

# ENGINEERING MECHANICS, PHD

The doctor of philosophy degree in engineering mechanics is offered within a graduate program covering contemporary areas in both theoretical and applied mechanics. With the guidance of a major professor, a program can be designed to meet an individual student's needs and interests.

This program is broadly structured into several main areas of instruction and research interests in fluid and solid mechanics: continuum mechanics, computational mechanics, dynamics and vibration, nanomechanics, and biomechanics. Related fields 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 contact mechanics, elastic instabilities, micromechanics, wave propagation, adhesion and friction, multi-scale and high-performance computational modeling, multi-physics mechanics and transport, biophysics, nanotechnology and nanomaterials, mechanics of soft materials, bio-inspired materials, polymer thin-films, renewable energy, and acoustic/elastic metamaterials.

Laboratories are well equipped for experimental testing and research; these include, 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 Nanoscale Imaging and Analysis 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.

## ADMISSIONS

### 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/>).

Requirements	Detail
Fall Deadline	December 15
Spring Deadline	September 1
Summer Deadline	December 15

GRE (Graduate Record Examinations)	Not required.*
English Proficiency Test	Refer to the Graduate School: Minimum Requirements for Admission policy: <a href="https://policy.wisc.edu/library/UW-1241">https://policy.wisc.edu/library/UW-1241</a> ( <a href="https://policy.wisc.edu/library/UW-1241/">https://policy.wisc.edu/library/UW-1241/</a> ).
Other Test(s) (e.g., GMAT, MCAT)	n/a
Letters of Recommendation Required	3

\* Submitted scores will not be used in admission decisions.

## APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS AND PROCESS

### Degree

For admission to graduate study in Engineering Mechanics, an applicant must have a bachelor's degree in engineering, mathematics, or physical science, and an undergraduate record that indicates an ability to successfully pursue graduate study. International applicants must have a degree comparable to a regionally accredited US bachelor's degree.

It is highly recommended that students take courses that cover the same material as these UW-Madison courses before entering the program:

Code	Title	Credits
<b>Advanced Mathematics</b>		<b>3</b>
MATH 319	Techniques in Ordinary Differential Equations	
or MATH 320	Linear Algebra and Differential Equations	
or MATH 321	Applied Mathematical Analysis 1: Vector and Complex Calculus	
<b>Linear Algebra and Matrices</b>		<b>3</b>
MATH 320	Linear Algebra and Differential Equations	
or MATH 340	Elementary Matrix and Linear Algebra	
<b>Mechanics of Materials</b>		<b>3</b>
E M A 303	Mechanics of Materials	
<b>Dynamics</b>		<b>3</b>
E M A 202	Dynamics	
or PHYSICS 311	Mechanics	

Descriptions of course content can be accessed through Guide (<https://guide.wisc.edu/courses/>). Students may enter without having taken these courses. However, in such cases the students must inform their advisors, who will help them plan courses of study that will provide adequate background for our department's graduate curriculum.

All applicants must satisfy requirements that are set forth by the Graduate School (<https://grad.wisc.edu/apply/requirements/>).

### GPA

The Graduate School requires a minimum undergraduate grade point average of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale on the equivalent of the last 60 semester hours from the most recent bachelor's degree or a master's degree with a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale.

## PhD advisor selection process

Applicants are encouraged to identify potential faculty advisors and seek a confirmation. Please review the department Research (<https://engineering.wisc.edu/departments/mechanical-engineering/research/>) and People (<https://directory.engr.wisc.edu/me/faculty/>) websites and contact those whose research interests align with yours. Only faculty members listed with the titles of Assistant Professor, Associate Professor, or Professor, can serve as graduate advisors. Do not contact Emeritus faculty, Lecturers, Research Scientists, or Faculty Associates. You are also encouraged to inquire about possible funding opportunities. If a faculty member agrees to be your advisor, ask the person to email an acknowledgment to [emgradadmission@engr.wisc.edu](mailto:emgradadmission@engr.wisc.edu).

