General Information

An engineering degree provides an excellent background for seeking solutions to many of the problems in the development and management of technology related to urban demands, the enhancement of our living environment, and the effective utilization of our nonrenewable resources. Engineering curricula include both general and theoretical course work designed to enable graduates to meet the challenges of a technology-oriented society. In addition to classic disciplines of engineering, students may also delve into the fundamentals of sustainability, nanotechnology, microscopic simulation, and other state-of-the-art subjects. College curricula encourage the independent study of novel engineering processes. Particular emphasis is placed on problems related to energy and the preservation and enhancement of the environment.

Engineering has been a major program of study at this institution since its founding in 1907. UH Mānoa has granted more than 6,500 engineering degrees, and many of the professional engineers practicing in industries, consulting firms, and governmental agencies throughout the state are graduates of UH Mānoa.

Accreditation

The undergraduate curricula in civil, electrical, and mechanical engineering are accredited by the Engineering Accreditation Commission of the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology.

Degrees and Certificates

Bachelor’s Degrees: BS in civil engineering, BS in electrical engineering, BS in mechanical engineering

Master’s Degrees: MS in civil engineering, MS in electrical engineering, MS in mechanical engineering, Graduate Certificate in telecommunications and entrepreneurship

Doctoral Degrees: PhD in civil engineering, PhD in electrical engineering, PhD in mechanical engineering

For information on programs in bioengineering, please refer to the “College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources” section of the Catalog. For information on programs in ocean engineering, please refer to the “School of Ocean and Earth Science and Technology” section of the Catalog.

Advising

Student Services
Holmes 250
2540 Dole Street
Honolulu, HI 96822
Tel: (808) 956-8404

All students in the College of Engineering must receive approval of their program of courses from their advisors prior to registration each semester.

Updated curriculum check sheets summarizing all of the requirements for each undergraduate curriculum are available in the College’s Student Academic Services Office.

Undergraduate engineering students who are unusually well-qualified academically are encouraged to participate in the UH Mānoa Honors Programs (see the “Special Programs” section within the Colleges of Arts and Sciences).
New Students
An orientation session for new students is held each semester before classes begin. Incoming students receive approval of their program of courses at that time. In addition, incoming students with waived course work (e.g., advanced placement examination) must still fulfill credit hour requirements and should contact the College’s Student Academic Services Office for more information.

Undergraduate Programs
Each of the curricula offered by the College of Engineering provides a fundamental science-oriented university education with coverage of communications, the humanities, and social sciences, as well as the basic physical sciences of mathematics, physics, and chemistry. The curricula also encompass engineering sciences common to all engineering disciplines and elective engineering courses that introduce the engineering method of design.

Admission Requirements
Requirements for admission to UH Mānoa are described in the front of the Catalog. High school students applying to the College of Engineering should have completed trigonometry, physics, and chemistry. The college also uses aptitude tests and high school records in its screening procedure.

Transfer students must have completed ENG 100, MATH 241 and 242, PHYS 170/170L, and CHEM 161/161L and 162 or their equivalents and have an overall cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher.

College Requirements
Course work in each curriculum consists of a set of required courses common to all engineering majors and additional courses to satisfy departmental requirements. The courses required of all engineering students, which also satisfies the General Education Core Requirements of UH Mānoa, consist of the following 51 credits:

- Written Communication
  - ENG 100 Composition I (3) (FW) or approved FW course

- Arts, Humanities and Literature
  - SP 251 Principles of Effective Public Speaking (3) (DA)
  - One elective (3) (DH or DL)

- Social Sciences
  - ECON 120 Introduction to Economics (3), ECON 130 Principles of Economics (3), or ECON 131 Principles of Economics (3) (DS)
  - One elective (3) (DS)

- Global and Multicultural Perspectives
  - Two approved FG electives (6)

- Symbolic
  - MATH 241 Calculus I (4) (FS)
  - MATH 242 Calculus II (4)
  - MATH 243 Calculus III (3)
  - MATH 244 Calculus IV (3)

Natural Sciences
- CHEM 161/161L, and 162 General Chemistry/Lab (3/1/3) (DP/DY)
- PHYS 170/170L General Physics I/Lab (4/1) (DP/DY)
- PHYS 272/272L General Physics II/Lab (3/1) (DP/DY)

In addition, a student must complete the Focus Graduation Requirements, 1H, 1E, 1O and 5W courses. The Hawaiian or Second Language is not required for the engineering degree.

BS Degree Requirements
The undergraduate curricula are designed to be completed in eight semesters.
To receive a bachelor of science degree in engineering, a student must adhere to the following:
1. Complete the course work for one of the engineering curricula, which also satisfies all UH Mānoa requirements;
2. Maintain a minimum GPA of 2.0 for all registered credit hours; and
3. Maintain a minimum GPA of 2.0 for all upper division courses (numbered 300-499) in mathematics, science, and engineering.

