SYSTEMS & ENTREPRENEURIAL ENGINEERING, PHD

for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy in Systems & Entrepreneurial Engineering

department head: Deborah L Thurston (thurston@illinois.edu)  
associate head of graduate studies: Ramavarapu S Sreenivas (rsree@illinois.edu)  
overview of admissions & requirements: https://ise.illinois.edu/graduate/admissions/  
overview of grad college admissions & requirements: https://grad.illinois.edu/admissions/apply (https://grad.illinois.edu/admissions/apply/)  
department website: https://ise.illinois.edu/  
program website: https://ise.illinois.edu/graduate/index.html (https://ise.illinois.edu/graduate/)  
department faculty: https://ise.illinois.edu/directory/faculty.html  
college website: https://grainger.illinois.edu/  
contact: Lauren Redman (redman@illinois.edu)  
address: 117 Transportation Building, 104 S Mathews Ave, Urbana, IL 61801  
phone: (217) 333-2731  
email: ise-grad@illinois.edu

The Department of Industrial & Enterprise Systems Engineering offers both a traditional doctoral program and a direct doctoral program. A Master’s degree is not required for admission to the direct doctoral program. Students in both programs are required to have a research advisor and applicants are encouraged to contact department faculty (https://ise.illinois.edu/directory/faculty.html) in their areas of interest to inquire about possible research and funding opportunities.

Admission Requirements

Applicants who have completed degree requirements in an accredited engineering program or its equivalent are eligible to apply for admission. A minimum grade point average of 3.25 (A = 4.00) for the last two years of undergraduate study is required.

Scores on the Graduate Record Examination (GRE) (http://www.ets.org/) general test are required of all applicants. Based upon the previous preparation of the student for either program, prerequisite courses may be specified by the advisor, but the credit may not be applied toward a degree.

All applicants whose native language is not English are required to submit TOEFL (http://www.toefl.org/) or International English Language Testing System (IELTS) (http://www.ielts.org/) scores as evidence of English proficiency. Minimum admission requirements (https://grad.illinois.edu/admissions/instructions/04c/) are set by the Graduate College.

Financial Aid

Qualified students may compete for financial assistance in the form of teaching/graduate/research assistantships, fellowships, grants, and tuition waiver scholarships. Under certain conditions, fellowships may be augmented by part-time assistantships. Starting in Fall 2020, Grainger Engineering PhD students in their first five years of enrollment who meet the minimum eligibility requirements (https://grainger.illinois.edu/academics/graduate/phd-funding-guarantee/) are guaranteed a funded appointment for fall and spring that includes a full tuition waiver, a partial fee waiver, and a stipend.

All applicants, regardless of US citizenship, whose native language is not English and who wish to be considered for teaching assistantships must demonstrate spoken English language proficiency (http://grad.illinois.edu/admissions/taengprof.htm) by achieving a minimum score of 24 on the speaking subsection of the TOEFL IBT or 8 on the speaking subsection of the IELTS. For students who are unable to take the iBT or IELTS, a minimum score of 4CP is required on the English Proficiency Interview (http://cte.illinois.edu/testing/oral_eng/epi_overview.html) (EPI), offered on campus. All new teaching assistants are required to participate in the Graduate Academy for College Teaching (https://citi.illinois.edu/citi-101/teaching-learning/grad-academy-for-college-teaching/) conducted prior to the start of the semester.

Department Research

Faculty research by ISE faculty is pursued in the following fields:

•computer-aided design  
•data analytics  
•optimization  
•design systems  
•manufacturing systems  
•nondestructive testing  
•control systems  
•robotics  
•real-time decision making  
•reliability  
•financial engineering  
•operations research  
•management science  
•biomechanics engineering  
•human factors  
•supply chain logistics

Members of the ISE Department have access to a wide range of excellent research facilities. These laboratories support a wide range of activity and are described at the department’s research laboratories Web site (https://ise.illinois.edu/research/labs/).

Graduate Programs in Industrial & Enterprise Systems Engineering

degrees:

Information listed in this catalog is current as of 02/2021
Industrial Engineering, MS (http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/engineering/industrial-engineering-ms/)

**optional concentrations:**
- Advanced Analytics in Industrial & Enterprise Systems Engineering (http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/engineering/concentration/advanced-analytics-industrial-enterprise-systems-engineering/)
- Computational Science & Engineering (http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/engineering/concentration/computational-science-engineering/)

Industrial Engineering, PhD (http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/engineering/industrial-engineering-phd/)

**optional concentrations:**
- Computational Science & Engineering (http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/engineering/concentration/computational-science-engineering/)

Systems & Entrepreneurial Engineering, MS (http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/engineering/systems-entrepreneurial-engineering-ms/)

**optional concentrations:**
- Computational Science & Engineering (http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/engineering/concentration/computational-science-engineering/)

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Financial Engineering, MS (http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/bus_engineering/financial-engineering-ms/) (sponsored jointly with Department of Finance)

