MASTER OF ENGINEERING IN CIVIL ENGINEERING

A student holding a Bachelor of Science degree in engineering or a qualified senior during the last semester may apply for admission to graduate studies to work toward the non-thesis degree of Master of Engineering (MENG), majoring in his or her particular field of engineering.

The work in the major field will include one or two written reports (not necessarily involving results of research conducted by the candidate).

Program Requirements

Program Requirements

- Student’s Advisory Committee (p. 1)
- Degree Plan (p. 1)
- Credit Requirement (p. 1)
- Transfer of Credit (p. 1)
- Limitations on the Use of Transfer, Extension and Certain Other Courses (p. 2)
- Final Examination (p. 2)

Student’s Advisory Committee

After receiving admission to graduate studies and enrolling for coursework, the student will consult with the head of the department or the department head’s designee (e.g., departmental graduate advisor) concerning appointment of the chair of his or her advisory committee. The student’s advisory committee for the Master of Engineering will consist of at least one member of the graduate faculty. Typically this member may be the departmental graduate advisor and will serve as the student’s committee chair or, the departmental graduate advisor may appoint/approve another departmental faculty member to serve as the appropriate chair of the student’s advisory committee. Depending on the departmental policy, additional committee members may be required. If additional committee members are deemed necessary by the department, the chair, in consultation with the student, will select the remainder of the advisory committee. The student will interview each prospective committee member to determine whether he or she is willing to serve. Only graduate faculty members located on Texas A&M University campuses may serve as chair of a student’s advisory committee. Other graduate faculty members located off-campus may serve as a member or co-chair (but not chair), with a member as the chair. The chair of the committee, who usually has immediate supervision of the student’s degree program, has the responsibility for calling meetings at any other time considered desirable.

If the chair of a student’s advisory committee voluntarily leaves the University and the student is near completion of the degree and wants the chair to continue to serve in this role, the student is responsible for securing a current member of the University Graduate Faculty, from the student’s academic program and located near the Texas A&M University campus site, to serve as the co-chair of the committee. The Department Head or Chair of Intercollegiate faculty may request in writing to the Associate Provost for Graduate and Professional Studies that a faculty member who is on an approved leave of absence or has voluntarily separated from the university, be allowed to continue to serve in the role of chair of a student’s advisory committee without a co-chair for us to one year. The students should be near completion of the degree.

Extensions beyond the one year period can be granted with additional approval of the Dean.

If the chair of the student’s advisory committee is unavailable for an extended time in any academic period during which the student is involved in activities relating to an internship or professional paper and is registered for courses such as 684, 692 or 693, the student may request, in writing, that the department head appoint an alternate advisory committee chair during the interim period.

The duties of the committee include responsibility for the proposed degree plan, any professional study or project, and the final examination. In addition, the committee, as a group and as individual members, is responsible for counseling the student on academic matters, and, in the case of academic deficiency, initiating recommendations to the Office of Graduate and Professional Studies.

The committee members’ approval on the degree plan indicate their willingness to accept the responsibility for guiding and directing the entire academic program of the student and for initiating all academic actions concerning the student. Although individual committee members may be replaced by petition for valid reasons, a committee cannot resign en masse.

Degree Plan

The student’s advisory committee, in consultation with the student, will develop the proposed degree plan. The degree plan must be completed and filed with the Office of Graduate and Professional Studies prior to the deadline imposed by the student’s college, and no later than 90 days prior to the date of the final oral examination. No exceptions are allowed.

This proposed degree plan should be submitted through the online Document Processing Submission System located on the website https://ogsdpss.tamu.edu.

Additional coursework may be added to the approved degree plan by petition if it is deemed necessary by the advisory committee to correct deficiencies in the student’s academic preparation. No changes can be made to the degree plan once the student’s Request for Final Examination or Request for Exemption from Final Examination is approved by the Office of Graduate and Professional Studies.

Credit Requirement

A minimum of 30 semester credit hours of approved courses is required for the Master of Engineering degree.

Transfer of Credit

A student who has earned 12 hours of graduate credit in residence at Texas A&M University may be authorized to transfer courses in excess of the limits prescribed above upon the advice of the advisory committee and with the approval of the Office of Graduate and Professional Studies. Courses taken in residence at an accredited U.S. institution or approved international institution with a final grade of B or greater might be considered for transfer credit if, at the time the courses were completed, the courses would be accepted for credit toward a similar degree for a student in degree-seeking status at the host institution. Otherwise, the limitations stated in the preceding section apply. Coursework in which no formal grades are given or in which grades other than letter grades (A or B) are earned (for example, CR, P, S, U, H, etc.) is not accepted for transfer credit. Courses appearing on the degree plan with grades of D, F or U may not be absolved by transfer work. Credit for thesis research or the equivalent is not transferable. Credit for coursework submitted for
transfer from any college or university must be shown in semester credit
hours or equated to semester credit hours. An official transcript from
the university at which the transfer coursework was taken must be sent
directly to the Office of Admissions.