Major Requirements
See appropriate departments for specific major requirements leading to a bachelor’s degree.

Other Requirements
Undergraduate engineering students are subject to the policies of academic probation, suspension, and dismissal of UH Mānoa as specified in the Catalog. In addition, engineering students with either a cumulative GPA of less than 2.0 or an upper division GPA of less than 2.0 may be placed on academic probation. The student must maintain a semester GPA of 2.0 or higher for each probationary semester. Failure to meet any of the above conditions may result in suspension or dismissal. Engineering undergraduates may also be suspended when they fail to achieve a cumulative GPA of at least 1.7 after attempting 24 credit hours.

Students who are suspended must reapply for admission to the Office of Admissions and Records within specified deadlines. Students who do not take courses after being suspended for the required one semester are eligible to be readmitted to the College of the Engineering. Students who attend another institution (including other UH system campuses) will be considered “transfer” students when reapplying to UH Mānoa and must meet the transfer requirements of the College of Engineering.

Graduate Programs
See appropriate department for specific description and requirements.

Student Organizations
Student chapters of professional engineering societies are active at the college, and all students are encouraged to participate. Honorary societies are represented in all three departments.
Honors and Awards

The College of Engineering and its departments provide scholarships and awards to exceptional students. For a list of these scholarships, see the “Tuition, Fees, and Financial Aid” section of this Catalog.

Civil and Environmental Engineering

Holmes 383
2540 Dole Street
Honolulu, HI 96822
Tel: (808) 956-7550
Fax: (808) 956-5014
Web: www.cee.hawaii.edu

Faculty

*H. R. Riggs, PhD (Chair)—structural engineering, numerical methods
*A. R. Archilla, PhD—transportation and infrastructure systems engineering
*R. W. Babcock, PhD—environmental engineering
*H. Brandes, PhD—geotechnical engineering
*W. F. Chen, PhD—structural engineering
*E. D. H. Cheng, PhD—hydrology, hydraulics, wind engineering
*R. A. Grace, PhD—offshore engineering
*A. S. Kim, PhD—environmental engineering, computer simulations
*C. C. K. Liu, PhD—hydrology, environmental and systems engineering
*D. Ma, PhD—structures
*P. G. Nicholson, PhD—geotechnical engineering
*P. Ooi, PhD—geotechnical engineering
*C. S. Papacostas, PhD—transportation, systems engineering
*S. H. Park, PhD—structures, computational mechanics
*P. D. Prevedouros, PhD—transportation engineering
*C. Ray, PhD—groundwater hydrology, water quality environmental engineering
*I. N. Robertson, PhD—structures, earthquake engineering
*A. Singh, PhD—construction management
*M. H. Teng, PhD—hydrodynamics, coastal and hydraulic engineering

Adjunct Faculty

A. A. Yee, MS—structural engineering
G. Fischer, PhD—structural engineering

Cooperating Graduate Faculty

A. I. El-Kadi, PhD—groundwater hydrology
R. C. Ertekin, PhD—naval architecture, offshore engineering, hydrodynamics, computational methods
N. K. Saxena, PhD—surveying, marine geodesy
W.-W. W. Su, PhD—biochemical engineering, plant cell culture, molecular biotechnology
P.-Y. Yang, PhD—bioprocess technology, wastewater engineering

Degrees Offered: BS in civil engineering, MS in civil engineering, PhD in civil engineering

The Academic Program

Civil engineering is concerned with the activities of people and the environment. The civil engineer conceives, plans, designs, constructs, operates, and maintains the physical works necessary for the environmental needs of people. Students who enter the program today can look forward to one of the most rewarding careers open to men and women—rewarding in personal fulfillment, enduring service to humankind, and financial reward. The curriculum is uniquely designed to meet the demands of business, industry, and government.

Undergraduate Study

Bachelor’s Degree

To fulfill the institutional mission and the needs of our constituencies, the undergraduate program has a set of four specific Program Educational Objectives. In particular, the department will produce graduates who in the first few years following graduation will:

1. practice civil engineering in one or more of the following areas: construction, environmental, geotechnical, structural, transportation;
2. accept responsibility as engineers in the private and public sectors in Hawai’i and elsewhere;
3. possess technical and non-technical knowledge/skills that will contribute to personal and employer success; and
4. practice civil engineering according to accepted professional ethical standards.

