ENGINEERING MECHANICS: RESEARCH, M.S.

This is a named option within the Engineering Mechanics M.S. (http://guide.wisc.edu/graduate/engineering-physics/engineering-mechanics-ms/)

This program is broadly structured into several main areas of instruction and research interests in mechanics of materials and astronautics: continuum mechanics, computational mechanics, dynamics and vibration, fluid mechanics, nanomechanics, solid mechanics, and biomechanics. Related fields in which minor work may be done include civil and environmental engineering, chemical and biological engineering, electrical and computer engineering, materials science, mechanical engineering, nuclear engineering and engineering physics, physics, geological engineering and geology, mathematics, statistics, and computer science.

Current faculty research interests include adhesive-bonded joints; composites; failure criteria; analytical and computational solid mechanics; analytical and computational dynamics; multibody dynamics; analytical and computational active and passive space-structure control systems; dynamic stability; nonlinear fracture mechanics of traditional and advanced materials; continuum mechanics; modal analysis; nanomechanics and nanotribology; fluid-structure interaction; non-Newtonian fluid flow; structural mechanics; viscoelasticity; viscoplasticity; cell mechanics; and biomechanics.

Laboratories are well equipped for experimental testing and research; these include holography, Moiré, atomic force microscopy, vibration testing, and other optical methods for experimental mechanics research. The department has access to collegewide facilities. The Wisconsin Laboratory for Structures and Materials Testing has facilities for testing large structures, fatigue and vibration labs, and complements the department's laboratories. The Materials Science Center provides state-of-the-art instrumentation, support facilities, and expert technical assistance for research and education in materials. Its facilities include scanning and transmission electron microscopes, image processing and analysis systems, surface and thin film characterization facilities, and x-ray diffraction facilities.

For more information on this specific degree plan, please see the EP website (https://www.engr.wisc.edu/department/engineering-physics/).

ADMISSIONS

Please consult the table below for key information about this degree program’s admissions requirements. The program may have more detailed admissions requirements, which can be found below the table or on the program’s website.

Graduate admissions is a two-step process between academic programs and the Graduate School. Applicants must meet the minimum requirements (https://grad.wisc.edu/apply/requirements/) of the Graduate School as well as the program(s).

Once you have researched the graduate program(s) you are interested in, apply online (https://grad.wisc.edu/apply/).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Requirement</th>
<th>Detail</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fall Deadline</td>
<td>December 15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spring Deadline</td>
<td>October 1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

FUNDING

GRADUATE SCHOOL RESOURCES

Resources to help you afford graduate study might include assistantships, fellowships, traineeships, and financial aid. Further funding information (https://grad.wisc.edu/funding/) is available from the Graduate School. Be sure to check with your program for individual policies and restrictions related to funding.

PROGRAM RESOURCES

Admission and funding are separate decisions. Not all admitted students are offered support. International applicants must secure a research assistantship, teaching assistantship, fellowship, or independent funding before admission is final. A portion of the top domestic applicants are invited to visit Madison in March. The funding for RAs comes from faculty research grants. Each professor decides on his or her own RA offers. Funded students are expected to maintain full-time enrollment.

See the program website (https://www.engr.wisc.edu/department/engineering-physics/academics/ms-engineering-mechanics/) for additional information.

REQUIREMENTS

MINIMUM GRADUATE SCHOOL REQUIREMENTS

Review the Graduate School minimum academic progress and degree requirements (http://guide.wisc.edu/graduate/).
# Named Option Requirements

## Mode of Instruction Definitions

**Accelerated**: Accelerated programs are offered at a fast pace that condenses the time to completion. Students are able to complete a program with minimal disruptions to careers and other commitments.

**Evening/Weekend**: Courses meet on the UW-Madison campus only in evenings and/or on weekends to accommodate typical business schedules. Students have the advantages of face-to-face courses with the flexibility to keep work and other life commitments.

**Face-to-Face**: Courses typically meet during weekdays on the UW-Madison Campus.

**Hybrid**: These programs combine face-to-face and online learning formats. Contact the program for more specific information.

**Online**: These programs are offered 100% online. Some programs may require an on-campus orientation or residency experience, but the courses will be facilitated in an online format.

