COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING

Graduate Programs

- Biomedical Engineering
- Chemical Engineering (M.Ch.E., Ph.D.)
- Civil and Environmental Engineering (M.C.E., M.A.S., Ph.D.)
- Electrical and Computer Engineering (M.E.E., Ph.D.)
- Materials Science and Engineering (M.M.S.E., Ph.D.)
- Mechanical Engineering (M.S.M.E., M.E.M., Ph.D.)

The College of Engineering has a strong commitment to graduate education through teaching and research. Programs leading to both the master’s and Ph.D. degrees are offered through the departments of Chemical, Civil and Environmental, Electrical and Computer, Materials Science and Engineering, and Mechanical Engineering. Although there is no degree program in biomedical engineering, many faculty are engaged in research in this area and there are numerous opportunities for graduate student participation.

Engineering graduate students at the University have the opportunity to participate in the College’s five research centers: the Center for Applied Coastal Research, the Center for Biomedical Engineering Research, the Center for Catalytic Science and Technology, the Center for Composite Materials, and the Center for Molecular and Engineering Thermodynamics. Detailed information on specific research programs may be obtained from the appropriate center office or the relevant engineering department, or see http://www.udel.edu/engg/.

The College also meets the needs of practicing engineers who wish to further their education. The Engineering Outreach Program is designed to facilitate professionally convenient graduate education by working with the academic departments to schedule classes in the late day, evening, or on video. Part-time non-degree graduate students can take courses through Engineering Outreach, and these courses may be applied to a traditional or non-thesis graduate engineering degree upon regular admission to the graduate program. Detailed information about the Engineering Outreach Program may be obtained by calling (302) 831-2401. For more information, please visit the program web site at http://www.udel.edu/engg/outreach/.

BIOMEDICAL ENGINEERING

Although there are no programs in the College of Engineering which lead to a degree in biomedical engineering, considerable research and instruction in the application of engineering to problems related to the human body are being conducted in the Chemical, Electrical and Computer, and Mechanical Engineering Departments. Many College faculty are actively involved in the Center for Biomedical Engineering Research, the Center for Applied Science and Engineering in Rehabilitation, the Biomechanics and Movement Science Program, and the University’s Sports Science Laboratory. These efforts are also supported by programs in the Departments of Biological Sciences and Physical Therapy. In addition, education and research projects in biomedical engineering often involve extensive interaction with local medical centers and industrial laboratories.

CHEMICAL ENGINEERING

Telephone: (302) 831-2543
For more information, please visit the department web site at http://www.che.udel.edu

The Department of Chemical Engineering offers graduate programs leading to the Master of Chemical Engineering (M.Ch.E.) degree and the Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) in Chemical Engineering.

The purpose of the department’s graduate programs is to provide the guidance and opportunity for students to develop the quantitative skills of engineering and science, and the acumen to apply these skills for the welfare of modern society. Students in the program naturally have a broad range of interests and career objectives, and it is the philosophy of the department to expose them to a variety of fundamental and applied research problems that will hone those engineering skills necessary in any career, whether in industry, academia or government.

This involves a combination of graduate core courses in chemical engineering and applied mathematics, advanced science and engineering electives, and independent (thesis) research conducted with the guidance and mentorship of a chemical engineering faculty member. (A non-thesis option is also available for the M.Ch.E. degree).
The Chemical Engineering Department is housed in the newly renovated and expanded Allan P. Colburn Laboratory, a memorial to one of the pioneers in chemical engineering who established the department. The laboratory houses the Center for Catalytic Science and Technology, which is equipped with the modern tools of catalysis and surface science, and the Center for Molecular and Engineering Thermodynamics, whose personnel study a range of thermodynamic problems. Other laboratory facilities are for research in polymer engineering, rheology, control, fluid mechanics, biochemical and biomedical engineering, materials science, metallurgy, photovoltaic systems, mass transfer, and separation processes. The department benefits from close contacts with industrial colleagues in the Delaware Valley-New Jersey heartland of the chemical process industries. An extensive program of visiting scholars brings distinguished engineering scientists from around the world to the campus for periods ranging from a few days to a year.