The BS degree requires completion of at least 125 credit hours of course work, the equivalent of four years of full-time work. These requirements include 65 credit hours of civil and environmental engineering courses from the following areas: applied mechanics, structural analysis and design, hydraulics, surveying, transportation, construction, soil mechanics, hydrology, water resources, and environmental engineering. There are additional required courses in mathematics, physics, and chemistry, as well as courses required by UH Mānoa in humanities and social sciences. The curriculum provides a broad-based background of fundamentals with coverage of the humanities and social sciences, basic sciences, mathematics, and the engineering design method. Course enrollment for all CEE majors is subject to the approval of an advisor. The requirements are described below and reflected on the check sheet and the list of course prerequisites.

All electives are subject to the approval of a faculty advisor.

College Requirements

Students must complete the College Requirement courses for engineering (see “Undergraduate Programs” within the College of Engineering).
Departmental Requirements

Students must complete the following courses as well as one course in engineering math and four technical electives, (specific options are provided on the curriculum check sheet):

- CEE 270 Applied Mechanics I (3)
- CEE 271 Applied Mechanics II (3)
- CEE 305 Applied Probability and Statistics (3)
- CEE 320 Fluid Mechanics Fundamentals (4)
- CEE 330 Environmental Engineering (4)
- CEE 355 Geotechnical Engineering I (4)
- CEE 361 Fundamentals of Transportation (3)
- CEE 370/370L Mechanics of Materials and Lab (3/1)
- CEE 375 Construction Materials (3)
- CEE 381 Structural Analysis (3)
- CEE 421 Engineering Hydraulics (3)
- CEE 455 Geotechnical Engineering II (3)
- CEE 461 Pavement Engineering (3) or CEE 462 Traffic Engineering (3) or CEE 464 Urban and Regional Transportation Planning (3)
- CEE 472 Construction Management (3) or CEE 473 Construction Equipment and Methods (3) or CEE 474 Construction Estimating and Bidding (3)
- CEE 490 Senior Design Project (3)

Other important requirements:
1. C grade or better (C-minus is not acceptable) is required for CEE 270.
2. All CEE courses must be passed in two attempts.

Specialty Tracks

Students who want to pursue an environmental or structures track should refer to the curriculum check sheet for alternative senior year course work.

Graduate Study

Master’s Degree

The department offers a graduate program leading to the MS degree in civil engineering with several areas of concentration under Plan A (thesis) or Plan B (non-thesis). Close cooperation is maintained with other departments and the Water Resources Research Center. Details and requirements of each plan may be obtained from the department office or on the web.

Applicants must present a BS in civil engineering or the equivalent and must submit either the FE (Fundamentals of Engineering) or the EIT (Engineer-in-Training) exam or the results of the GRE General Test. If so required by the Graduate Division, applicants must supply the TOEFL score.

Requirements

Both Plan A and Plan B require a minimum of 30 credit hours, exclusive of seminars. Plan A includes 9 credit hours of thesis research and a minimum of 12 credit hours in graduate civil and environmental engineering courses, exclusive of thesis, seminar, and directed reading. Plan B includes a minimum of 18 credit hours of graduate civil and environmental engineering courses, exclusive of seminar and directed reading, as well as a technical report. Both plans require a minimum of 1 credit of seminar.

Doctoral Degree

Applicants to the PhD program must have fulfilled the requirements for the MS in civil engineering at the UH or its equivalent. Those who have earned the MS at universities other than UH Mânoa must furnish the results of the GRE General Test. All applicants must furnish official transcripts of all previous undergraduate and graduate studies and three letters of reference clearly indicating that they are capable of completing a rigorous PhD program. Applicants must also supply a letter explaining in detail their career goals, specific area of concentration, work experience, and reasons for applying to the program. If so required by the Graduate Division, applicants must supply the TOEFL score.

Requirements

Candidates for a PhD are required to pass a qualifying examination consisting of oral and written components. The examination will be confined to basic topics in civil engineering. One purpose of the qualifying examination is to identify possible deficiencies in the student’s background with a view toward remedial measures. In addition, the examination serves as a means of assessing the student’s potential for doctoral studies.

Students attain the status of doctoral candidate only after passing the qualifying examination and submitting a dissertation proposal that receives the unanimous approval of the dissertation committee.

To earn a PhD in civil engineering, a student must satisfactorily complete a minimum of 50 credit hours in course work beyond the BS and a minimum of 1 credit hour in civil and environmental engineering graduate seminar as a PhD student. Students must also complete and successfully defend a satisfactory doctoral dissertation. Based on a written recommendation of the student’s dissertation committee and with the approval of the chair of graduate studies, students entering the PhD program may be granted an equivalence of up to 30 credit hours earned as part of the student’s master’s program. The 30-credit-hour equivalents may include up to 9 credit hours for the previous MS thesis work but exclude graduate seminar credit hours taken as part of the MS program.