## APPLICATION MATERIALS

Each application must include the following:

- Graduate School Application (<https://grad.wisc.edu/apply/>)
- Academic transcripts
- Statement of purpose
- Resume/CV
- Three letters of recommendation
- English Proficiency Score (if required)
- Application Fee

### Academic Transcript

Within the online application, upload the undergraduate transcript(s) and, if applicable, the previous graduate transcript. Unofficial copies of transcripts are required for review; official copies are required for applicants recommended for admission. Please do not send transcripts or any other application materials to the Graduate School or the Department of Mechanical Engineering unless requested. Please review the requirements

### Statement of Purpose

In this document, applicants should explain why they want to pursue further education in Engineering Mechanics and discuss which UW faculty members they would be interested in doing research with during their graduate study (see the Graduate School for more advice on how to structure a personal statement (<https://grad.wisc.edu/apply/prepare/>)).

### Resume

Upload your resume in your application.

### Three Letters of Recommendation

These letters are required from people who can accurately judge the applicant's academic and/or research performance. It is highly recommended these letters be from faculty familiar with the applicant. Letters of recommendation are submitted electronically to graduate programs through the online application. See the Graduate School for FAQs (<https://grad.wisc.edu/apply/>) regarding letters of recommendation. Letters of recommendation are due by the deadline listed above.

### English Proficiency Score

See English Proficiency Test policy above.

### Application Fee

Application submission must be accompanied by the one-time application fee. It is non-refundable and can be paid by credit card (MasterCard or Visa). Additional information about the application fee may be found here (<https://grad.wisc.edu/apply/>) (scroll to the 'Frequently asked questions').

Fee grants are available through the conditions outlined here by the Graduate School (<https://grad.wisc.edu/apply/fee-grant/>).

## REENTRY ADMISSIONS

If you were previously enrolled as a graduate student in the Engineering Mechanics program, have not earned your degree, but have had a break in enrollment for a minimum of a fall or spring term, you will need to re-apply to resume your studies. Please review the Graduate School requirements for previously enrolled students (<https://policy.wisc.edu/library/UW-1230/>). Your previous faculty advisor (or another Engineering Mechanics faculty advisor) must be willing to supply advising support and should e-mail the Engineering Mechanics Graduate Student Services Coordinator regarding next steps in the process.

If you were previously enrolled in a UW-Madison graduate degree, completed that degree, have had a break in enrollment since earning the degree and would now like to apply for another UW-Madison program; you are required to submit a new student application through the UW-Madison Graduate School online application. For Engineering Mechanics graduate programs, you must follow the entire application process as described above.

## CURRENTLY ENROLLED GRADUATE STUDENT ADMISSIONS

Students currently enrolled as a graduate student at UW-Madison, whether in Engineering Mechanics or a non-Engineering Mechanics graduate program, wishing to apply to this degree program should contact the Engineering Mechanics Graduate Admissions Team ([emgradadmission@engr.wisc.edu](mailto:emgradadmission@engr.wisc.edu)) to inquire about the process and deadlines several months in advance of the anticipated enrollment term. Current students may apply to change or add programs for any term (fall, spring, or summer).

## QUESTIONS

If you have questions, contact [emgradadmission@engr.wisc.edu](mailto:emgradadmission@engr.wisc.edu).

## FUNDING

## FUNDING GRADUATE SCHOOL RESOURCES

The Bursar's Office provides information about tuition and fees associated with being a graduate student. Resources to help you afford graduate study might include assistantships, fellowships, traineeships, and financial aid. Further funding information is available from the Graduate School. Be sure to check with your program for individual policies and restrictions related to funding.

## PROGRAM RESOURCES

There are three mechanisms for Graduate Student funding through the university for Engineering Mechanics PhD students:

1. Fellowships
2. Graduate assistantships: project assistantships, teaching assistantships, and research assistantships
3. Traineeships

Funding is awarded based on the qualifications of the student, the number of applicants, the amount of available funding, the number of continuing students receiving support, and the degree program a student is enrolled in. You can apply for funding for research assistantships by

contacting individual faculty members directly. Review our website (<http://directory.engr.wisc.edu/me/faculty/>) to look for faculty (only those listed with titles of assistant professor, associate professor, or professor can serve as graduate student advisors). Search for faculty who have research interests that align closely with your own by viewing faculty directory entries, visiting the faculty's website (linked from the directory page), and reviewing publications by the faculty member. After you have identified faculty with interests close to your own, you are encouraged to contact them by email to inquire regarding available research assistant positions. The admissions office does not know if a particular professor has research assistant positions available.