Close contact, formal as well as informal, with colleagues in the chemical process and related industries is one of the distinguishing characteristics of the department. Such contact, with corporate leaders as well as practicing engineers and scientists, helps to provide the student with an understanding of the milieu in which the engineer works. Lectures given by these visitors describe the unique opportunities that engineers have to contribute to the quality of life and also the restrictions that society, acting through industry and government, places on technology.

Extensive facilities for research and graduate study are available within the department. Laboratories specifically devoted to catalysis and reaction engineering house gas chromatographs interfaced with a computer-controlled mass spectrometer, infrared spectrophotometers for surface studies of working catalysts, electron spectrometers for analysis of catalyst surfaces, x-ray diffractometers, transmission and scanning electron microscopes, a laser-Raman spectrometer, an x-ray spectrometer, gas chemisorption equipment, and many catalytic flow microreactors. Many of these studies are carried out in the University's pioneering Center for Catalytic Science and Technology, supported by governmental funds and grants from a group of industrial sponsors.

Laboratories specifically devoted to polymer engineering are equipped with multiple rheogoniometers and mechanical spectrometers, Instron test equipment, x-ray diffractometers, and equipment for spinning and extruding polymers. The polymer engineering group is involved in the research of Delaware's Center for Composite Materials and in interdisciplinary activity supported by several industrial organizations of the U.S., France, Germany, Italy, Japan, and the United Kingdom.

Biochemical and biomedical engineering laboratories contain a range of equipment for cell culture and fermentation, and for protein purification, analysis, and characterization. The latter includes 2-D gel electrophoresis, high performance liquid chromatography, membrane ultrafiltration, atomic force microscopy, and capillary electrophoresis. Research in the biological area is also conducted in collaboration with colleagues in the life sciences, the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry, the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources, and laboratories in the pharmaceutical and biotechnology industries.

The process control and monitoring laboratories contain a number of real-time instrumented experiments for on-line model-based control and fault diagnosis. The specific experiments include emulsion polymerization, complex quadruple-tank level control and other systems. All of these units are equipped with state-of-the-art control hardware and software systems. These studies are carried out in collaboration with the vendors and industrial companies that are members of the Process Control and Monitoring Consortium.

The J.A. Gerster Memorial Thermodynamics Laboratories contain equipment for high-pressure and low-pressure vapor-liquid equilibrium, for high-temperature and multiphase equilibrium and other physical property measurements, and for separations processes. Molecular dynamics and quantum mechanical calculations and modeling of simple and complex fluids is performed on the Facility for Computational Chemistry's parallel computer and at other computational resources at the University as well as at national centers. These and other facilities are part of the Center for Molecular and Engineering Thermodynamics.

Laboratories focused on the study of colloids and interfaces contain a variety of spectrometers for quasi-elastic light scattering, fluorescence measurements, and small-angle x-ray scattering. State-of-the-art instruments are available for the measurement of electrokinetic mobilities of colloids, surface tensions, ion activities, and conductivities, as well as for the determination of liquid phase compositions. Small angle neutron scattering investigations are also performed at national facilities.

Other laboratories contain a variety of specialized electronic and optical tools for chemical engineering research. Modern problems in two-phase flow, physical metallurgy, corrosion, and pollution abatement, are under study by a variety of full-time and adjunct faculty.

Several faculty and students are involved in chemical engineering research in photovoltaics in which information needed for the design of large-scale processing units is obtained from laboratory-scale experimentation. Experimental and theoretical studies in photovoltaic unit operations are conducted in a cooperative activity between the department and the Institute of Energy Conversion.

One of the most rapidly growing aspects of research within the department is process modeling. Research efforts include computer control and modeling of biochemical reactors, development and modeling of novel separations processes, modeling of transport in living systems, modeling and simulation of polymer processes, and elucidation and modeling of reaction pathways. To support the research in chemical engineering analysis, the department maintains its own computer laboratory. Numerous microcomputers are in use in our research laboratories both for data acquisition and modeling; the department also makes extensive use of the University's computational facilities described elsewhere in this catalog.