## Curricular Requirements

**Requirements Detail**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Requirement</th>
<th>Detail</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Minimum Credit Requirement</td>
<td>30 credits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minimum Residence Credit Requirement</td>
<td>16 credits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minimum Graduate Coursework Requirement</td>
<td>15 credits (from the list below)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Overall Graduate GPA Requirement</td>
<td>3.00 GPA required</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Grade Requirements</td>
<td>Courses in which grades of BC, C, or below are received cannot be counted toward the degree except as follows: 1) Credits of C will be allowed provided they are balanced by twice as many credits of A or by four times as many credits of AB, 2) Credits of BC will be allowed provided they are balanced by twice as many credits of AB or by an equal number of credits of A.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Required Courses

### General

The program requires 30 credits of technical coursework approved by the student's advisor. All courses must be at the 500-level or above. At least 15 credits must be 600-level and above OR from the following list:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EMA/CIV ENG / MEC 508</td>
<td>Composite Materials</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EMA 519</td>
<td>Fracture Mechanics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EMA 522</td>
<td>Aerodynamics Lab</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EMA 523</td>
<td>Flight Dynamics and Control</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EMA/MEC 540</td>
<td>Experimental Vibration and Dynamic System Analysis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EMA/ MEC 541</td>
<td>Heterogeneous and Multiphase Materials</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EMA/E P 547</td>
<td>Engineering Analysis I</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EMA/E P 548</td>
<td>Engineering Analysis II</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EMA/M E 570</td>
<td>Experimental Mechanics</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Mathematics Requirements

Students must take at least 3 credits (1 course) from the following list:

<table>
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<th>Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EMA/E P 547</td>
<td>Engineering Analysis I</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EMA/E P 548</td>
<td>Engineering Analysis II</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MATH 519</td>
<td>Ordinary Differential Equations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MATH 521</td>
<td>Analysis I</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MATH 522</td>
<td>Analysis II</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MATH 540</td>
<td>Linear Algebra II</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MATH 619</td>
<td>Analysis of Partial Differential Equations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MATH 623</td>
<td>Complex Analysis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MATH 703</td>
<td>Methods of Applied Mathematics 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MATH 704</td>
<td>Methods of Applied Mathematics 2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Breadth Requirement

Students must take at least 5 courses from the list below. At least 3 must be identified by a *. The courses must span at least 2 of the 3 areas defined below. For each of the 2 areas, the student must take at least 2 courses.

Solid Mechanics
- E M A 506 Advanced Mechanics of Materials I  
- E M A 507 Advanced Mechanics of Materials II
- E M A 519 Fracture Mechanics *
- E M A/M S & E 541 Heterogeneous and Multiphase Materials *
- E M A/M E 570 Experimental Mechanics
- E M A 605 Introduction to Finite Elements *
- E M A 611 Advanced Mechanical Testing of Materials *
- E M A/E P 615 Micro- and Nanoscale Mechanics *
- E M A 622 Mechanics of Continua
- E M A 630 Viscoelastic Solids *
- E M A 700 Theory of Elasticity *
- E M A/M E 703 Plasticity Theory and Physics *
- E M A 705 Advanced Topics in Finite Elements *

E M A/M E 706 Plates, Shells and Pressure Vessels
- E M A/M E 708 Advanced Composite Materials
- E M A/M E 722 Introduction to Polymer Rheology
- M E/B M E 603 Topics in Bio-Medical Engineering (Topic: FE for Biomechanics) 1-3
- M E 753 Friction, Lubrication and Wear

Fluid Mechanics
- E M A 521 Aerodynamics *
- E M A 524 Rocket Propulsion *
- E M A 622 Mechanics of Continua *
- M E 563 Intermediate Fluid Dynamics *
- M E 572 Intermediate Gas Dynamics *
- M E 573 Computational Fluid Dynamics *
- M E 769 Combustion Processes
- M E 770 Advanced Experimental Instrumentation
- M E 774 Chem Kinetics of Combust Systems
- E M A/CIV ENGR/ M SENG 714 Methods of Computational Mathematics I
- MATH/ COMP SCI 715 Methods of Computational Mathematics II

MATH/ COMP SCI 714 Methods of Computational Mathematics I

Depth Requirement

At least 2 courses (6 credits) must be 700-level or above in mechanics, from the following list:

Any E M A course except E M A 790, E M A 890, or E M A 990.

