

2018-19



UNDERGRADUATE HANDBOOK



Department of
Materials Science & Engineering

THE UNIVERSITY OF UTAH

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Materials Science and Engineering Introduction

Materials Science and Engineering inter-twines numerous disciplines, including chemistry, physics and engineering. It is the one discipline within the College of Engineering that still gives the students the opportunity to study science while earning an engineering degree. Materials Scientists apply the principles of physics and chemistry to engineering problems, design and development of new materials. This application is a critical aspect of engineering, as virtually all technological advances are limited by the available materials. As a result of this challenge, Materials Scientists and Engineers are engaged in exploring the numerous ways that materials can enrich everyday lives. Without this effort to discover and develop new materials, our world of computers, wireless phones, biomedical implants, aircraft, autos, and compact disks could not exist.

Materials Science and Engineering is a broad field that encompasses many different classes of materials. These materials include polymers, ceramics, electronic materials, composites, biomaterials, nuclear materials and nanomaterials. The common thread between these materials is the need to improve their processing and properties and continue to develop new materials. Continued research is critical for the advancement and improvement of materials that underlie technologies used to develop energy sources, protect the environment, preserve the national infrastructure, cure diseases, and improve communication.

An undergraduate degree in Materials Science and Engineering can also be a springboard to other careers. For example, an engineering degree coupled with a Master's in Business Administration (MBA) provides an avenue into a career in management or the background for entrepreneurial efforts. Many graduates also choose to pursue a career in medicine or law after obtaining a B.S. in Materials Science and Engineering.

The Department of Materials Science and Engineering prides itself in being a student friendly department. As a modest sized department, class sizes are small, allowing significant interaction with faculty. Many of our faculty have won teaching and research awards. While research is thought to detract from teaching, employing undergraduates to assist in conducting research allows undergraduate students a unique opportunity. This increases one-on-one interactions with faculty and enhances the overall educational experience.

The administrative staff is committed to serving the students. They are an invaluable source of information and students are highly encouraged to make themselves known to the staff. Students are required to visit with the Academic Advisor yearly to plan their next year course of study. It is important for transfer students to make an appointment with the Academic Advisor to make sure that the University of Utah transferred their credits and to know what credits will transfer to the Materials Science and Engineering program.

Additionally, here are some helpful suggestions to heighten your educational experience and to help you be more successful in your studies:

- ✓ Manage your time wisely
- ✓ Utilize university resources such as tutors, resource centers, etc.
- ✓ Utilize your professors by asking questions
- ✓ Make out-of-class contact within the MSE Department
- ✓ **Follow the Program of Study**
- ✓ **DO NOT** try to take too many credit hours

Important Department People You Should Know

Department Chair

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Materials Science and Engineering Teaching Faculty

Faculty

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Area of Specialization

Computational Polymers

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Composites

Professor Feng Liu
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Computational
Electronic Materials

Professor Shelley Minter
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Biofuel Cells/
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Ceramics

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Ceramics

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Nanotechnology/
Electronic Materials

Distinguished Professor Anil Virkar
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Ceramics/
Electronic Materials

Professor Ling Zang
lzang@eng.utah.edu

Nanomaterials

Materials Science and Engineering Mission

The Mission of the Department of Materials Science and Engineering is to provide an environment that stimulates students learning through teaching, research, and service within the University and the community and provide tools necessary to be competitive in technical and critical thinking as well as communication skills that will contribute to the desire of life-long learning in either an academic or industrial profession.

The Program Educational Objectives of the Materials Science and Engineering Program. Graduates of Materials Science and Engineering are expected to:

- Contribute to their chosen materials science and engineering related professions and be successful in their careers.
- Continue to expand their knowledge of materials science and engineering through continued education and learning and seek opportunities for growth and leadership.
- Exercise professional responsibility in dealing with a broad range of global issues that promotes the well-being of society.