REQUIREMENTS FOR ADMISSION

The minimum requirements for admission to degree programs in the Department of Chemical Engineering are listed below:

1. A baccalaureate degree in the field or in a closely allied field of science or mathematics.
2. An undergraduate grade-point average in engineering, science, and mathematics courses of at least 3.0 on a 4.0 scale.
3. A minimum of three letters of strong support from former teachers or supervisors.
4. A minimum combined score of 1150 on the Graduate Record Examination Aptitude Test is required of all applicants to the Chemical Engineering Ph.D. program. For the master's program, the GRE test is optional provided the applicant has a B.S. degree in chemical engineering from an ABET approved U.S. institution.
5. A minimum score of 600 on the Test of English as a Foreign Language for students whose first language is not English and who have not received a degree from a college or university in which English is the sole language of instruction.

For chemical engineering applicants the scholastic index of 3.0 in the major field is computed from the previous undergraduate work and from graduate work done in mathematics, chemistry, physics, and engineering courses. Also, in exceptional circumstances, it may be possible to obtain a provisional admission if one or more of the above criteria
have not been satisfied. Admission to the graduate program in Chemical Engineering at the University of Delaware is selective and competitive based on the number of well-qualified applicants and the limits of available faculty and facilities. Those who meet stated minimum academic requirements are not guaranteed admission. On the other hand, on rare occasions, those who fail to meet those requirements can be granted admission if they offer other exceptional strengths.

Undergraduate preparation consisting of a bachelor’s program in chemical engineering leads most directly into the graduate program. However, students and practicing industrialists with a background in chemistry will also profit from this graduate program, since chemical engineering provides for the application of their scientific skills to solutions of technological problems in industry and society. Graduates of other disciplines are also encouraged to apply; some remedial work may be required and is discussed on an individual basis.

FINANCIAL AID

Please refer to the chapter “Graduate Fellowships and Assistantships” in this catalog.

REQUIREMENTS FOR THE MASTER’S DEGREE

To develop the skills that recipients of master’s degrees are expected to possess and use effectively, students enroll in courses that sharpen their analytic tools and provide practice in the application of these tools to engineering problems. Students may also select studies that develop an appreciation for society’s constraints on, and opportunities for, science and technology. The M.Ch.E. program is typically elected by students wishing to carry out industrial design analysis or process and product development, and by some students who continue their studies toward the Ph.D. The formal requirements of 24 credit hours of course work and a 6-credit-hour thesis for the M.Ch.E. degree are substantial and recognized as such by industrial organizations. A non-thesis M.Ch.E. degree of 30 credit hours of appropriate course work is also a degree option in the department.

REQUIREMENTS FOR THE PH.D. DEGREE

Students may elect to study directly toward a Ph.D. upon enrollment or may obtain the M.Ch.E. degree first. Admission to the Ph.D. program in chemical engineering formally requires passing both oral and written qualifying examinations prepared by the department. The written examination is made up of separate examinations in the chemical and the physical sciences. The oral examination includes presentation of a research proposition by the candidate to demonstrate the ability to devise and develop a research idea.

CIVIL AND ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEERING

Telephone: (302) 831-2441

For more information, please visit the department web site at http://www.ce.udel.edu

The Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering offers graduate programs of study and research leading to three degrees: Master of Civil Engineering, Master of Applied Sciences, and Doctor of Philosophy in Civil Engineering. The Master of Civil Engineering degree emphasizes Civil Engineering, while the Master of Applied Sciences degree is for students not having engineering as first degrees. The Ph.D. is aimed at training the graduate student in research within a chosen topic. All three degrees are based on the student completing an individually designed program of courses and writing a thesis. A non-thesis Master’s degree option is available, typically for students with professional experience. Students selecting the non-thesis option are not eligible for financial support from the University. Areas of concentration are:

Environmental Engineering Structural Engineering
Geotechnical Engineering Transportation Engineering
Ocean Engineering Water Resource Engineering
Railroad Engineering Construction Engineering

In each area mathematics, fundamental sciences, and engineering sciences are combined to provide a personalized program of study and research.