- E M A 601 Special Topics courses may only be counted as 700-level if designated as such by the instructor.
- CBE 720 Microhydrodynamics, Brownian Motion, and Complex Fluids
- CIV ENGR/ G LE 730 Engineering Properties of Soils
- CIV ENGR/ G LE 735 Soil Dynamics
- MATH 705 Mathematical Fluid Dynamics
- M E 740 Advanced Vibrations
- M E 746 Dynamics of Controlled Systems
- M E 747 Advanced Computer Control of Machines and Processes
- M E 748 Optimum Design of Mechanical Elements and Systems
- M E 751 Advanced Computational Dynamics
- M E 753 Friction, Lubrication and Wear
- M E 769 Combustion Processes
- M E 770 Advanced Experimental Instrumentation
- M E 774 Chem Kinetics of Combust Systems

Independent Study/Research Credits

All students must take a minimum of 3 credits of E M A 599. A maximum of 6 credits of E M A 599 may be used toward the 30-credit minimum. Students in the thesis track may use a maximum of 12 credits of E M A 599 and E M A 790, combined, toward the 30-credit minimum. Credit for E M A 790 will be granted toward meeting the M.S. requirements only when a formal M.S. thesis is submitted and approved by the thesis committee.

Thesis track*: minimum of 3 credits of E M A 599 and a minimum of 6 credits of E M A 790
Independent study track\(^1\): minimum of 3 credits of EMA 599
\(^1\)These tracks are internal to the program and represent different pathways a student can follow to earn this degree. Track names do not appear in the Graduate School admissions application, and they will not appear on the transcript.

**Seminar Credits**

Up to 3 credits of Mechanics Seminar may be used to count toward the 30-credit minimum.

## PREFERENCES

### GRADUATE SCHOOL POLICIES

The Graduate School's Academic Policies and Procedures provide essential information regarding general university policies. Program authority to set degree policies beyond the minimum required by the Graduate School lies with the degree program faculty. Policies set by the academic degree program can be found below.

### NAMED OPTION-SPECIFIC POLICIES

#### PRIOR COURSEWORK

**Graduate Work from Other Institutions**

With permission from their faculty adviser and the department chair, students may use up to 6 credits of graduate course work taken at another institution if they meet departmental M.S. requirements. Coursework earned five or more years prior to admission to a master's degree is not allowed to satisfy requirements.

**UW–Madison Undergraduate**

With faculty approval, students who have received their undergraduate degree from UW–Madison may apply up to 7 credits numbered 400 or above toward the minimum graduate degree credit requirement. This work would not be allowed to count toward the 50% graduate coursework minimum unless taken at the 700 level or above. No credits can be counted toward the minimum graduate residence credit requirement. Coursework earned five or more years prior to admission to a master's degree is not allowed to satisfy requirements.

With faculty approval, students who have received an ABET-accredited undergraduate degree (not including UW–Madison) may be eligible to apply up to 7 credits of their undergraduate coursework toward the Minimum Graduate Degree Credit Requirement. No credits can be counted toward the Minimum Graduate Residence Credit Requirement, nor the Minimum Graduate Coursework (50%) Requirement. Coursework earned five or more years prior to admission to a master's degree is not allowed to satisfy requirements.

**UW–Madison University Special**

With program approval, students are allowed to count up to 15 credits of coursework numbered 400 or above taken as a UW–Madison Special student toward the minimum graduate residence credit requirement, and the minimum graduate degree credit requirement. UW–Madison coursework taken as a University Special student would not be allowed to count toward the 50% graduate coursework minimum unless taken at the 700 level or above. Coursework earned five or more years prior to admission to a master’s is not allowed to satisfy requirements.

### PROBATION

A semester GPA below 3.0 will result in the student being placed on academic probation. If a semester GPA of 3.0 is not attained during the subsequent semester of full time enrollment (or 12 credits of enrollment if enrolled part-time) the student may be dismissed from the program or allowed to continue for one additional semester based on advisor appeal to the Graduate School.