The Program Outcomes of the Materials Science and Engineering Program are:

- Students will have an ability to apply mathematical, scientific, and engineering knowledge to solve materials related problems.
- Students will have an ability to design and conduct experiments, characterize materials, and properly interpret data in order to understand materials behavior.
- Students will have an ability to select or design a materials based system, component, or process to meet desired needs within realistic constraints, such as economic, environmental, social, political, ethical, health and safety, manufacturability, and sustainability.
- Students will have an ability to function on teams whose members have interdependent and complementary skills.
- Students will have an ability to identify, formulate, and solve materials-related problems, and understand the structure, properties, processing, and performance of materials.
- Students will have an understanding of professional and ethical responsibility for engineering.
- Students will have an ability to communicate technical information effectively in oral and written form.
- Students will have an ability to acquire a broad education necessary to understand the impact of engineering solutions in a global, economic, environmental, and societal issues.
- Students will have a recognition of the need for, and an ability to engage in life-long learning.
- Students will have an awareness and understanding of current trends and materials application that affect the materials science and engineering profession.
- Students will have an ability to use the techniques, skills, and modern engineering tools necessary in materials engineering practices.

Materials Science and Engineering Undergraduate Program

Materials Science and Engineering is an integrated discipline of chemistry, physics and engineering. This is reflected in our Program of Study. The student receives a foundation of basic chemistry, physics and engineering coursework during their first two years. These courses are then woven into a Materials Science and Engineering framework.

The detailed Program of Study is shown below. This must be used as a guideline to complete the degree requirements. Most courses have prerequisites that must be completed first. Prerequisites can be found in the current University of Utah General Catalog which can be found online at: <http://catalog.utah.edu/>. Also, many courses and all MSE courses are only offered one semester per year, please plan carefully. The Program of Study is a roadmap to be used in planning your degree. It is necessary that students follow the Program of Study as closely as possible; any deviation must be arranged in advance with the Academic Advisor. Taking courses out of sequence may result in a conflict, particularly if a student is planning to continue in the combined BS/MS program.

Pre-Major Status

Overview

Any student may be admitted to pre-major status in Materials Science and Engineering (MSE) by requesting Pre-MSE on their application for admission or applying through the MSE Academic Advisor. Students must meet with the MSE Academic Advisor to gain major status. **Major status requires students to complete the following prerequisite courses with a “C” grade or better and a minimum 2.3 GPA.** Courses required for this major may only be taken twice.

Pre-Major Required Courses

MATH

- [MATH 1310](#) - Engineering Calculus I (4 credits)
- [MATH 1320](#) - Engineering Calculus II (4 credits)
- [MATH 2250](#) - Differential Equations and Linear Algebra (4 credits)
- [MATH 3140](#) - Vector Calculus and Partial Differential Equations for Engineers (4 credits)

CHEMISTRY

- [CHEM 1210](#) - General Chemistry I (4 credits)
- [CHEM 1215](#) - General Chemistry Lab I (1 credit)
- [CHEM 1220](#) - General Chemistry II (4 credits)
- [CHEM 1225](#) - General Chemistry Lab II (1 credit)
- [CHEM 2310](#) - Organic Chemistry (4 credits)

PHYSICS

- [PHYS 2210](#) - Physics for Scientists and Engineers I (4 credits)
- [PHYS 2220](#) - Physics for Scientists and Engineers II (4 credits)

ENGINEERING

- [MSE 1800](#) - Contemporary Materials Science & Engineering (1 credit)
- [MSE 1801](#) - Contemporary Materials Science & Engineering II (1 credit)
- [MSE 2010](#) - Introduction to Materials Science & Engineering (4 credits)
- [ME EN 2010](#) - Statics (3 credits)
- [MSE 3061](#) - Transport Phenomena in Materials Science & Engineering (3 credits)
- [CS 1001](#) - Engineering Computing using MATLAB (1.5 credits)

Major Status

Overview

Students admitted to major status are required to complete the following Materials Science and Engineering courses with a “C” grade or better and a minimum 2.3 GPA. Courses required for this major may only be taken twice.