All graduate students work in close cooperation with the faculty, and the department has extensive facilities for research and graduate study in all the areas of concentration. Laboratories specifically devoted to research in environmental engineering include facilities for study of chemical and physical aspects of water and wastewater purification with specialized equipment for analysis of fluid particle suspensions and particle technology, heavy metal and toxic waste removal and biological engineering aspects of water pollution control.

The ocean engineering laboratory is one of the largest and best equipped in the country. A unique wavemaker capable of generating realistic three-dimensional seas has been installed in one of the wave basins. Narrow and wide wave tanks are also available and a high precision 108 ft. long wave flame was added in 1990. Equipment available for field research includes tide gages, current meters, fathometers, surveying equipment, remote-sensing apparatus, and small research vessels.

The structures laboratories include an excellent range of equipment for static, dynamic, and fatigue testing, photoelastic and holographic stress analysis and a modern concrete testing facility. The geotechnical laboratory has state-of-the-art equipment for testing soils and geotextiles.

The Civil and Environmental Engineering computing systems consist of a large number of SUN and SPARC workstations running a network with a central file server, a computer lab with 486 and Pentium PC’s and access to the University mainframe computers.

The department’s research is extensively funded through many contracts from federal agencies, the state, and private engineering sponsors. The Center for Applied Coastal Research, one of the leading research organizations in this field, is housed in the department. The Delaware Transportation Institute on campus facilitates technology transfer between the University of Delaware and the Delaware Department of Transportation.

REQUIREMENTS FOR ADMISSION

Candidates for admission are invited to correspond with the department chair and/or members of the faculty. A personal visit to the department is recommended whenever possible. Students who are interested in admission may request current department information on curriculum, core courses, and degree programs.

Courses are offered annually or in alternate years, but always as organized programs orchestrated to ensure that the necessary courses are always available to our students.

Applicants are expected to have:

1) A baccalaureate degree in the field or in a closely allied field of science or mathematics,
2) An undergraduate grade-point average in engineering, science, and mathematics courses of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale,
3) A minimum of three letters of strong support from former teachers or supervisors,
4) A minimum combined score of 1050 on the Graduate Record Examination Aptitude Test,
5) A minimum score of 550 on the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) for students whose first language is not English and who have not received a degree from a college or university in which English is the sole language of instruction.
Admission to the graduate program in Civil Engineering at the University of Delaware is selective and competitive based on the number of well qualified applicants and the limits of available faculty and facilities. Those who meet stated minimum academic requirements are not guaranteed admission.

FINANCIAL AID
Please refer to the chapter “Graduate Fellowships and Assistantships” in this catalog.

REQUIREMENTS FOR THE MASTER’S DEGREES
The master’s degree requires that the student obtains skills in a range of modern analytical and computational tools and in their application to engineering problems. Formally, the student must perform 24 credit hours of course work and 6 credit hours of thesis. For students with professional experience, a non-thesis option is available. The M.C.E. program is often chosen by students planning to pursue a career as professional engineers. The program, however, is also well suited as an introduction to a Ph.D. in Civil Engineering or other engineering or science-oriented areas.

The specific requirements for the different degrees are available upon request to the department.

REQUIREMENTS FOR THE PH.D.
Although it is possible for students to study toward a Ph.D. directly upon entering graduate school, most students choose to obtain the M.C.E. or M.A.S first.

A student’s doctoral program, including the doctoral thesis, is centered on a research objective in applied or engineering science. The degree requires sufficient course work within, or in direct support of, the chosen area of concentration to form an adequate basis for original work. In addition, the student’s knowledge must be extended within other fundamental sub-areas such as applied mathematics, physical, chemical, biological and engineering sciences. In the thesis the student reports the findings of his or her independent research. Further information about details may be obtained from the current Departmental Graduate Program brochures.