The courses that a student undertakes to fulfill the PhD-credit-hour requirements must be approved by the student’s dissertation committee. At least 27 credit hours must be from graduate-level civil engineering courses. The remaining courses may include graduate and 400-level courses offered by the civil and environmental engineering department or other appropriate departments of UH Mânoa.

Comprehensive Examination

Every PhD student must pass a comprehensive examination. The purpose of this examination is to ascertain the student’s advanced knowledge in the chosen specialty. Examinations are given when, in the judgment of the dissertation committee, the student has had sufficient preparation, but not sooner than six calendar months after the student has passed the qualifying examination.

Students pass the examination if no more than one committee member opposes such an action. Students who
fail may, at the discretion of the graduate faculty, repeat the test once at least six months later. Students who fail the examination a second time are dropped from the program.

**Dissertation Defense**

PhD candidates are required to take a final oral examination in defense of their dissertation. The examination is conducted by the candidate’s dissertation committee. Students pass upon the favorable recommendation of the majority of the committee.

**Electrical Engineering**

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E-mail: eeoffice@spectra.eng.edu  
Web: www-ee.eng.hawaii.edu

**Faculty**

* G. H. Sasaki, PhD (Chair)—computer communication networks, performance evaluation, optimization algorithms
* G. Arslan, PhD—distributed systems, Markov decision problems, nonlinear and robust control, game theory, learning and adaptive control
* O. Boric-Lubecke, PhD—RFIC’s for wireless communications, millimeter-wave and microwave devices, circuits and systems and biomedical applications
* T. P. Dobry, PhD—digital systems, computers
* Y. Dong, PhD—computer networks and network security, distributed systems, computer architecture
* M. Fossorier, PhD—coding theory, communication algorithms, magnetic recording
* N. T. Gaarder, PhD—communication theory, information theory
* A. Hac, PhD—software systems, telecommunication networks
* J. W. Holm-Kennedy, PhD—applied solid-state physics, solid-state devices, IC technology
* A. Host-Madsen, PhD—communications signal processing, CDMA communications, multi-user communications, equalization
* A. Kuh, PhD—neural networks, communications
* V. M. Lubecke, PhD—MEMS, microwave/terahertz radio, remote sensing technology and biomedical applications
* V. Malhotra, PhD—physical electronics, solid-state devices
* L. Macchiariulo, PhD—computer aided design for very large scale integrated circuits, physical design, throughput optimization, on chip interconnect analysis and design
* T. R. Reed, PhD—signal and image processing, computer vision
* W. A. Shiroma, PhD—electromagnetic theory, microwaves
* V. L. Syrmos, PhD—linear system theory, control theory
* J. R. Yee, PhD—computer communications networks, network optimization, stochastic models
* D. Y. Y. Yun, PhD—networked computing, intelligent systems, 3D imaging, tele-health, resource planning

**Cooperating Graduate Faculty**

M. Iskander, PhD—computational electromagnetics, antennas and wireless communications  
E. L. Miller, PhD—electronic materials research for photovoltaics, sensors, hydrogen-production and fuel cells  
W. W. Peterson, PhD—computer software  
R. Rocheleau, PhD—photovoltaics, sensors, thin films  
S. K. Sharma, PhD—thin films, amorphous materials and ceramics, instrumentation development

**Degrees Offered:** BS in electrical engineering, MS in electrical engineering, PhD in electrical engineering

**Mission Statement**

The mission of the Department of Electrical Engineering (EE) is to provide quality education, research and service to our constituents. Major goals of the department are:

1. Educate a new generation of electrical engineers to meet the challenges of the future;
2. Create, develop, and disseminate new knowledge; and
3. Promote a sense of scholarship, leadership, and service among our graduates.

**Education Objectives**

A. The students shall have technical competence to solve electrical engineering problems through the application of basic science, mathematics, and engineering. They will have the fundamental knowledge and skills to apply modern engineering techniques and tools to identify, formulate, and solve electrical engineering problems with realistic constraints. They will have the ability to apply design methods effectively, and possess an understanding of the relationship between theory and practice. The students shall also acquire skills of testing, data collection, interpretation and verification for the purpose of validation by experiments.

B. They will have the basic skills to communicate effectively and develop the ability to function as members of multidisciplinary teams.

C. Graduates should provide technical leadership, with an understanding of the broader ethical and societal impact of technological developments and the importance of diversity in the workplace.

D. Students shall develop lifelong learning skills. They will be critical thinkers and independent learners with the ability to adapt to changing engineering technology.

E. The program will contribute to the development of diversity within the profession through the education of women, indigenous and other minority students.

**Outcomes**

All graduates of the electrical engineering program are expected to have:

1. Knowledge of probability and statistics, including examples relevant to electrical engineering (program criteria). Knowledge of mathematics through differential and integral calculus, basic sciences, and engineering sciences
necessary to analyze and design complex devices and systems containing hardware and software. Knowledge of advanced mathematics, including differential equations (program criteria).