**optional concentrations:**
- Advanced Analytics in Industrial & Enterprise Systems Engineering (http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/engineering/concentration/advanced-analytics-industrial-enterprise-systems-engineering/)
- Data Analytics in Finance (http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/bus_concentration/finance/data-analytics-finance/)

The Department of Industrial and Enterprise Systems Engineering (ISE) offers graduate programs leading to degrees of Master of Science and Doctor of Philosophy in Industrial Engineering (IE) and Systems and Entrepreneurial Engineering (SEE), as well as jointly with the Department of Finance Master of Science in Financial Engineering. The ISE programs offer an approach to industrial engineering and systems engineering, engineering design, and entrepreneurial engineering that crosses disciplinary lines. The IE program is based in advanced studies that focus on operations research, optimization, supply chain management, financial engineering, quality and reliability engineering and production management, with the aim to advance modeling, simulation, analysis and decision making for complex engineering and economic systems.

The SEE program is founded on the premise of dual competency in both traditional engineering and systems integration. The SEE program offers flexibility by permitting the student to select from a menu of advanced courses and take a wide range of electives to meet individual career goals. Graduates of these programs are prepared to enter academic and professional engineering positions in universities, industry, government, and private practice.

Opportunity also exists for specializing in energy and sustainability engineering via the Energy and Sustainability Engineering (EaSE) Graduate Certificate Option (http://ease.illinois.edu/)

A Master's degree is not required for admission to the Ph.D. program.

Students in the SEE master’s program must take the Qualifying Examination before obtaining the M.S. degree; students entering the program with a master’s degree earned elsewhere must pass the Qualifying Examination before or during their third semester in the Ph.D. program.

The 96 graduate hours of credit may be divided into three stages of 32 hours each, consisting of 32 hours generally represented by an M.S. degree or equivalent (Stage I), 32 hours of course work beyond the M.S. degree (Stage II), and 32 hours of thesis work for the doctoral thesis (Stage III). Stage I requirements are satisfied by completion of an M.S. degree in the Department or in a related engineering or technical discipline from the University of Illinois or other accredited university. A non-technical M.S. or MBA would normally not count toward the completion of Stage I. Such students would be required to enroll in one of the Master of Science Programs in the Department and satisfy the requirements therein in order to satisfy Stage I of the Ph.D. degree.

To advance to Stage II all students must pass the Qualifying Examination (https://ise.illinois.edu/graduate/degrees-and-programs/phd-systems-entrepreneurial-engineering.html). To advance from Stage II to Stage III the student must pass the Preliminary Exam. Stage III is comprised of a minimum of 32 hours of SE 599 credit and a written dissertation followed by a final oral thesis defense.

The Preliminary Examination is taken after the Qualifying Examination. A minimum of six months must elapse between the successful completion of the doctoral preliminary examination and the doctoral final examination (oral dissertation defense).

For additional details and requirements refer to the department’s Graduate Programs Web site (http://ise.illinois.edu/graduate/) and the Graduate College Handbook (http://grad.illinois.edu/gradhandbook/).

### Entering with approved M.S./M.A. degree

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Hours</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SE 599</td>
<td>Thesis Research (min-max applied toward the degree)</td>
<td>32</td>
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<tr>
<td>SE 590</td>
<td>Seminar (registration for 0 hours every term while in residence)</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Approved SE and IE courses</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Elective courses – chosen in consultation with advisor (subject to Other Requirements and Conditions below)</td>
<td>16</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Total Hours</strong></td>
<td><strong>64</strong></td>
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### Other Requirements and Conditions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Requirement</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Other Requirements and Conditions may overlap</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minimum 500-level credit hours applied toward the degree, all of which must from a College of Engineering department, including ABE and CHBE.</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Elective courses must be at the 500-level and from a College of Engineering department including ABE and CHBE.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy in Systems & Entrepreneurial Engineering**
A maximum of 8 hours of IE 597 (or other approved independent study) may be applied toward the elective course work requirement.

At least 64 hours of credit, which may include SE 599, must be earned in residence.

Ph.D. exam and dissertation requirements:
- Qualifying exam
- Preliminary exam
- Final exam or dissertation defense
- Dissertation deposit

Minimum GPA: 3.25

## Entering with approved B.S./B.A. degree

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Hours</th>
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<tr>
<td>Master’s degree equivalent</td>
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<td>32</td>
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<tr>
<td>SE 599</td>
<td>Thesis Research (min-max applied toward the degree)</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SE 590</td>
<td>Seminar (registration for 0 hours every term while in residence)</td>
<td>0</td>
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<td>Approved SE and IE courses</td>
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<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td>(subject to Other Requirements and Conditions below)</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Total Hours</strong></td>
<td><strong>96</strong></td>
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</table>

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<tr>
<td>Minimum 500-level credit hours applied toward the degree, all of which must from a College of Engineering department, including ABE and CHBE.</td>
<td>28</td>
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<tr>
<td>The Elective courses must be at the 500-level and from a College of Engineering department including ABE and CHBE.</td>
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<td>A maximum of 8 hours of IE 597 (or other approved independent study) may be applied toward the elective course work requirement.</td>
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