

MATERIALS SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING, PH.D.

REQUIREMENTS

MINIMUM GRADUATE SCHOOL REQUIREMENTS

Review the Graduate School minimum academic progress and degree requirements (<http://guide.wisc.edu/graduate/#policiesandrequirements>), 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	51 credits
Minimum Residence Credit Requirement	32 credits
Minimum Graduate Coursework Requirement	26 credits must be graduate-level coursework. Details can be found in the Graduate School's Minimum Graduate Coursework (50%) policy (https://policy.wisc.edu/library/UW-1244).
Overall Graduate	3.00 GPA required. This program follows the Graduate School's GPA Requirement policy

GPA Requirement	(https://policy.wisc.edu/library/UW-1203 (https://policy.wisc.edu/library/UW-1203/)).
Other Grade Requirements	n/a
Assessments and Examinations	<p>Students entering without a previous master's degree:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Students must pass a qualifying exam in Materials Science and Engineering. The exam must be attempted within 13 months of the start of the student's first semester enrolled. If the first attempt is not passed, a second attempt is required within four months. Students must pass a preliminary exam / thesis proposal exam. This exam is typically undertaken by the end of the fourth semester enrolled and must be undertaken by the end of the fifth semester. If the first attempt is not passed, a second attempt is required within three months. Students may earn the M S & E Master's degree the semester they pass their preliminary exam. Students must prepare a doctoral dissertation, present it in a public seminar, defend it in closed examination by their doctoral committee, and deposit it with the Graduate School.

Students entering with a master's degree:

- Students on this track must pass the qualifying exam, thesis proposal exam, and thesis defense as described above, on the same schedule with respect to their matriculation date. Students who fail one of these exams will have the opportunity to earn a terminal Master's degree in M S & E, even if they have been granted a course substitution.

Language Requirements: None.

Graduate School Breadth Requirement	All doctoral students are required to complete a doctoral minor or Graduate/Professional certificate. If students choose a distributed minor (Option B), they must select a topic or theme and three courses around that theme. At least one course must be graduate level (numbered 700 or above or has Graduate Course Attribute). There are no other restrictions on the course department or topic.
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REQUIRED COURSES

Courses for Students Starting from a Bachelor's Degree and Enrolling Directly in the Ph.D. Program

All course requirements are subject to modification or substitution to better serve the research needs of the student. To request a change, submit a letter to the department Graduate Coordinator signed by the student and advisor proposing a change and explaining how the change will better suit the student's needs, especially as it pertains to their research. Course substitutions and other curriculum variances are decided by the department's director of graduate studies, subject to appeal to the department's Graduate Governance Committee and the grievance procedure.

Code	Title	Credits
Materials research seminar ¹		2
M S & E 900	Materials Research Seminar	
Materials core courses ²		9

M S & E 521	Advanced Polymeric Materials	
M S & E 530	Thermodynamics of Solids	
M S & E 551	Structure of Materials	
M S & E 752	Advanced Materials Science: Phase Transformations	
Graduate level math course (students may only count one of the following as materials core course)		
E P/E M A 547	Engineering Analysis I	
CBE 660	Intermediate Problems in Chemical Engineering	
MATH 703	Methods of Applied Mathematics 1	
MATH 704	Methods of Applied Mathematics-2	
PHYSICS 721	Theoretical Physics-Electrodynamics	
Materials electives courses ³		6
Additional coursework and/or research credits ⁴		25
Breadth requirement		9
Total Credits		51

1

Take two consecutive semesters.

2

Take three materials core courses, chosen from these options.

3

Electives must be selected from the list of Materials Elective Courses.

4

1. Before earning the Master's degree, students should register for M S & E 790 Master's Research or Thesis.
2. After earning the Master's degree, they should register for M S & E 890 Pre-Dissertator's Research.
3. Once they have achieved dissertator status, they should register for M S & E 990 Research and Thesis.