2. Demonstrated an ability to design and conduct experiments, as well as to interpret data.
3. Demonstrated an ability to design a system or component that meets a specified need.
4. Demonstrated an ability to function in a multi-disciplinary team.
5. Demonstrated an ability to identify, formulate and solve electrical engineering problems.
6. Understanding of professional and ethical responsibility.
7. Demonstrated an ability to communicate effectively (written and oral).
8. Demonstrated an understanding of the impact of engineering solutions in a global and societal context.
10. Demonstrated a knowledge of contemporary issues.
11. Demonstrated an ability to use the techniques, skills, and modern tools necessary for engineering practice.

The Academic Program

Electrical engineering (EE) is concerned with the basic forms of energy that run our world and the exciting fields of electronics and information technology. Electronics continue to bring forth new breakthroughs in solid-state technology (transistors, integrated circuits, VLSI chips, microprocessors, lasers, optical fibers), which in turn fuel the unprecedented revolution in telecommunications (World Wide Web, wireless, and digital signal processing), computers (neural network, distributed, and intelligent), instrumentation (biomedical, intelligent), and many other areas.

The undergraduate and graduate programs focus on three major areas: computers (architecture, algorithms, networking, hardware and software), electro-physics (solid-state devices and sensors, analog and digital circuit design, and microwaves and photonics) and systems (telecommunications, automatic controls, and signal processing).

The culmination of the undergraduate program is the capstone design project; this is a significant project that integrates the design content of previous courses while satisfying realistic constraints.

Undergraduate Study

Design Experience Statement

A key aspect of electrical engineering education is a significant and meaningful design experience that is integrated throughout the curriculum. The design experience is necessary to prepare students in becoming professionals.

At UH Mânoa, the electrical engineering curriculum assigns design credits to each course. A student graduating in electrical engineering is required to have a minimum of sixteen design credits with three design credits coming from EE 496, the Capstone Design Project. Students can check their progress in obtaining design credits by checking with their advisor and looking at design credits and the Curriculum Flow Chart. EE 496 places significant design responsibility on the students as they must plan and execute a major design problem. In order to prepare students for EE 496, students must take at least one credit of EE 296, Sophomore Project course and two credits of EE 396, Junior Project course. The project courses help students in getting design experience outside the classroom as they learn engineering concepts in the classroom. The project courses and capstone project give students opportunities to work in teams, develop leadership skills, and work on open ended design projects similar to industrial experience.

Bachelor's Degree

The BS degree program requires a minimum of 124 credit hours. The departmental requirements consist of 47 credit hours of basic courses and 24 credit hours of technical electives. All electives are subject to the approval of an advisor. Enrollment in EE courses requires a grade of C (not C-) or better in all prerequisite courses.

College Requirements

Students must complete the College Requirement courses for engineering (see "Undergraduate Programs" within the College of Engineering).

Departmental Requirements

Students must complete a total of 71 credit hours including the following:
- EE 160 Programming for Engineers (4)
- EE 211 Basic Circuit Analysis I (4)
- EE 213 Basic Circuit Analysis II (4)
- EE 260 Introduction to Digital Design (4)
- EE 315 Signal and Systems Analysis (3)
- EE 323/323L Microelectronic Circuits I/Lab (3/1)
- EE 324 Physical Electronics (3)
- EE 342 EE Probability and Statistics (3)
- EE 371 Engineering Electromagnetics I (3)
- PHYS 274 General Physics III (3)
- Engineering Breadth* (3)
- MATH 307 Linear Algebra and Differential Equations (3)
- Projects (6)
- Technical electives (24)

* Engineering Breadth is satisfied by CEE 270 Applied Mechanics I, ME 311 Thermodynamics, or a CEE, ME, OE, or BE course that is at the 300 level or higher. It may also be satisfied by a physical or biological science course that is at the 300 level or higher and approved by the department’s undergraduate curriculum committee.

Projects

There is a requirement of EE 296, EE 396, and EE 496, which is the capstone design experience. A minimum of, respectively, 1, 2, and 3 credits are required of each.

Technical Electives

There is a requirement of a minimum of 24 credits of technical electives. A minimum of 17 credits is in one of the major tracks (computers, electro-physics, systems), which includes all courses in Group I and the remaining courses from Group II.
A minimum of 7 additional credits is required from the following list, of which 3 credits must be from outside the major track, and 1 credit must be a laboratory.

