transmission line circuits, atmospheric modeling
William L. Jones, integrated circuits
Alan W. Shaw, electromagnetics, controls, microcomputers
Allan J. Steed, electro-optics, aerospace measurement systems
Gardiner S. "Dyke" Stiles, concurrent systems
Ronald L. Thurgood, computers, database systems
Clair L. Wyatt, infrared, electro-optical systems

Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering

Associate Professors

Scott E. Budge, signal processing, image processing
Charles M. Swenson, space science and space engineering
Paul A. Wheeler, microprocessors, acoustics

Research Associate Professor

Robert T. Pack, geological and geomatics engineering

Adjunct Associate Professors

R. Rees Fullmer, control systems, space engineering
Ronald J. Huppi, space research
John C. Kemp, robotics, electro-optics
Tsung-Cheng Shen, physics
Gene A. Ware, computer systems

Associate Professor Emeritus

Duane G. Chadwick, remote sensors, instrumentation

Assistant Professors

Matthew D. Berkemeier, computers, robotics, controls
Annette Bunker, computer security, hardware verification
Yang Quan Chen, control systems
Aravind Dasu, computer engineering

Brandon K. Eames, computer engineering
Jacob H. Gunther, communications and signal processing
George K. Liang, electromagnetics
Michael W. Tompkins, electromagnetics
Chris Winstead, analog VLSI

Research Assistant Professor

Hui Fang Dou, precision instruments, mechatronics

Adjunct Research Assistant Professor

Steven R. Wassom, controls

Adjunct Assistant Professor

Charles R. Tolle, controls

Principal Lecturers

Paul D. Israelsen, integrative services, digital systems design
Randy J. Jost, electromagnetics, microwave engineering, solid state electronics

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