Students who apply to the PhD program will be automatically considered for fellowship opportunities within the department. Admitted students will be eligible to apply for Teaching Assistantship positions. More information, including the application, will be available to students after admission is complete.

More information on graduate student funding is available from the UW-Madison Graduate School (<https://grad.wisc.edu/funding/>).

## ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

### Office of Student Financial Aid

For information regarding student financial aid, scholarships, and more, visit the Office of Student Financial Aid website (<https://financialaid.wisc.edu/>).

### International Student Services Funding and Scholarships

For information regarding international student funding and scholarships, visit the International Student Services website (<https://iss.wisc.edu/students/new-students/funding-scholarships/>).

## REQUIREMENTS

## MINIMUM GRADUATE SCHOOL REQUIREMENTS

Review the Graduate School minimum degree requirements (<https://guide.wisc.edu/graduate/#requirements-text>) and policies (<https://guide.wisc.edu/graduate/#policies-text>), in addition to the program requirements listed below.

## MAJOR REQUIREMENTS

### MODE OF INSTRUCTION

Face to Face	Evening/ Weekend	Online	Hybrid	Accelerated
Yes	No	No	No	No

### Mode of Instruction Definitions

**Accelerated:** Accelerated programs are offered at a fast pace that condenses the time to completion. Students typically take enough credits aimed at completing the program in a year or two.

**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

Requirement Detail	
Minimum Credit Requirement	60 credits
Minimum Residence Credit Requirement	32 credits
Minimum Graduate Coursework Requirement	30 credits must be graduate-level coursework. Refer to the Graduate School: Minimum Graduate Coursework (50%) Requirement policy: <a href="https://policy.wisc.edu/library/UW-1244">https://policy.wisc.edu/library/UW-1244</a> ( <a href="https://policy.wisc.edu/library/UW-1244/">https://policy.wisc.edu/library/UW-1244/</a> ). In addition, at least 18 of the non-research credits must be in classes having the graduate-level designation.
Overall Graduate GPA Requirement	3.00 GPA required. Refer to the Graduate School: Grade Point Average (GPA) Requirement policy: <a href="https://policy.wisc.edu/library/UW-1203">https://policy.wisc.edu/library/UW-1203</a> ( <a href="https://policy.wisc.edu/library/UW-1203/">https://policy.wisc.edu/library/UW-1203/</a> ).
Other Grade Requirements	Students must earn a C or above in all formal coursework. Students may not have more than two Incompletes on their record at any one time.
Assessments and Examinations	PhD qualifying examination is required of all students.  After acceptance of the student's doctoral plan of study, the student must take an oral preliminary examination.  Final oral examination is required at the end of the thesis work.
Language Requirements	No language requirements.
Graduate School Breadth Requirement	All doctoral students are required to complete a doctoral minor or graduate/professional certificate. Refer to the Graduate School: Breadth Requirement in Doctoral Training policy: <a href="https://policy.wisc.edu/library/UW-1200">https://policy.wisc.edu/library/UW-1200</a> ( <a href="https://policy.wisc.edu/library/UW-1200/">https://policy.wisc.edu/library/UW-1200/</a> ).  Students should consult with advisor.

## REQUIRED COURSES

At least 36 of the required 60 credits must be in classes satisfying the following: general requirements, mathematics requirements, breadth and depth requirements. All courses must be numbered 500 and above. It is acceptable for students who earned an MS degree in Engineering Mechanics at UW-Madison to use coursework completed while in the MS degree program to meet the requirements below.

