DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY
IN SYSTEMS AND
ENTREPRENEURIAL
ENGINEERING

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. 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 GE 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).

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

GE 599  Thesis Research (min-max applied toward the degree)  32
GE 590  Seminar (registration for 0 hours every term while in residence)  0
Approved GE and IE courses  16
Elective courses – chosen in consultation with advisor (subject to Other Requirements and Conditions below)  16
Total Hours  64

Other Requirements and Conditions 1

Other Requirements and Conditions may overlap

Minimum 500-level credit hours applied toward the degree, all of which must from a College of Engineering department, including ABE and CHBE.  16

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

Master’s degree equivalent  32
GE 599  Thesis Research (min-max applied toward the degree)  32
GE 590  Seminar (registration for 0 hours every term while in residence)  0
Approved GE and IE courses  16
Elective courses – chosen in consultation with advisor (subject to Other Requirements and Conditions below)  16
Total Hours  96

Other Requirements and Conditions 1

Other Requirements and Conditions may overlap

Minimum 500-level credit hours applied toward the degree, all of which must from a College of Engineering department, including ABE and CHBE.  28

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 GE 599, must be earned in residence.

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

2 Qualifying Exam Information (http://ise.illinois.edu/graduate/qualifying-prelim-final-exams)
Ph.D. exam and dissertation requirements:

- Qualifying exam
- Preliminary exam
- Final exam or dissertation defense
- Dissertation deposit

Minimum GPA: 3.25

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