The Ph.D. is particularly useful for students who plan to pursue a career in research and teaching at the university level but also provides a superlative education for a career as a professional engineer.

ELECTRICAL AND COMPUTER ENGINEERING
Telephone: (302) 831-2406

For more information, please visit the department web site at http://www.ece.udel.edu

The Electrical and Computer Engineering Department offers programs leading to the degrees of Master of Electrical Engineering and Doctor of Philosophy in electrical engineering.

Active areas of research in electrical engineering are signal and image processing and estimation, with emphasis on digital techniques; communications theory; devices and materials, with emphasis on semiconductors, electronic materials, and integrated optics; electrooptical systems, with emphasis on optical communication and holography; and digital systems, with emphasis on distributed software, microprocessor applications, speech characterization, and networking.

Facilities are available for research in each of the areas. Excellent departmental laboratories support the devices, materials and electrooptical systems research in addition to the extensive facilities of the various other components of the interdepartmental materials program in engineering. Solid state and optical communication facilities include class 10 and class 1000 clean rooms equipped for semiconductor device fabrication and crystal growth, and well-equipped labs for electronic and optical measurements.

Excellent computing facilities are readily available for research. The Electrical Engineering Department, in cooperation with the Department of Computer and Information Sciences, maintains a large number of SUN workstations for use in VLSI design, modeling and simulation, signal processing, and computer networking research. Image processing research is supported by several high-performance Silicon Graphics imaging workstations. In total, the department has two Sun-4/300 servers, twenty SUN-4 workstations, twenty-five SUN-3 workstations, three Silicon Graphics workstations, three VAX 11-780 minicomputers, a 16-processor Sequent parallel computer, and some thirty IBM PC’s. In addition, the University provides a large number of computers to support research and teaching activities including several SUN-4/490’s, an IBM RS/6000-950, an IBM 3090 supercomputer, and a large number of SUN-4 workstations.

All graduate students must participate in the research programs of the University. Publication of the results of student research is an important goal of the program. Graduate students are required to participate in one of the research seminars conducted in each of the areas of departmental concentration.

REQUIREMENTS FOR ADMISSION
Applicants are expected to have:

1) A baccalaureate degree in the field or in a closely allied field of engineering, science or mathematics.

2) Applicants are expected to have a “B” or better undergraduate record which is based on the last two years of undergraduate schooling plus the applicant’s record in advanced engineering, mathematics, and science courses.

3) A minimum of three letters of strong support from former teachers or supervisors.

4) All applicants are required to submit Graduate Record Examination Scores (GRE). The department requires a combined score of the verbal and math sections in excess of 1050 with a mathematics score in excess of 700. (Foreign student applicants with low verbal scores will be considered if the applicant’s TOEFL score is acceptable and if the applicant has a high quantitative GRE score.)

5) A minimum score of 550 (600 required for teaching assistantship) on the Test of English as a Foreign Language for students whose first language is not English and who have not received a degree from a college or university in which English is the sole language of instruction.

Admission is selective, and meeting the minimum requirements of the department does not guarantee admission. The number and quality of other applicants, as well as the availability of faculty supervision and laboratory space, affect the number of students offered admission. The department may find it appropriate to consider admitting an applicant who does not meet all of the admission requirements as stated if it is clear that other strengths identified in the applicant’s admission information outweigh the stated minimum requirements for admission.

REQUIREMENTS FOR THE DEGREES
Master’s Degree – Thesis Program
The thesis degree program requires 30 credit hours including at least 24 graduate course credits and at least 6 credits of master’s thesis. The 24 credit course program of each student must include:

- Six credits of foundation electrical engineering courses.
• Eighteen credits of advanced technical courses related to the student’s area of interest. At least three credits of these must be of 800 level electrical engineering courses and at most six credits can bear non-ELEG numbers.

All candidates in the thesis M.S.E. program will carry out original publishable research, most often in collaboration with their advisor and others in the department.