Code	Title	Credits
<b>General Requirements</b>		
At least 21 credits must be in coursework numbered 600 and above OR from the following list:		21
E M A/CIV ENGR/ M E 508	Composite Materials	
E M A 519	Fracture Mechanics	
E M A 522	Aerodynamics Lab	
E M A 523	Flight Dynamics and Control	
E M A/M E 540	Experimental Vibration and Dynamic System Analysis	
E M A/ M S & E 541	Heterogeneous and Multiphase Materials	
E M A/E P 547	Engineering Analysis I	
E M A/E P 548	Engineering Analysis II	
E M A/M E 570	Experimental Mechanics	
<b>Mathematics Requirements</b>		
At least 6 credits (2 courses) must be in applied mathematics from the following list:		6
E M A/E P 547	Engineering Analysis I	
E M A/E P 548	Engineering Analysis II	
MATH 519	Ordinary Differential Equations	
MATH 521	Analysis I	
MATH 522	Analysis II	
MATH 540	Linear Algebra II	
MATH 619	Analysis of Partial Differential Equations	
MATH 623	Complex Analysis	
MATH 703	Methods of Applied Mathematics 1	
MATH 704	Methods of Applied Mathematics-2	
MATH/ COMP SCI 714	Methods of Computational Mathematics I	
MATH/ COMP SCI 715	Methods of Computational Mathematics II	
<b>Breadth Requirement</b>		
As part of their MS or PhD, students must complete courses from at least 2 of the 3 areas defined below (Solid Mechanics, Fluid Mechanics, Dynamics). For each of the 2 areas, the student must complete at least 2 courses. The courses must be at a similar level to those listed below.		
<i>Solid Mechanics</i>		
E M A 506	Advanced Mechanics of Materials I	
E M A/CIV ENGR/ M E 508	Composite Materials	
M E/B M E 516	Finite Elements for Biological and Other Soft Materials	
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 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 708	Advanced Composite Materials
E M A/M E 722	Introduction to Polymer Rheology
E M A 710	Mechanics of Continua
M E 753	Friction, Lubrication and Wear
<i>Fluid Mechanics</i>	
E M A 521	Aerodynamics
E M A 710	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
M E/CIV ENGR/ E M A 775	Turbulent Heat and Momentum Transfer
MATH 705	Mathematical Fluid Dynamics
<i>Dynamics</i>	
E M A 523	Flight Dynamics and Control
E M A/M E 540	Experimental Vibration and Dynamic System Analysis
E M A 542	Advanced Dynamics
E M A 545	Mechanical Vibrations
E M A/ ASTRON 550	Astrodynamics
E M A 610	Structural Finite Element Model Validation
E M A 642	Satellite Dynamics
E M A 742	Theory and Applications in Advanced Dynamics
E M A 745	Advanced Methods in Structural Dynamics
E M A 747	Nonlinear and Random Mechanical Vibrations
M E/E C E 577	Automatic Controls Laboratory
M E 740	Advanced Vibrations
M E 747	Advanced Computer Control of Machines and Processes
or M E/ E C E 733	Advanced Computer Control of Machines and Processes
M E 748	Optimum Design of Mechanical Elements and Systems
<b>Depth Requirement</b>	
At least 4 courses (12 credits) must be numbered 700 or above in mechanics, applied mathematics, or computer science. At least 2 of the courses (6 credits) must be from List 1 (below), and the remaining 2 courses (6 credits) may be from List 1 or List 2.	
<i>List 1</i>	
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 numbered 700 or above if designated as such by the instructor.

CBE 720 Microhydrodynamics, Brownian Motion, and Complex Fluids

CIV ENGR/  
G L E 730 Engineering Properties of Soils

MATH 705 Mathematical Fluid Dynamics

M E 740 Advanced Vibrations

M E 746 Dynamics of Controlled Systems  
or M E/  
E C E 732 Dynamics of Controlled Systems

M E 747 Advanced Computer Control of  
Machines and Processes  
or M E/  
E C E 733 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 768 Precision Measurements