**Computers Track:**
- Group I: EE 361/361L, 366, 367/367L
- Group II: EE 344, 449, 461, 467, 468, 469

**Electro-Physics Track:**
- Group I: EE 326/326L, 327, 372/372L
- Group II: EE 328/328L, 422/422L, 423, 425, 426, 427, 473, 474, 475, 477

**Systems Track:**
- Group I: EE 341/341L, 351/351L, 415
- Group II: EE 344, 442, 446, 449, 452, 453

A student, along with a faculty member, may propose an alternate track. This alternate track must be (1) equivalent in rigor and breadth to the existing tracks, (2) endorsed by another faculty member, and (3) approved by the department’s undergraduate curriculum committee.

**Graduate Study**

**Master’s Degree**

Intended candidates for the MS degree in electrical engineering must present the BS degree in electrical engineering or the equivalent. Plan A (thesis) and Plan B (non-thesis) options are offered. However Plan B is only for Intern Plus Program students.

**Requirements**

**Plan A (thesis):** This program requires 30 credit hours in approved technical courses including one graduate seminar in electrical engineering or a related field. This plan requires 9 credit hours in EE 700 Thesis Research and a minimum of 12 credit hours in 600-level courses in a major track (computers, electro-physics, or systems), 6 credit hours in 400- or higher-level courses outside of the major track (engineering, mathematics, science), and 3 credit hours of electives in 400- and higher-level courses. A maximum of 6 credit hours in 400 level courses is allowed.

**Plan B (non-thesis):** A minimum of 30-credit hours is required with a grade of B or better (not B-minus). Students will be required to take 12 credits (600 level and above) in their major track, 6 credits (400 level and above) outside the major track, and 6 credits (600 level and above) as electives. A maximum of 6 credits will be counted towards EE 699. As part of the curriculum, a 600 graduate level seminar course in the major track or related field must be taken. Plan B must be applied for and approved of prior to admission into the program. This is done through the Intern Plus Program of the department and requires industry sponsorship. The final exam includes a research report and a seminar presentation.

**Doctoral Degree**

Intended candidates for the PhD degree in electrical engineering must present the BS degree in electrical engineering or its equivalent. Applicants are encouraged to submit the GRE General Test scores. PhD students are required to achieve a good, broad understanding of electrical engineering fundamentals and a thorough knowledge, up to its present state, in a chosen specialty. Students must perform research in their special field under the guidance of a faculty advisor and present a dissertation that is an original contribution to electrical engineering. The dissertation must be a scholarly presentation suitable for publication.

**Requirements**

PhD students are required to specialize in a major track (computers, electro-physics, or systems) and show competence in a minor track. In addition to the MS course credit requirements, 9 credit hours of 600-level course work in the major track and 3 credit hours of 600-level course work in a minor track are required. All PhD students must also participate in a substantial teaching project and demonstrate competence in teaching.

Intended candidates for the PhD degree must take a qualifying examination covering electrical engineering fundamentals. Students must demonstrate superior understanding of these fundamentals and the potential to do research. The qualifying examination will be offered about one month after registration every fall and spring semester. It must be passed during a student’s first three semesters in the PhD program. Students who do not pass after two attempts will be dropped from the PhD program.

After passing the qualifying examination, students are advanced to candidacy and must have a doctoral committee appointed within two semesters. The committee should consist of at least five members, one of whom must be in a department other than electrical engineering. After appointment of the committee, students should work out a tentative program of courses that meets with the committee’s approval.

**Comprehensive Examination**

When students have completed most of their course work, they must pass a comprehensive examination before research is undertaken. This consists of an oral examination given by the entire committee; it may be preceded, at the discretion
of individual committee members, by an additional oral or written examination. Students who fail may repeat the examination only once, no sooner than three months after the first examination. Once students pass the comprehensive examination, they may proceed with dissertation research.

**Final Examination**
At the conclusion of the research, students write a dissertation that must be approved by a majority of the doctoral committee. Finally, students must pass another oral examination covering primarily the dissertation.

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**Mechanical Engineering**

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Tel: (808) 956-7167  
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E-Mail: meoffice@eng.hawaii.edu  
Web: www.eng.hawaii.edu/ME/

**Faculty**

* R. H. Knapp, PhD (Interim Chair)—solid mechanics, design  
* J. S. Allen, PhD—acoustics, bubblology, biomedical applications  
* P. J. Berkelman, PhD—haptic interfaces, surgical robotics, magnetic levitation  
A. Y. Cao, PhD—nanotechnology and nanomaterials  
* B. H. Chao, PhD—combustion, perturbation methods  
* C. F. M. Coimbra, PhD—applied math in multiphase flows, heat and mass transfer