Materials Elective Courses

Code	Title	Credits
M S & E 401	Special Topics in Materials Science and Engineering	1-3
M S & E/CHEM 421	Polymeric Materials	3
M S & E/N E 423	Nuclear Engineering Materials	3
M S & E/N E 433	Principles of Corrosion	3
M S & E 434	Introduction to Thin-Film Deposition Processes	3
M S & E 441	Deformation of Solids	3
M S & E 448	Crystallography and X-Ray Diffraction	3
M S & E 451	Introduction to Ceramic Materials	3
M S & E 456	Electronic, Optical, and Magnetic Properties of Materials	3
M S & E 460	Introduction to Computational Materials Science and Engineering	3
M S & E 461	Advanced Metal Casting	3
M S & E/M E 462	Welding Metallurgy	3
M S & E 463	Materials for Elevated Temperature Service	3
M S & E 465	Fundamentals of Heat Treatment	3

M S & E/CIV ENGR/ G L E/GEOSCI 474	Rock Mechanics	3
M S & E 521	Advanced Polymeric Materials	3
M S & E 530	Thermodynamics of Solids	3
M S & E/E M A 541	Heterogeneous and Multiphase Materials	3
M S & E 550	Materials Fundamentals	3
M S & E 551	Structure of Materials	3
M S & E 553	Nanomaterials & Nanotechnology	3
M S & E 560	Fundamentals of Atomistic Modeling	3
M S & E 570	Properties of Solid Surfaces	3
M S & E 648	Advanced X-ray Scattering Methods in Materials Science and Engineering	3
M S & E 660	Mesoscale Modeling of Materials	3
M S & E 748	Structural Analysis of Materials	3
M S & E 750	Imperfections and Mechanical Properties	3
M S & E 752	Advanced Materials Science: Phase Transformations	3
M S & E 756	Structure and Properties of Advanced Electronic Materials	3
M S & E 760	Molecular Modeling of Materials	3
M S & E 803	Special Topics in Materials Science	1-3
B M E/PHM SCI 430	Biological Interactions with Materials	3
B M E/M E 615	Tissue Mechanics	3
BIOCHEM/ CHEM 704	Chemical Biology	3
CBE 540	Polymer Science and Technology	3
CBE 747	Advanced Colloid and Interface Science	3
CHEM 652	Chemistry of Inorganic Materials	3
CHEM 653	Chemistry of Nanoscale Materials	3
CHEM 654	Materials Chemistry of Polymers	2-3
CHEM 664	Physical Chemistry of Macromolecules	2-3
CHEM 721	Instrumental Analysis	3-4
E C E 745	Solid State Electronics	3
GEOSCI 765	Crystal Chemistry	3
PHYSICS 415	Thermal Physics	3
PHYSICS 551	Solid State Physics	3
PHYSICS 715	Statistical Mechanics	3
PHYSICS 751	Advanced Solid State Physics	3

Additionally, the student's research advisor must sign a form available from the department Graduate Coordinator approving the five courses taken to fulfill the materials core and materials electives requirements.

Courses for Students Starting from a Master's Degree and Enrolling Directly in the Ph.D. Program

These requirements cover students who (1) have already earned a master's degree in M S & E or a related field and (2) do not wish to earn an M S & E master's from UW.

Students must enroll in the introductory seminar, M S & E 900 Materials Research Seminar, for their first two semesters of enrollment.

Students must satisfy all of the course requirements for the Ph.D. given in the preceding section. However, they may request that courses taken as part of a previous master's degree at another institution serve to satisfy a portion of the requirements. Students will have one month after matriculation to identify that they wish to follow this track to their Ph.D. and to submit all their course substitution requests. Course substitutions will not be considered later in the student's Ph.D. studies.

To make such a request, the student should submit a request to the department Graduate Coordinator describing (1) the course from a previous institution; (2) the UW course equivalent; (3) the M S & E course requirement that will be satisfied. The request must include sufficient information to determine if the courses are equivalent. Typically, a syllabus listing the course textbook and lecture topics is sufficient. A course catalog description is typically insufficient. Courses taken while enrolled as an undergraduate student at another institution will not be considered for substitution. This includes courses at the graduate level taken while the student is enrolled as an undergraduate.

If a request is not approved, the student must fulfill the corresponding requirement at the University of Wisconsin–Madison.

If one or more course substitutions are accepted, the student will not earn a master's degree in Materials Science and Engineering from UW–Madison as part of their Ph.D. studies.