M E 769 Combustion Processes

M E 770 Advanced Experimental  
Instrumentation

M E 774 Chem Kinetics of Combust Systems

M E/CIV ENGR/  
E M A 775 Turbulent Heat and Momentum  
Transfer

#### List 2

COMP SCI/  
MATH 714 Methods of Computational  
Mathematics I

COMP SCI/  
MATH 715 Methods of Computational  
Mathematics II

COMP SCI/  
E C E 760 Machine Learning

E C E 717 Linear Systems

E C E/  
COMP SCI 761 Mathematical Foundations of  
Machine Learning

E C E/COMP SCI/  
STAT 861 Theoretical Foundations of Machine  
Learning

MATH 703 Methods of Applied Mathematics 1

MATH 704 Methods of Applied Mathematics-2

M E 718 Modeling and Simulation in Polymer  
Processing

M E 758 Solid Modeling

M E 761 Topics in Thermodynamics

M E 764 Advanced Heat Transfer I-  
Conduction

M S & E 748 Structural Analysis of Materials

M S & E 750 Imperfections and Mechanical  
Properties

M S & E 760 Molecular Modeling of Materials

PHYSICS 711 Theoretical Physics-Dynamics

PHYSICS 715 Statistical Mechanics

PHYSICS 721 Theoretical Physics-  
Electrodynamics

PHYSICS 731 Quantum Mechanics

PHYSICS 732 Quantum Mechanics

PHYSICS 751 Advanced Solid State Physics

PHYSICS 801 Special Topics in Theoretical Physics  
(when taught as Nanostructures in  
Science and Technology)

## POLICIES

### GRADUATE SCHOOL POLICIES

The Graduate School's Academic Policies and Procedures (<https://grad.wisc.edu/acadpolicy/>) serve as the official document of record for Graduate School academic and administrative policies and procedures and are updated continuously. Note some policies redirect to entries in the official UW-Madison Policy Library (<https://policy.wisc.edu/>). Programs may set more stringent policies than the Graduate School. Policies set by the academic degree program can be found below.

### MAJOR-SPECIFIC POLICIES

#### PRIOR COURSEWORK

##### Graduate Credits Earned at Other Institutions

With faculty advisor and Department of Mechanical Engineering Graduate Committee approval, students may transfer up to 15 credits of prior graduate coursework that led to a relevant MS degree. Alternatively, with advisor and the Department of Mechanical Engineering Graduate Committee approval, students may use up to 6 credits of relevant coursework from a prior graduate program. Please review the Graduate Program Handbook (see contact box) for information about use and restrictions to this policy. Coursework earned ten or more years prior to admission is not allowed to satisfy requirements.

##### Undergraduate Credits Earned at Other Institutions or UW-Madison

With faculty advisor approval, a maximum of 7 credits from a UW-Madison undergraduate degree or an ABET-accredited undergraduate degree (from an other institution) may be applied toward the minimum graduate degree credit requirement. Only coursework that is applicable to the degree curriculum is eligible (based on UW-Madison course/course equivalency number). These credits will not be allowed to count toward the Minimum Graduate Coursework (50%) Requirement unless taken in courses numbered 700 or above (UW-Madison course equivalent). No credits can be counted toward the minimum graduate residence credit requirement. Coursework earned ten or more years prior to admission is not allowed to satisfy requirements.

##### Credits Earned as a Professional Student at UW-Madison (Law, Medicine, Pharmacy, and Veterinary careers)

Refer to the Graduate School: Transfer Credits for Prior Coursework (<https://policy.wisc.edu/library/UW-1216/>) policy.

##### Credits Earned as a University Special Student at UW-Madison

With faculty advisor approval, students are allowed to transfer up to 15 credits of coursework taken as a UW-Madison University Special student toward the minimum graduate degree credit requirement. Only coursework that is applicable to the degree curriculum is eligible. UW-Madison coursework taken as a University Special student would not be allowed to count toward the minimum graduate coursework (50%) requirement unless taken in courses numbered 700 or above or are taken



to meet the requirements of a capstone certificate and has the “Grad 50%” attribute. Coursework earned ten or more years prior to admission is not allowed to satisfy requirements.

## PROBATION

The Department of Mechanical Engineering graduate programs satisfactory academic progress policy may be reviewed in the Graduate Handbook (see Contact box for link).

## ADVISOR / COMMITTEE

Each student is required to meet with their advisor prior to registration every semester.

## CREDITS PER TERM ALLOWED

15 credit maximum. Refer to the Graduate School: Maximum Credit Loads and Overload Requests (<https://policy.wisc.edu/library/UW-1228/>) policy.

## TIME LIMITS

Qualifying Exam: The written portion of the qualifying exam is offered twice a year, once in August/September and once in January, generally the week before classes start. The associated literature review presentation must be completed within the timing limits stated (see graduate handbook, contact box).