**Master’s Degree – Non-Thesis Program**

This program is intended to satisfy the continuing education needs of working engineers and recent graduates who want to broaden their electrical engineering foundation before starting an industrial career. Financial aid is usually not available to students taking this program. The non-thesis master’s program requires 30 credit hours of course work meeting the following requirements:

• Six credits of foundation electrical engineering courses.
• 24 credits of advanced technical courses related to the student’s area of interest. At least six credits of these must be of 800 level electrical engineering courses and at most six credits can bear non-ELEG numbers.

**Ph.D. Degree**

Candidates for the Ph.D. degree must complete the course requirements for the thesis master’s degree as outlined above, or have been awarded a master’s degree in electrical engineering. In addition, a Ph.D. candidate must complete a course program in his/her area of specialization. All Ph.D. candidates in residence must participate in the one credit research seminar in their area of concentration and must also be enrolled in at least one advanced technical course, acceptable to their advisor each regular term, regardless of where they are in their program. For the Ph.D., the University requires one continuous academic year of full-time study as a residency requirement. The Ph.D. is a research degree. Each Ph.D. candidate must carry out a program of substantial original research on a topic agreed upon by his/her committee and the departmental Graduate Committee and prepare a written dissertation.

**RESEARCH FACILITIES**

Since the primary goal of the Department is to foster the development of Materials Science in general at Delaware, we are committed to acquiring, operating and maintaining a wide range of experimental equipment. To this end, and in addition to the usual laboratory equipment, the Department operates an Electron Microscope Laboratory, a Vibrational (Raman, IR) Spectroscopy Laboratory, and X-ray Laboratory as facilities which are available to researchers who may need them in the course of their work. A wide range of other analytical, computing, synthesis, and fabrication facilities are also available within the College of Engineering.

**FINANCIAL AID**

Please refer to the chapter “Graduate Fellowships and Assistantships” in this catalog.

**REQUIREMENTS FOR ADMISSION**

Applicants are expected to have:

1. A baccalaureate degree in materials science, in an engineering discipline or in a physical science.
2. An undergraduate grade-point average in engineering, science, and mathematics courses of 3.2 on a 4.0 scale.
3. A minimum of three letters of strong support from former teachers or supervisors.
4. A minimum combined verbal and quantitative score of 1150 on the Graduate Record Examination Aptitude Test.
5. A minimum score of 550 on the Test of English as a Foreign Language for students whose first language is not English and who have not received a degree from a college or university in which English is the sole language of instruction.

Admission is selective and competitive based on the number of well qualified applicants and the limits of available faculty and facilities. Those who meet stated minimum academic requirements are not guaranteed admission.

**REQUIREMENTS FOR THE DEGREES**

For the M.S.E. degree with thesis, 24 credit hours of course work and 6 credits of thesis work on a research topic are required. Of the 24 credits of course work, 6 credits are elective and are chosen in an area of specialization after discussion with the student’s adviser.

For the M.S.E. degree without thesis, 30 credit hours of course work are required. Of the 30 credits of course work, 12 credits are elective and are chosen after discussion with the student’s adviser and will usually be related to the student’s area of interest. The non-thesis M.S.E. degree is offered specifically for off-campus, part-time students and is not available to full-time graduate students.

For the Ph.D. degree, 12 credits of coursework are required beyond those necessary for the master’s degree, including 9 credits of elective courses. The candidate must also pass a qualifying examination. Subsequently, the student conducts research on a topic with an advisor of his or her own choosing. The dissertation must be of publishable quality as judged by the senior materials faculty. Finally, the student must pass an oral examination on the dissertation.

Part-time graduate education is available through the Engineering Outreach Program.

All graduate students must maintain a cumulative grade-point index of 3.0.

**Facility of Expression in English**

It is a requirement of the Department that students demonstrate an ability to express themselves orally in a clear and professional manner. Each candidate must present his or her research results in a departmental colloquium.
MECHANICAL ENGINEERING

Telephone: (302) 831-2421

For more information, please visit the department website at http://www.me.udel.edu

The Department of Mechanical Engineering offers graduate programs leading to the degrees of Master of Science in Mechanical Engineering (M.S.M.E.), Master of Engineering: Mechanical (M.E.M.) and Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) in mechanical engineering.