Major Required Courses

- [ECE 2200](#) - Electrical & Computer Engineering for Civil Engineers (1.5 credits)
- [MSE 3010](#) - Materials Processing Laboratory (3 credits)
- [MSE 3011](#) - Structural Analysis of Materials (4 credits)
- [MSE 3032](#) - Introduction to Thermodynamics (4 credits)
- [MSE 3210](#) - Electronic Properties of Solids (3 credits)
- [MSE 3310](#) - Introduction to Ceramics (3 credits)
- [MSE 3410](#) - Introduction to Polymers (3 credits)
- [MSE 5025](#) - Mechanical Properties of Solids (3 credits)*
*Students are not allowed to count both MSE 5025 and MET E 5450 – Mechanical Metallurgy towards their MSE BS program of study. Only one of the two courses will fulfill the major requirement. MET E 5450 cannot be taken as a tech elective.
- [MSE 5034](#) - Kinetics of Solid-State Processes (3 credits)
- [MSE 5090](#) - Case Studies in Materials Design (3 credits)
- [MSE 5098](#) - Senior Design (2 credits)
- [MSE 5099](#) - Senior Thesis (2 credits)

- Section 1 - [Tech Elective](#) (3 credits)
- Section 1 - [Tech Elective](#) (3 credits)
- Section 2 - [Tech Elective](#) (3 credits)
- Section 3 - [Tech Elective](#) (3 credits)

Technical Electives

Overview

Students are required to complete four 5000 level or above courses for the technical elective requirement. Please select two courses from Section 1, one course from Section 2, and one course from Section 3. All courses are 3-4 credit hours, and must be passed with a "C" grade or better.

For an updated list of MSE Technical Electives, visit: <https://mse.utah.edu/undergraduate/bs-technical-electives/>

General Education & Bachelor Degree Requirements

Overview

Students must fulfill the University of Utah's General Education and Bachelor Degree requirements in addition to the MSE degree requirements to graduate.

General Education Requirements:

- American Institutions (AI)
- Writing (WR)
- Fine Arts (FF)
- Humanities (HF)
- Social/Behavioral Science (BF)

Bachelor's Degree Requirements:

- Diversity (DV)
- International Requirement (IR)

Graduation Requirement Worksheet

Senior Design Project

Overview

The senior design project is a capstone project that prepares the student for engineering design practice. It provides an avenue to determine if the student has an integrated understanding of the scientific and engineering principles

Required Courses

MSE 5090 Case Studies is the pre-requisite to MSE 5098 Senior Design and MSE 5099 Senior Thesis. Students must take MSE 5090 Spring Semester of their Junior Year. NO EXCEPTIONS. Students not prepared for senior level courses will not be permitted to take MSE 5090. The required senior design project consists of three courses taken during the senior year:

- [Case Studies \(MSE 5090\)](#) Spring Semester - 3 credits - Junior Year
- [Senior Design \(MSE 5098\)](#) Fall Semester – 2.5 credits – Senior Year
- [Senior Thesis \(MSE 5099\)](#) Spring Semester – 2.5 credits – Senior Year

Group Component

Senior design projects are group projects with the size of the team varying based on class size. If the student is a BS/MS student or an honors student, they should be a team leader for their respective groups. The Honors Students would need to complete an individual paper per the Honors College Requirement.

The projects will be identified by the Senior Design/Thesis Advisor who has previously obtained from all participating Materials Science and Engineering faculty, possible projects. The students will rank their interest in each project presented by the faculty based on the interest of the student (ceramics, composites, computation, electronic materials and polymers). The Senior Advisor will create the teams based on the input from the students.

Design Component

Senior design projects must be design projects and not research projects. For more information on this, please review the Senior Design Handbook.

Grading

Grading will be done by a committee, with input from the Senior Advisor and the Faculty advisor for the teams. This will be based on the participation in both MSE 5098 (faculty advisor input) and MSE 5099 (senior advisor input). Both the faculty advisors and the senior advisor will submit a report on the participation of each student on each team to the academic advisor to be used in the meeting to discuss the grades. Grades for both MSE 5098 and MSE 5099 will be assigned for each student after the meeting.

Grades will not be given for MSE 5098 and MSE 5099 until the senior design and thesis project has been completed and signed off by the faculty advisor, the senior advisor, and the department chair.

