Electrical & Systems Engineering

The Department of Electrical & Systems Engineering offers PhD degrees in Electrical Engineering and in Systems Science & Mathematics. Research activity in the department is focused in the following three areas:

- Applied mathematics, systems & control
- Electronics & optics
- Signal processing, imaging & communications

Students working in any of these areas will enjoy the benefits of programs that balance fundamental theoretical concepts with modern applications. In our department, students find ample opportunities for close interactions with faculty members working on cutting-edge research and technology development.

Prospective PhD students with previous degrees in engineering who are interested in PhD studies and research in mathematics or statistics are encouraged to apply for PhD studies in Mathematics and Statistics. For more details, visit the Graduate Programs in Mathematics and Statistics webpage.

Phone: 314-935-7520
Website: http://ese.wustl.edu

Faculty

Chair
Bruno Sinopoli (https://engineering.wustl.edu/Profiles/Pages/Bruno-Sinopoli.aspx)
Das Family Distinguished Professor
PhD, University of California, Berkley
Cyberphysical systems, analysis and design of networked embedded control systems, with applications to sensor actuator networks

Endowed Professors
Shantanu Chakrabarty (https://engineering.wustl.edu/faculty/Shantanu-Chakrabarty.html)
Clifford W. Murphy Professor
PhD, Johns Hopkins University
New frontiers in unconventional analog computing techniques using silicon and hybrid substrates, fundamental limits of energy efficiency, sensing and resolution by exploiting computational and adaptation primitives inherent in the physics of devices

Arve Nehorai (https://engineering.wustl.edu/faculty/Arye-Nehorai.html)
Eugene and Martha Lohman Professor of Electrical Engineering
PhD, Stanford University
Statistical signal processing, machine learning, imaging, biomedicine

Samuel C. Sachs Professor of Electrical Engineering
Dean, UMSL/WashU Joint Undergraduate Engineering Program
PhD, Notre Dame University
Information theory, statistical signal processing, imaging science with applications in medicine and security, and recognition theory and systems

Lane Yang (https://engineering.wustl.edu/faculty/Lan-Yang.html)
Edward H. & Florence G. Skinner Professor of Engineering
PhD, California Institute of Technology
Nano/micro photonics, ultra high-quality optical microcavities, ultra-low-threshold microlasers, nano/micro fabrication, optical sensing, single nanoparticle detection, photonic molecules, photonic materials

Professors

Jr-Shin Li (https://engineering.wustl.edu/faculty/Jr-Shin-Li.html)
Professor
PhD, Harvard University
Mathematical control theory, optimization, quantum control, biomedical applications

Neal Patwari (https://engineering.wustl.edu/faculty/Neal-Patwari.html)
Professor
PhD, University of Michigan
Intersection of statistical signal processing and wireless networking for improving wireless sensor networking and radiofrequency sensing

Associate Professors

ShiNung Ching (https://engineering.wustl.edu/faculty/ShiNung-Ching.html)
Das Family Distinguished Career Development Assistant Professor
PhD, University of Michigan
Systems and control in neural medicine, nonlinear and constrained control, physiologic network dynamics, stochastic control
Jung-Tsung Shen
Das Family Distinguished Career Development Assistant Professor
PhD, Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Theoretical and numerical investigations on nanophotonics, optoelectronics, plasmonics, metamaterials

Assistant Professors
Ulubek Kamilov
PhD, Ecole Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne, Switzerland
Computational imaging, signal processing, biomedical imaging

Mark Lawrence
PhD, University of Birmingham
Nanophotonics, nonlinear optics, metasurfaces

Matthew D. Lew
PhD, Stanford University
Microscopy, biophotonics, computational imaging, nano-optics

Chuan Wang
PhD, University of Southern California
Flexible electronics, stretchable electronics, printed electronics, nanomaterials, nanoelectronics, optoelectronics

Yong Wang
PhD, Washington University in St. Louis
Biomedical engineering, life science, human physiology, magnetic resonance imaging, electrocardiographic imaging

Shen Zeng
PhD, University of Stuttgart
Systems and control theory, data-based analysis and control of complex dynamical systems, inverse problems, biomedical applications

Xuan “Silvia” Zhang
PhD, Cornell University
Robotics, cyber-physical systems, hardware security, ubiquitous computing, embedded systems, computer architecture, VLSI, electronic design automation, control optimization, and biomedical devices and instrumentation

Senior Professors
Paul S. Min
PhD, University of Michigan
Routing and control of telecommunication networks, fault tolerance and reliability, software systems, network management

Robert E. Morley Jr.
DSc, Washington University in St. Louis
Computer engineering, lower-power VLSI design, computer architecture, signal processing, microprocessors systems design

Hiro Mukai
PhD, University of California, Berkeley
Theory and computational methods for optimization, optimal control, systems theory, electric power system operations, differential games