### ADVISOR / COMMITTEE

Each student is required to meet with his or her advisor prior to registration every semester.

### CREDITS PER TERM ALLOWED

15 credits

### TIME CONSTRAINTS

Students with a Bachelor of Science in Engineering Mechanics or equivalent are typically expected to complete the Master of Science in 3 semesters. Students with non-EM backgrounds will typically be permitted 4 semesters to complete their Master's if more than 27 credits are required.

### GRIEVANCES AND APPEALS

These resources may be helpful in addressing your concerns:

- Bias or Hate Reporting (https://doso.students.wisc.edu/bias-or-hate-reporting/)
- Graduate Assistantship Policies and Procedures (https://hr.wisc.edu/policies/gapp/#grievance-procedure)
- Hostile and Intimidating Behavior Policies and Procedures (https://hr.wisc.edu/hib/)
  - Office of the Provost for Faculty and Staff Affairs (https://facstaff.provost.wisc.edu/)
  - Dean of Students Office (https://doso.students.wisc.edu/) (for all students to seek grievance assistance and support)
  - Employee Assistant (http://www.eao.wisc.edu/) (for personal counseling and workplace consultation around communication and conflict involving graduate assistants and other employees, post-doctoral students, faculty and staff)
  - Employee Disability Resource Office (https://employeedisabilities.wisc.edu/) (for qualified employees or applicants with disabilities to have equal employment opportunities)
  - Graduate School (https://grad.wisc.edu/) (for informal advice at any level of review and for official appeals of program/departmental or school/college grievance decisions)
  - Office of Compliance (https://compliance.wisc.edu/) (for class harassment and discrimination, including sexual harassment and sexual violence)
  - Office of Student Conduct and Community Standards (https://conduct.students.wisc.edu/) (for conflicts involving students)
  - Ombuds Office for Faculty and Staff (http://www.ombuds.wisc.edu/) (for employed graduate students and post-docs, as well as faculty and staff)
  - Title IX (https://compliance.wisc.edu/titleix/) (for concerns about discrimination)

**EM Grievance Procedures**

Students who feel that they have been treated unfairly have the right to a prompt hearing of their grievance. Such complaints may involve course
grades, classroom treatment, advising, various forms of harassment, or other issues. Any student or potential student may use these procedures.

• The student should speak first with the person toward whom the grievance is directed. In most cases, grievances can be resolved at this level.

• Should a satisfactory resolution not be achieved, the student should contact the program’s Grievance Advisor to discuss the grievance. The Graduate Student Coordinator can provide students with the name of this faculty member, who facilitates problem resolution through informal channels. The Grievance Advisor is responsible for facilitating any complaints or issues of students. The Grievance Advisor first attempts to help students informally address the grievance prior to any formal complaint. Students are also encouraged to talk with their faculty advisors regarding concerns or difficulties if necessary. University resources for sexual harassment concerns can be found on the UW Office of Equity and Diversity website.

• If the issue is not resolved to the student’s satisfaction, the student can submit the grievance to the Grievance Advisor in writing, within 60 calendar days of the alleged unfair treatment.

• On receipt of a written complaint, a faculty committee will be convened by the Grievance Advisor to manage the grievance. The program faculty committee will obtain a written response from the person toward whom the complaint is directed. The response will be shared with the person filing the grievance.

• The faculty committee will determine a decision regarding the grievance. The Grievance Advisor will report on the action taken by the committee in writing to both the student and the party toward whom the complaint was directed within 15 working days from the date the complaint was received.

• At this point, if either party (the student or the person toward whom the grievance is directed) is unsatisfied with the decision of the faculty committee, the party may file a written appeal. Either party has 10 working days to file a written appeal to the College of Engineering.

The Assistant Dean for Graduate Affairs ( engr-dean-graduateaffairs@engr.wisc.edu ) provides overall leadership for graduate education in the College of Engineering (CoE) and is a point of contact for graduate students who have concerns about education, mentoring, research, or other difficulties.

The Graduate School has procedures for students wishing to appeal a grievance decision made at the college level. These policies are described in the Academic Policies and Procedures at https://grad.wisc.edu/academic-policies/.

OTHER
n/a