The completed senior design project is due the last day of classes of the Spring Semester the student is enrolled in MSE 5099, regardless if the student has classes to take Summer or Fall Semester. The Senior Thesis must be signed

by the faculty project advisor and ready for submission to the Senior Advisor for his signature before the due date. NO EXCEPTIONS.

Honors

Overview

In order to be an Honors Student in Materials Science and Engineering, students must have been admitted to the University of Utah Honors College at admissions time. Students who are honors student need to work with the Academic Advisor to make sure they are taking the appropriate courses for their Honors Degree. For more information on the Honors College and the honor degree requirements (<https://honors.utah.edu/>).

Honors Thesis

Honors student must complete an Honors Thesis. Honors student are required to submit a completed Honors Thesis Proposal Form to the Honors College during the Junior Year. The proposal form must be signed by the Department Honors Advisor and the Senior Thesis Advisor.

Honors students are required to present their thesis work at the annual Undergraduate Research Symposium at the University of Utah, which is in early April. The Honors College will contact the student about deadlines and requirements.

Honors students are also required to publish their thesis abstract in the University of Utah Undergraduate Research Abstract Journal. This is due mid-March of the senior year. The Honors College will contact the student for formatting guidelines and deadlines.

Honors students are strongly encouraged to publish in other peer reviewed journals based on their research interest.

The Honors Thesis is due to The Honors College on the last day of classes, which is the department deadline for all Senior Design Projects. The honors thesis must be signed by the Senior Thesis Advisor, the Departmental Honors Advisor, Senior Thesis Advisor, and the Department Chair before it is submitted to The Honors College for the Dean of The Honors College signature. Check with The Honors College for number of copies required. Materials Science and Engineering will accept The Honors College formatting of the thesis for submission to complete the department requirements.

Engineering Entrepreneurship Certificate

Overview

In partnership with the David Eccles School of Business, the Engineering Entrepreneurship Certificate offers engineering students the opportunity for hands-on innovation experience as well as a strong foundation in the business aspects of technology. The program is intended for students who want to start their own company as well as for those interested in the complexities of the dynamic business world in which we live. Our aim is to provide the educational background to thrive in small and large business environments, convey technical information in business terms and understand business viability of engineering solutions. All engineering students interested in

understanding the complexities of the dynamic business world in which we live are invited to apply. For more information, visit <https://entrepreneurship.coe.utah.edu/>.

Undergraduate Other Information & Policies

Admissions

Overview

It is the policy of the Department of Materials Science and Engineering that every student who aspires to become an engineer should have an opportunity to obtain that goal. Students admitted to the University of Utah may designate Materials Science and Engineering as a major and begin a program under the Pre-Materials Science and Engineering classification.

The first step for prospective students is to apply for admissions to the University of Utah, for more information visit: <http://admissions.utah.edu/>.

Any student may be admitted to pre-major status in Materials Science and Engineering (MSE) by requesting Pre-MSE on their application for admission or applying through the MSE Academic Advisor. Students must meet with the MSE Academic Advisor to gain major status. Major status requires students to complete the prerequisite courses listed above with a “C” grade or better and a minimum 2.3 GPA. Courses required for this major may only be taken twice.

Transfer Students

Overview

Transfer students are those who have already attended any other universities or colleges. The applications process for transfer students is different than for freshman. For information on the admission process, application requirements, deadlines, and how to transfer credit, please visit:

<http://admissions.utah.edu/apply/undergraduate/transfer/>.

The College of Engineering offers many scholarships for transfer students, please <http://www.coe.utah.edu/scholarships>.

Students with transfer credit must meet with an Academic Advisor as soon as they are admitted to the University of Utah and have declared Materials Science & Engineering as their major. In-State Transfer Credit is evaluated using the State Articulation Guide. Out-of-State Transfer Credit is evaluated on a case-by-case basis using course descriptions from the transfer school. Transfer students are required to take PHIL 3500, 3520, or 3530, regardless of their completing the General Education requirements at their transfer institution.

Graduation

Overview

The following process is recommended to help students prepare for graduation:

- During the semester before your graduation date, students should generate a degree audit on CIS in My Degree Dashboard. For more information on how to generate an audit visit, <http://mydegreedashboard.utah.edu/>.
- If students have questions or issues surrounding graduation, they should make an appointment with the MSE Academic Advisor. It is important that you communicate with the Academic Advisor about your intended graduation date and progress.