William F. Pickard
PhD, Harvard University
Biological transport, electrobiology, energy engineering

Daniel L. Rode
PhD, Case Western Reserve University
Optoelectronics and fiber optics, semiconductor materials, light-emitting diodes and lasers, semiconductor processing, electronics

Ervin Y. Rodin
PhD, University of Texas at Austin
Optimization, differential games, artificial intelligence, mathematical modeling

Heinz Schaettler
PhD, Rutgers University
Optimal control, nonlinear systems, mathematical models in biomedicine

Barbara A. Shrauner
PhD, Harvard University (Radcliffe)
Plasma processing, semiconductor transport, symmetries of nonlinear differential equations

Donald L. Snyder
PhD, Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Communication theory, random process theory, signal processing, biomedical engineering, image processing, radar

Barry E. Spielman
PhD, Syracuse University
High-frequency/high-speed devices, radiofrequency and microwave integrated circuits, computational electromagnetics
Tzyh Jong Tarn (https://engineering.wustl.edu/faculty/TJ-Tarn.html)
DSc, Washington University
Quantum mechanical systems, bilinear and nonlinear systems, robotics and automation, life science automation

Professors of Practice
PhD, Nova Southeastern University
MBA, MIT Sloan School of Management

Dennis Mell (https://engineering.wustl.edu/faculty/Dennis-Mell.html)
MS, University of Missouri–Rolla
Industrial automation, robotics and mechatronics, product design and development with design-for-manufacturability emphasis, prototyping, manufacturing

MS, Washington University
Signal processing applications implemented on a variety of platforms, including ASIC, FPGA, DSP, microcontroller and desktop computers

Jason Trobaugh (https://engineering.wustl.edu/faculty/ Jason-Trobaugh.html)
DSc, Washington University
Ultrasound imaging, diffuse optical tomography, image-guided therapy, ultrasonic temperature imaging

Teaching Professor
James Feher (https://engineering.wustl.edu/faculty/James-Feher.html)
PhD, Missouri University of Science and Technology
Electrical engineering, computer science, mathematics and physics

Senior Lecturers
Martha Hasting (https://engineering.wustl.edu/faculty/ Martha-Hasting.html)
PhD, Saint Louis University
Mathematics education

Vladimir Kurenok (https://engineering.wustl.edu/faculty/ Vladimir-Kurenok.html)
PhD, Belarus State University (Minsk, Belarus)
Probability and stochastic processes, stochastic ordinary and partial differential equations, financial mathematics

PhD, University of Miami
Modeling and performance analysis of wireless sensor networks, multi-source information fusion, ambiguous and incomplete information processing

Lecturers
Tsitsi Madziwa-Nussinov (https://engineering.wustl.edu/ faculty/Tsitsi-Nussinov.html)
PhD, University of California, Los Angeles

PhD, Virginia Tech
Fiber optic sensing and practical experience in sensor implementation and field test

Professors Emeriti
Newton R. and Sarah Louisa Glasgow Wilson Professor of Engineering
PhD, University of Pennsylvania
Ultrasonic imaging, electrocardiography

David L. Elliott
PhD, University of California, Los Angeles
Mathematical theory of systems, nonlinear difference, differential equations

Degree Requirements
PhD in Electrical Engineering or Systems Science & Mathematics

The Department of Electrical & Systems Engineering at Washington University in St. Louis offers two PhD programs. Both the PhD in Electrical Engineering and the PhD in Systems Science & Mathematics are academic doctoral degrees designed mainly for full-time students interested in an academic, laboratory and/or industrial research and development career in a specialization within electrical engineering, systems, control or applied mathematics.

Students pursuing the Doctor of Philosophy degrees in Electrical Engineering or Systems Science & Mathematics must complete a minimum of 72 credit units of post-baccalaureate study consistent with the residency and other applicable requirements of Washington University and the Graduate School. These 72 units must consist of at least 36 course units and at least 24 units of research and may include work done to satisfy the requirements of a master’s degree in a related discipline. Up to 24 units may be transferred to Washington University from another institution.
Each candidate for the PhD degree in Electrical Engineering and the PhD degree in Systems Science & Mathematics must do the following:

- Complete at least 36 credit units of post-baccalaureate courses.
- Complete the qualifying process (which includes a qualifying examination) and match with a research mentor before the second academic year of the program.
- Pass an oral preliminary research examination, to be completed within two academic years of completing the qualifying process.
- Satisfy the general teaching requirement as specified for the department.
- Write a doctoral dissertation that describes the results of original and creative research in a specialization within electrical engineering or systems science and mathematics.
- Pass a final oral examination in defense of the dissertation research.
- Take ESE 590 Electrical & Systems Engineering Graduate Seminar each semester.