* A. K. daSilva, PhD—thermo-optimization from macro to nano scales
* M. N. M. Ghasemi Nejad, PhD—thermomechanics, composite materials processing
* L. H. Hihara, PhD—materials, corrosion, mechanical behavior of materials
* K. M. Htun, PhD—properties of materials, materials processing
* M. Kobayashi, PhD—computational fluid dynamics, aeroacoustics, dynamical systems
* L. H. Laiho, PhD—design, biomedical imaging, optical biopsy, spectroscopy, tissue engineering
* B. E. Liebert, PhD—materials, corrosion, failure analysis
* W. Qu, PhD—boiling heat transfer, microscale heat transfer, heat sinks
A. Sanyal, PhD—controls, aeronautics

**Adjunct Faculty**

* J. Yuh, PhD—control, robotics, design

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**Degrees Offered:** BS in mechanical engineering, MS in mechanical engineering, PhD in mechanical engineering

**Mission Statement**

The overriding objective of the Department of Mechanical Engineering at UH Mānoa is to prepare students for successful professional careers and lifelong learning and to instill in them principles of ethical behavior that will lead to their being concerned, good citizens of their community and the world. Achievement of this overriding objective requires the achievement of the following three major “component objectives”:

**Objectives**

- To teach our students the basic laws of nature that are relevant to the fields of mechanical engineering, and to closely related fields, and how to use those laws to formulate and solve engineering problems using applicable analytical, computational, and experimental techniques;
- To develop in our students the skills pertinent to the design process, to think creatively, to communicate effectively, and to work collaboratively;
- To instill in our students an understanding and acceptance of their professional and ethical responsibilities, a respect for diversity of opinion and culture, and a concern for a healthy and aesthetic environment.

**Outcomes**

In order to achieve the mission statement, ME students are educated to effectively develop:

a) an ability to apply knowledge of mathematics, science, and engineering  
b) an ability to design and conduct experiments, analyze and interpret data  
c) an ability to design a system, component, or process to meet desired needs  
d) an ability to solve multidisciplinary problems  
e) an ability to identify, formulate and solve engineering problems  
f) an understanding of professional and ethical responsibility  
g) an ability to communicate effectively  
h) the broad education necessary to understand the impact of engineering solutions in a social context  
i) a sound basis and motivation to engage in life-long learning  
j) a knowledge of contemporary issues  
k) an ability to use the techniques, skills and modern engineering tools necessary for engineering practice  
l) an understanding and concern for the need of the State of Hawai‘i to expand and diversify its economic and technological base  
m) valuable life-long friendships with classmates and a sense of pride in, and a desire to support their Alma Mater after graduation.
The Academic Program

Mechanical engineering (ME) is concerned with the design of all types of machines, conversion of energy from one form to another, instrumentation and control of all types of physical and chemical processes, the manufacturing and utilization of engineering materials, and control of human and machine environments. Mechanical engineers conceive, plan, design, and direct the manufacture, distribution, and operation of a wide variety of devices, machines, instruments, materials, and systems used for energy conversion, heat and mass transfer, biomedical applications, environmental control, control of human and machine environment, physical and chemical process control, materials processing, transportation, and manufacture of consumer products, materials handling, and measurements. Mechanical engineers also employ Computer Aided Design (CAD), Computer Aided Manufacturing (CAM), Computer Aided Testing (CAT), Computational Fluid Dynamics (CFD), computer modeling and simulations, novel materials, robotics, and mechatronics (integration of computers with electromechanical systems) in their day-to-day activities. Mechanical engineers find opportunities for employment in every branch of industry and in a variety of government agencies. Work may involve research, development, design, analysis, manufacture, testing, marketing, or management.

Undergraduate Study

Bachelor’s Degree

The BS degree requires completion of at least 124 credit hours of course work. The curriculum consists of a group of required courses chosen to provide the students with the basic tools for the professional practice of mechanical engineering and to assist students in developing a sense of responsibility as professionals. The objectives of the lower division curriculum are to build a foundation in the basic sciences and mathematics, provide an introduction to engineering design and professional ethics, develop communications and computer programming skills, and acquire an appreciation for the humanities and social sciences. The objectives of the upper division program are to provide a sound foundation in the engineering sciences; build on that foundation for applications in the areas of energy conversion, mechanical systems and control, experimentation, and manufacturing; and encourage creativity culminating in a “capstone” design experience. To provide sufficient flexibility, technical elective courses enable students to acquire additional competence in areas compatible with their career objectives.

All electives are subject to the approval of an advisor.

College Requirements

Students must complete the College Requirement courses for engineering (see “Undergraduate Programs” within the College of Engineering).