In order to graduate, students must meet all of the University of Utah requirements as well as the department requirements for graduation.

For graduation deadlines and how to apply visit: <http://registrar.utah.edu/graduation/index.php/>. Students can also find information on the Commencement Ceremony at: <http://commencement.utah.edu/index.php>.

Undergraduate Polices

Grading

Materials Science & Engineering Undergraduates are required to take all MSE courses and receive a grade of “C” or better in order to advance to higher level MSE courses. If a student does not receive a “C” or better in a MSE course they will be required to retake the course. Failure to receive a “C” or better on the second attempt will result in dismissal from the program.

A cumulative grade point average of 2.3 or higher must be maintained for all courses completed towards a degree in Materials Science and Engineering. Students who fall below the GPA of 2.3 will be put on probation. Students on probation must raise their cumulative GPA above a 2.3 within 12 months or they will be dropped from the program.

Adding, Dropping, and Withdrawal Procedures

Students should meet with both the MSE Academic Advisor and a Financial Aid Advisor before dropping and withdrawing from a course. Dropping and withdrawing from a course can effect a student's financial aid.

Adding Classes - All classes must be added within two weeks of the beginning of the semester. Adding classes after the deadline is not permitted in the College of Engineering and requires a petition letter.

Dropping Classes – A drop implies that the student will not be held financially responsible and a “W” will not be listed on the transcript. Student may drop any class without penalty or permission during the first ten calendar days of the term.

Withdrawing from Classes – means that a “W” will appear on the student’s transcript and tuition will be charged. Withdrawal from Full Term Length –Beginning the eleventh calendar day and continuing through the midpoint of the term, students may withdraw from a class or the University without instructor/department permission. After

midpoint of the term, students may petition the deadline for withdrawal if they have a nonacademic emergency. For more information about the petition process, please contact your Academic Advisor.

Check the [academic calendar](#) for specific add, drop, and withdrawal dates.

Repeating Courses

When a College of Engineering class is taken more than once, only the grade for the second attempt is counted. Grades of W, I, or V on the student's record count as having taken the class. The MSE Department enforces these guidelines for other courses as well (e.g., math, physics, biology, chemistry). Attempts of courses taken at transfer institutions count as one attempt. This means a student may take the course only one time at the University of Utah. Courses taken at the University of Utah may not be taken a second time at another institution. If a second attempt is needed, it must be at the University of Utah. Please work with your Academic Advisor to determine the value of repeating courses. Students should note that anyone who takes a required class twice and does not have a satisfactory grade the second time may not be able to graduate. It is the responsibility of the student to work with the department of their major to determine how this policy applies in extenuating circumstances.

Students must complete with the [MSE Course Repeat Petition form](#) and meet with the MSE Academic Advisor before attempting to repeat a course a second time.

Major Declassification

It is the goal of the Materials Science and Engineering Department to successfully graduate all Materials Science and Engineering students. However, any student who does not perform satisfactorily may be dropped from the program. "Satisfactory performance" must be evaluated individually, but generally consists of meeting the standards of professional and ethical conduct that are expected of engineers (and hence engineering students), and maintaining satisfactory academic progress. While it is impossible to give an exhaustive list of actions that could cause us to revoke Major Status, examples include:

- Cheating or plagiarizing
- Abuse of faculty or teaching assistants
- Other serious violation of the [student behavior code](#)
- Failing to pass major required courses within the boundaries of the repeat policy
- Allowing your cumulative GPA to drop below a 2.3

Leave of Absence

A Leave of Absence allows degree-seeking undergraduate students who have registered for and completed university credit classes to request an extension of their enrollment eligibility for a maximum period of seven consecutive semesters (including summers). Requests are reviewed on a case-by-case basis and may be granted for the following reasons: illness (personal or familial), military service, humanitarian or religious service, or participation in a University of Utah sponsored program. To apply for a leave of absence and for more information visit: <http://registrar.utah.edu/handbook/leave.php>

Appeals of Procedures

If a student believes that an academic action is arbitrary or capricious he/she should discuss the action with the involved faculty member and attempt to resolve. If unable to resolve, the student may appeal the action in accordance with the following procedure.

