



## DUAL MSCE/PHD or MSE/PHD DEGREE REQUIREMENTS



The Department has two dual degree programs designed for students who are interested in research and do not hold an MSCE or MSE from a US institution:

- Dual Master of Science in Civil Engineering and Doctor of Philosophy in Civil Engineering (MSCE/PhD)
- Dual Master of Science in Engineering (Environmental) and Doctor of Philosophy in Civil Engineering (MSE/PhD)

The degree requirements for the MSCE or MSE are integrated within the degree requirements for the PhD in Civil Engineering, with a common examination and committee.

### MSCE or MSE Plan of Study (Plan II, Coursework Only, Non-Thesis Option)

- A minimum of 30 credit hours of approved coursework beyond the bachelor's degree, to include:
  - 9 credit hours of core coursework (see core course listing on the next page)
  - 21 credit of approved graduate coursework
  - 12 credit hours maximum of approved graduate transfer credit
  - 18 credit hours minimum of graduate CE courses

### PhD in Civil Engineering Plan of Study

- A minimum of 72 credit hours beyond the bachelor's degree, to include:
  - 24 credit hours of CE 699 Dissertation Research
  - 3 credit hours of CE 593/693 Practicum
  - 45 credit hours of approved coursework (including coursework in MSCE or MSE Plan of Study)
- Approved Coursework (45 hours) to include:
  - 9 credit hours of core coursework (see core course listing on the next page)
  - 24 credit hours maximum of approved transfer credit
- The Plan of Study must be submitted before 30 credit hours are completed towards the degree

### Doctoral and Masters Examinations

- **Doctoral Qualifying Exam:** taken in the second semester of study, includes a written component with possible oral follow-up, and administered by a department committee including at least two faculty members from the student's area of study (i.e., core course area)
- **Combined Doctoral Preliminary Exam and Masters Comprehensive Exam:** administered by the student's dissertation committee (see below), has both a written and oral component, and includes a research proposal presentation and defense
- **Dissertation Defense:** administered by the student's dissertation committee (see below) and focuses on the dissertation research
- Each exam is allowed to be taken a maximum of two times

### Dissertation Committee

- The committee chair (doctoral advisor) must be full graduate faculty member from the department
- The committee must consist of a minimum of five members of the graduate faculty, including the chair
- The majority must be from the department with at least one member from outside the department
- The dissertation committee also serves as the master's comprehensive examining committee
- A minimum of 3 years of continuous doctoral study
- A minimum of 1 continuous academic year in residence (i.e., on campus)
- Maximum of 7 years to complete the doctoral degree; maximum 6 years to complete the masters degree

\*\*Students on graduate assistantships must register for a minimum of 1 credit hour of CE 693 each semester they are supported

**MSCE Core Coursework Requirements (9 hours)**

<b>Construction Engineering and Management</b> CE 573 – Statistical Applications in Civil Engineering CE 567 – Construction Accounting and Finance CE 568 – Construction Scheduling	<b>Structural Engineering and Materials</b> CE 573 – Statistical Applications in Civil Engineering CE 534/634 – Advanced Structural Mechanics CE 531 – Structural Dynamics
<b>Environmental and Water Resources Engineering</b> CE 573 – Statistical Applications in Civil Engineering CE 575 – Hydrology CE 626 – Physical and Chemical Processes	<b>Transportation Systems Engineering</b> CE 573 – Statistical Applications in Civil Engineering CE 559 – Pavement Design and Rehabilitation CE 655 – Sustainable Transportation

**Required Forms\*\*** (all forms are available from [graduate.ua.edu](http://graduate.ua.edu))

- Appointment/Change of Doctoral Dissertation and Masters Committee
- Admission to Candidacy for the Masters Degree (due after 12 credit hours have been earned)
- Outline of PhD Program (Plan of Study)
- Doctoral Qualifying Exam Form or a memo with committee signatures
- Doctoral Preliminary and Masters Exam Form
- Application for Master's Degree
- Admission to Candidacy for the Doctoral Degree
- Doctoral Final Defense Form or a memo with committee signatures
- Committee Acceptance Form for Electronic Thesis
- Publication Form for Electronic Dissertation
- Application for Doctoral Degree

Additional information may be found at [graduate.ua.edu](http://graduate.ua.edu) and [cce.eng.ua.edu](http://cce.eng.ua.edu).

\*\*Students are responsible for all forms and must route all forms through the Department prior to submission to the Graduate School.