Courses used toward a degree at another institution may not be applied
for graduate credit. If the course to be transferred was taken prior to
the conferral of a degree at the transfer institution, a letter from the
registrar at that institution stating that the course was not applied for
credit toward the degree must be submitted to the Office of Graduate and
Professional Studies.

Grades for courses completed at other institutions are not included in
computing the GPR.

Limitations on the Use of Transfer, Extension and Certain Other Courses

Some departments may have more restrictive requirements for transfer
work. If otherwise acceptable, certain courses may be used toward
meeting credit-hour requirements for the master’s degree under the
following limitations.

1. The maximum number of credit hours which may be considered for
transfer credit is the greater of 12 hours or one-third (1/3) of the total
hours of a degree plan. The following restrictions apply:
   • Graduate or upper-level undergraduate courses taken in residence
     at an accredited U.S. institution, or approved international
     institution with a final grade of B or greater will be considered
     for transfer credit if, at the time the courses were completed, the
     student was in degree-seeking status at Texas A&M University,
     or the student was in degree-seeking status at the institution
     at which the courses were taken; and if the courses would be
     accepted for credit toward a similar degree for a student in
     degree-seeking status at the host institution.
   • Courses previously used for another degree are not acceptable for
     degree plan credit.

2. The maximum number of credit hours taken in post-baccalaureate
non-degree (G6) classification at Texas A&M University which may be
considered for application to the degree plan is 12.

3. A zero credit 684 or 685 course is only allowed for non-thesis
option master’s students. A zero credit 681 course can be used for
either thesis or non-thesis option master’s students. Other courses,
including 691 research hours, are not eligible for zero credit.

4. Any combination of 684, 685, 690 and 695 may not exceed 25 percent
of the total credit hour requirement shown on the individual degree
plan:
   • A maximum of 6 hours of 684 (Professional Internship) and/or
   • A maximum of 6 hours of 685 (Directed Studies), and
   • Up to 3 hours of 690 (Theory of Research), and
   • Up to 3 hours of 695 (Frontiers in Research).

5. A maximum of 2 hours of Seminar (681).

6. A maximum of 9 hours of advanced undergraduate courses (300- or
400-level).

7. For graduate courses of three weeks’ duration or less, taken at other
institutions, up to 1 hour of credit may be obtained for each five-day
week of coursework. Each week of coursework must include at least
15 contact hours.

8. No credit hours of 691 (Research) may be used.

9. Continuing education courses may not be used for graduate credit.

10. Extension courses are not acceptable for credit.

11. For non-distance degree programs, no more than 50 percent of the
credit hours required for the program may be completed through
distance education courses.

12. To receive a graduate degree from Texas A&M University, students
must earn one-third or more of the credits through the institution’s
own direct instruction. This limitation also applies to joint degree
programs.

Exceptions will be permitted only in unusual cases and when petitioned
by the student’s advisory committee and approved by the Office of
Graduate and Professional Studies.

Final Examination

A final comprehensive examination is not required for the MEng Civil
Engineering non-thesis option.

Additional Requirements

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- Residence (p. 2)
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- Foreign Languages (p. 2)
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Residence

No residence requirement exists; however, attention is directed to the
rules regarding Limitations on the Use of Transfer, Extension and Certain
Other Courses.

See Residence Requirements (http://catalog.tamu.edu/graduate/
academic-expectations-general-degree-requirements/degree-
requirements/).

Time Limit

All degree requirements must be completed within a period of seven
consecutive years for the degree to be granted. A course will be
considered valid until seven years after the end of the semester in which
it is taken. Graduate credit for coursework which is more than seven
calendar years old at the time of the final examination (oral or written)
may not be used to satisfy degree requirements.

Foreign Languages

No specific language requirement exists for the Master of Engineering
degree.

Internship or Practicum

The final examination is not to be administered until all other
requirements for the degree, including any internship, have been
substantially completed.

Application for Degree

For information on applying for your degree, please visit the Graduation
(http://catalog.tamu.edu/graduate/academic-expectations-general-
degree-requirements/degree-requirements/#graduation) section.