1. Appeal to the Department Chair (in writing) within 40 working days; chairs must notify student of a decision with 15 days. If the faculty member or student disagrees with decision then,
2. Appeal to Academic Committee, see II Section D, [Code of Student Rights and Responsibilities](#) for details on Academic Appeal Committee hearings.

Americans with Disabilities Act

The University of Utah seeks to provide equal access to its programs, services, and activities for people with disabilities. If you will need accommodations in classes, reasonable prior notice needs to be given to the instructor and to the [Center for Disability and Access](#).

Academic Standings

Academic Warning

A student whose cumulative GPA falls below 2.0 from good standing shall be placed on academic warning and have a hold placed on their account preventing course registration. To clear this hold, the student must complete the academic success workshop, which includes a workbook and a quiz. Detailed instructions on how to complete the workshop are emailed to the student's university email account after grades are posted.

Second Warning

A student who goes back to academic warning and who has already completed the academic success workshop must now meet with an Academic Advising Center advisor. In order to remove the registration hold, please contact the Academic Advising Center to schedule a second warning appointment with an advisor.

Please schedule an appointment by calling 801-581-8146

Academic Probation

A student already on academic warning whose cumulative GPA and most recent term GPA are below 2.0 will be placed on academic probation. A registration hold is placed on the student's record until they meet with their department advisor AND an Academic Advising Center advisor.

Prior to meeting with an Academic Advising Center advisor:

- 1) Print the attached form to take to both of your advising appointments, (you may also click here for the form)
- 2) Make an appointment with your major program advisor, and
- 3) Meet with them to discuss your department requirements and have them fill out the major form.
- 4) Once you have met with your department advisor, schedule and keep an appointment with an Academic Advising Center advisor.

If you are undecided, you will need to meet twice with an advisor in the Academic Advising Center. Call our office if you have any questions of who you are required to meet with. Please contact the Academic Advising Center to learn more about the specific requirements a student will need to complete in order to remove their registration hold.

For more information on Academic Standings and how to remove an Academic Warning, visit the [Academic Advising Center website](#).

Resources

Overview

Our students' success and well-being are paramount in providing a world-class education. Take advantage of the numerous resources and services created to help students of all kinds prosper during their time at the U. For a list of complete resources [click here](#).

- [Academic Advising Center](#)
- [Office of Undergraduate Research](#)
- [International Center](#)
- [Learning Abroad](#)
- [Counseling Center](#)
- [Dean of Students](#)
- [Disability Services](#)
- [Equal Opportunity & Affirmative Action](#)
- [LGBT Resource Center](#)
- [Student Wellness](#)
- [Veterans Support Center](#)
- [Women's Resource Center](#)
- [Leave of Absence](#)

Safety and Wellness

Your safety is our top priority. In an emergency, dial 911 or seek a nearby emergency phone (throughout campus). Report any crimes or suspicious people to 801-585-COPS; this number will get you to a dispatch officer at the University of Utah Department of Public Safety (DPS; dps.utah.edu). If at any time, you would like to be escorted by a security officer to or from areas on campus, DPS will help — just give a call.

The University of Utah seeks to provide a safe and healthy experience for students, employees, and others who make use of campus facilities. In support of this goal, the University has established confidential resources and support services to assist students who may have been affected by harassment, abusive relationships, or sexual misconduct. A detailed listing of University Resources for campus safety can be found at <https://registrar.utah.edu/handbook/campussafety.php>

Your well-being is key to your personal safety. If you are in crisis, call 801-587-3000; help is close.

The university has additional excellent resources to promote emotional and physical wellness, including the Counseling Center (<https://counselingcenter.utah.edu>), the Wellness Center (<https://wellness.utah.edu>), and

the Women’s Resource Center (<https://womenscenter.utah.edu>). Counselors and advocates in these centers can help guide you to other resources to address a range of issues, including substance abuse and addiction.