Departmental Requirements

Students must complete the following coursework:
- ME 213 Introduction to Engineering Design II (3)
- CEE 270 Applied Mechanics I (3)
- CEE 271 Applied Mechanics II (3)

- MATH 190 Introduction to Programming (1)
- MATH 302 Introduction to Differential Equations I (3)
- MATH 407 Numerical Analysis (3) or PHYS 305
- Computational Physics (3) or ME 360 Computer Methods in Engineering (3)
- EE 211 Basic Circuit Analysis I (4)
- ME 311 Thermodynamics (3)
- ME 312 Applied Thermodynamics (3)
- ME 322 Mechanics of Fluids (3)
- ME 331 Materials Science and Engineering (3)
- ME 341/342 Manufacturing Processes/Lab (3/1)
- ME 371 Mechanics of Solids (3)
- ME 372 Component Design (3)
- ME 373 Experimental Stress Analysis (2)
- ME 374 Kinematics/Dynamics Machinery (3)
- ME 375 Dynamics of Machines and Systems (3)
- ME 402 Dynamics Systems Laboratory (2)
- ME 422 Heat Transfer (3)
- ME 480 Thermofluid Measurements and Design (3)
- ME 481 Design Project I (3)
- ME 482 Design Project II (3)
- Technical electives (6). Two courses that can be selected from ME 400-level technical electives (3), CEE 405 and another that can be replaced with a non-ME course (3) (with approval from chair), and a second that can be replaced with an ME 600-level course (3) (3.00 GPA minimum and approval from chair) or ME 499 (3).

Graduate Study

The department offers graduate programs leading to MS and PhD degrees in mechanical engineering, with areas of concentration in thermal and fluid sciences conversion (heat and mass transfer, thermodynamics, combustion, thermal environmental engineering), in materials/manufacturing (nano, composite and smart materials, mechanical properties, failure analysis, electrochemistry and corrosion, processing, marine materials), and in mechanics design, systems, and controls (robotics, structures, dynamics, control, continuum mechanics). For qualified graduate students, teaching assistantships, research assistantships, and scholarships are available.

Master’s Degree

Applicants for admission to the MS program must have completed a BS degree in engineering or its equivalent from a reputable institution.

Requirements

Students are required to follow the Plan A (thesis) program. However, under special circumstances, a petition to follow Plan B (non-thesis) may be granted by the graduate faculty. A minimum of 30 credit hours is required for graduation, including 1 credit hour for seminar. Plan A students must take 8 credit hours for thesis, 12 credit hours in the ME 600 course series, and 9 credit hours in technical electives. Technical elective courses must be at the 400 level or above, selected from engineering, mathematics, or physical sciences approved by the student’s thesis committee.
For graduation, each candidate must present an acceptable thesis (research report for Plan B) and must pass a final oral examination based on the thesis for Plan A or on the course work and the research report for Plan B.

**Doctoral Degree**

Applicants for admission to the PhD program must have completed the requirements for the MS in mechanical engineering at UH Mānoa or an equivalent degree from a reputable institution.

**Requirements**

Intended candidates for the PhD are required to pass an oral qualifying examination within the prescribed period of time. The purpose of the qualifying examination is to judge students' ability to pursue research. After passing the qualifying examination, the student will be admitted to the status of “candidate” in the PhD program. At the discretion of the qualifying examination committee, students who fail the qualifying examination will be dropped from the program.

Students must satisfactorily complete a minimum of 50 credit hours in course work beyond the BS level. They are required to select one major and one minor field of study within the following three areas of concentration: materials/manufacturing, mechanics/systems/controls, or thermal/fluid sciences.

Students who enter the program may, with the approval of the graduate chair, be credited with up to 30 credits for equivalent work to be counted toward their PhD-credit-hour requirement. Up to 8 of these 30 credit hours may be assigned for prior MS thesis work. Students who possess a second MS degree may be credited with up to 9 additional credit hours for equivalent work. Up to 6 credit hours may be assigned for course work taken as an unclassified graduate student. All courses shall be selected by students but must be approved in writing by their committees. These courses must form an integrated education plan. A minimum of 2 credit hours in ME 691 or its equivalent must be included in every PhD program.

Students who desire teaching experience may, with the approval of the PhD committee chair, request that the department chair assign them teaching responsibility for a particular undergraduate course. The department chair will determine whether students are qualified to teach the course in question, and, if they are deemed qualified, they may be given the teaching assignment. Students who teach a course or courses will be assigned a maximum of 3 credit hours toward their PhD course work requirements.

**Comprehensive Examination**

PhD candidates must pass an oral comprehensive examination to demonstrate their comprehension of the chosen areas of study relevant to their dissertation proposals and basic knowledge of courses taken in their major and minor fields. Students who fail the comprehensive examination may, at the discretion of the graduate faculty concerned, repeat it once after at least six months. Students who fail the examination a second time will be dropped from the program.

**Final Examination**

Students are required to complete a satisfactory doctoral dissertation and to pass an oral final examination based primarily upon the dissertation. The final examination will be administered by the respective PhD committee. A student passes the final examination upon the favorable recommendation of a majority of the PhD committee.