1. If you enter the PhD program directly without an MS or equivalent degree, you will first earn 30 graduate credits. Take your qualifying exam either the first or second time that it is offered after the semester in which you earn those 30 credits.
2. If you earn a UW–Madison Engineering Mechanics MS and immediately enter the PhD program in the following semester, take your qualifying exam either the first or second time it is offered after the semester in which you earned your MS.
3. If you enter the PhD program with an MS degree either from another department or institution, or are returning to UW–Madison with an MS degree after an absence, take the exam at the start of your third PhD semester

Preliminary Exam: PhD students must complete their preliminary exam within five years of passing their qualifying exam.

Dissertation Defense (oral thesis presentation): There must be at least nine (9) months between the preliminary exam and dissertation defense.

A candidate for a doctoral degree who fails to successfully complete the dissertation defense and deposit the dissertation within five years after passing the preliminary examination may be required to take another preliminary examination to be admitted to candidacy a second time.

Average Time to Degree: The average time to degree, beyond the bachelor degree, is 6 years.

## 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/>)

- Employee Assistance (<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://employee disabilities.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 Student Assistance and Support (OSAS) (<https://osas.wisc.edu/>) (for all students to seek grievance assistance and support)
- 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)

## Department of Mechanical Engineering Grievance Procedures

If a student feels unfairly treated or aggrieved by faculty, staff, or another student, the University offers several avenues to resolve the grievance. Students’ concerns about unfair treatment are best handled directly with the person responsible for the objectionable action. If the student is uncomfortable making direct contact with the individual(s) involved, they should contact the advisor or the person in charge of the unit where the action occurred (program or department chair, section chair, lab manager, etc.). Many departments and schools/colleges have established specific procedures for handling such situations; check their web pages and published handbooks for information. If such procedures exist at the local level, these should be investigated first. For more information see the Graduate School Academic Policies & Procedures: <https://grad.wisc.edu/acadpolicy/?policy=grievancesandappeals>. The Assistant Dean for Graduate Affairs ([engr-dean-graduateaffairs@engr.wisc.edu](mailto: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.

1. The student is encouraged to speak first with the person toward whom the grievance is directed to see if a situation can be resolved at this level.
2. Should a satisfactory resolution not be achieved, the student should contact the Associate Chair for Graduate Studies or the John Bollinger Chair of Mechanical Engineering (<https://engineering.wisc.edu/departments/mechanical-engineering/people/>) to discuss the grievance. The Associate Chair for Graduate Studies or Department Chair will facilitate problem resolution through informal channels and facilitate any complaints or issues of students. The first attempt is 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, discrimination, disability accommodations, and other related concerns

can be found on the UW Office of Compliance website (<https://compliance.wisc.edu/>). Other campus resources can be found above.

6. Demonstrate an ability to conduct original research and communicate it to their peers.

3. If the issue is not resolved to the student's satisfaction the student can submit the grievance to the Associate Chair for Graduate Studies in writing, within 60 calendar days of the alleged unfair treatment.
4. On receipt of a written complaint, a faculty committee will be convened by the Associate Chair for Graduate Studies to manage the grievance. The faculty committee will obtain a written response from the person toward whom the complaint is directed. This response will be shared with the person filing the grievance.
5. The faculty committee will determine a decision regarding the grievance. The Associate Chair for Graduate Studies 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.
6. 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 School/College.
7. Documentation of the grievance will be stored for at least 7 years. Significant grievances that set a precedent will be stored indefinitely.

The Graduate School has procedures for students wishing to appeal a grievance decision made at the school/college level. These policies are described in the Graduate School's Academic Policies & Procedures: <https://grad.wisc.edu/acadpolicy/?policy=grievancesandappeals>.

## OTHER

n/a

## PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

### PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT GRADUATE SCHOOL RESOURCES

Take advantage of the Graduate School's professional development resources (<https://grad.wisc.edu/pd/>) to build skills, thrive academically, and launch your career.

## LEARNING OUTCOMES

### LEARNING OUTCOMES

1. Demonstrate an extraordinary, deep understanding of mathematical, scientific, and engineering principles in the field.
2. Demonstrate an ability to formulate, analyze, and independently solve advanced engineering problems.
3. Apply the relevant scientific and technological advancements, techniques, and engineering tools to address these problems.
4. Recognize and apply principles of ethical and professional conduct.
5. Demonstrate an ability to synthesize knowledge from a subset of the biological, physical, and/or social sciences to help frame problems critical to the future of their discipline.