Materials Science & Engineering

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Degree Requirements

Interdisciplinary PhD in Materials Science & Engineering

To earn a PhD degree, students must complete the Graduate School requirements, along with specific program requirements. Courses include the following:

• Four IMSE Core Courses (12 credits)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Units</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MEMS 5610</td>
<td>Quantitative Materials Science &amp; Engineering</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physics 537</td>
<td>Kinetics of Materials</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>EECE 502</td>
<td>Advanced Thermodynamics in EECE</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chem 465 or Physics 472</td>
<td>Solid-State and Materials Chemistry</td>
<td>3</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Total Units</td>
<td>12</td>
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• IMSE 500 First-Year Research Rotation (3 credits)
• Three courses (9 credits) from a preapproved list of Materials Science & Engineering electives
• A minimum of 12 credits of graduate-level technical elective courses in mathematics or any science or engineering department, to reach a total of at least 36 academic credits
  • A maximum of 3 credits of IMSE 502 Independent Study will be permitted toward the free electives requirement.
  • A maximum of 3 credits of IMSE 505 Material Science Journal Club will be permitted toward this requirement.
  • Any 400-level courses not included on the preapproved list of Materials Science & Engineering electives must be approved by the Graduate Studies Committee.
• A maximum of 12 credits of 400-level courses may be applied toward the required 36 academic credits. Undergraduate-only courses (below the 400 level) are generally not permitted by the Graduate School and may not be used to fulfill this requirement.
• IMSE 501 IMSE Graduate Seminar every semester of full-time enrollment
• 18 to 36 credits of IMSE 600 Doctoral Research (Students must identify an IMSE faculty member willing and able to support their thesis research on a materials-related topic.)

• Students must maintain a grade-point average of at least 3.0 for all graded courses and have no more than one grade of B- or below in a core course or a Materials Science & Engineering elective.

Additional program requirements include the following:

• Complete research ethics training by the end of the third semester
• Successfully complete teaching requirements
  • Attend two or more Teaching Center workshops
  • Complete 15 units of mentored teaching experience
• Pass the IMSE Qualifying Examination (oral and written components)
• Maintain satisfactory research progress on a topic in materials science, as determined by the thesis adviser and the mentoring committee
• Successfully complete the thesis proposal and presentation, with approval from the thesis examination committee
• Successfully complete and defend a PhD dissertation, with final approval from the thesis examination committee

Failure to meet these requirements will result in dismissal from the program.

Course Plan

Year 1

Fall Semester (13 credits)
• Advanced Thermodynamics in EECE (EECE 502)
• Quantitative Materials Science & Engineering (MEMS 5610)
• IMSE Research Rotation (IMSE 500)
• IMSE Graduate Seminar (IMSE 501)
• Elective (optional)

Spring Semester (13 credits)
• Solid-State and Materials Chemistry (Chem 465)
• Kinetics of Materials (Physics 537)
• IMSE First-Year Research Rotation (IMSE 500)
• IMSE Graduate Seminar (IMSE 501)
• Elective (optional)

Summer
• Begin thesis research
• Prepare for IMSE Qualifying Examination (August)
  • Written document and oral presentation on research rotation
  • Oral examination on fundamentals from core courses
Years 2 and Beyond

- Electives (discuss with PhD adviser)
- IMSE Graduate Seminar (IMSE 501)
- Doctoral Research (IMSE 600)
- Teaching requirements
  - Attend two or more Teaching Center workshops
  - Complete 15 units of mentored teaching experience
- Regular meetings (at least twice per year) with the faculty mentoring committee
- Thesis proposal and presentation (fifth semester)
- Dissertation and oral defense