The graduate programs are designed to provide a broad based extension of the undergraduate experience in combination with formal course work and research in the student's selected area of specialization. Independent research is required for both the M.S.M.E. and Ph.D. degrees. A non-thesis Master's degree is also available (M.E.M.).

RESEARCH FACILITIES AND OPPORTUNITIES

The research opportunities in the department cover essentially all fundamental fields of mechanical engineering including solid and fluid mechanics, materials, dynamics, thermodynamics and heat transfer. Applied and interdisciplinary research of the department is focused in six areas: composites, air pollution, biomechanical engineering, manufacturing, robotics and control, and engineering materials.

The department houses the majority of contributing faculty to the cross-disciplinary research programs of the Center for Composite Materials, whose work includes the mechanics and manufacture of advanced composite materials and the study of smart structures.

Air pollution research involves high performance computing techniques and advanced instrumentation to study particulate air pollutants and transport phenomena in combustion.

The Center for Biomedical Engineering Research provides a framework for interdisciplinary research in the general area of bioengineering. Topics include the generation of force and motion in the human body, orthopedic and rehabilitation engineering, and the study of pulmonary and renal fluid mechanics.

Manufacturing research is concerned with the phenomena of spreading of coatings, the behavior of fibers in concentrated suspensions, resin transfer mold filling processes in composites manufacturing, rapid tooling, and lubrication and cooling during machining.

Current research areas in robotics and control are design of novel robotic systems, coordination and control of multi-degree-of-freedom robot systems, smart materials and intelligent structures and optimization of dynamic manufacturing processes.

Materials engineering is concerned with characterization and modeling of engineering materials including polymer, metal and ceramic matrix composites, high strain rate deformation, and high strain rate testing.

The department is housed in the Robert L. Spencer Laboratory, containing modern facilities for a wide range of experimental programs. Among the facilities are a particle image velocimeter, a three-dimensional laser-Doppler velocimeter, scanning and transmission electron microscopes, high-vacuum chambers, mechanical- and ballistic-impact-testing systems, robots, rotating mirror high speed camera, high speed infrared thermographic camera, tension and compression split Hopkinson bars, 3-D printer, and extensive research-grade electronic instrumentation. A fully staffed and equipped machine shop with a CNC lathe and miller support the research programs.

A wide variety of computers and peripherals are available which are networked into the College of Engineering and University computers.

REQUIREMENTS FOR ADMISSION

The following minimum criteria will normally be applied. Satisfaction of the minimum requirements will not guarantee admission to the program:

1) A baccalaureate degree in mechanical engineering or in a closely allied field of science or mathematics.
2) An undergraduate grade point average in engineering, science and mathematics courses of at least 3.0 on a 4.0 scale.
3) A minimum of at least three letters of strong support from former teachers or supervisors.
4) A minimum combined Quantitative and Verbal score of 1050 in the Graduate Record Examination Aptitude Test.
5) A minimum score of 550 in the Test of English as a Foreign Language for students whose first language is not English. This test is not required of students who have received an undergraduate or postgraduate degree from a college or university in which English is the sole language of instruction.

Students requesting financial assistance should complete application by April 1st for Fall admission.

FINANCIAL AID

Please refer to the chapter "Graduate Fellowships and Assistantships" in this catalog.

REQUIREMENTS FOR THE DEGREES

The Master of Science in Mechanical Engineering degree requires a minimum of 24 credit hours of course work beyond the bachelor's degree and a thesis equivalent to 6 credit hours. The Master of Engineering: Mechanical requires the completion of 30 credit hours of course work beyond the bachelor's degree and does not require a thesis. Courses for both degrees include applied mathematics, engineering analysis, solid and fluid mechanics, and materials science.

The doctoral program in mechanical engineering allows considerable flexibility in setting up a plan of study that best suits the student's individual needs and interests. It is possible to pursue the Ph.D. degree directly after a bachelor's degree.