PhD in Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering

Degree Requirements

A minimum of 72 semester hours are required including the credit hours taken during the MS program. Students who received the MS degree from other than MU may transfer a maximum of 30 hours from their MS course work. The 72 hours must include at least 18 hours of coursework at the 8000 level excluding problems and research hours (can be MAE or outside MAE). All research credits on the Plan of Study form must be designated as MAE 9990 – Research. A doctoral student must satisfy a special requirement, either proficiency in foreign languages or a collateral field. The collateral field requires a minimum of nine hours of course work in one area other than MAE.

Plan of Study

The PhD candidate plans a plan of study and research under the immediate supervision of an advisor and in close cooperation with the doctoral program committee approved by the dean of the Graduate School upon the department’s recommendation.

Qualifying Examination

A qualifying examination is given soon after the student begins doctoral study. Successful completion of this examination is a prerequisite to formal acceptance into the PhD program.

Students with an MS from MU or another accredited U.S. engineering program will be exempt from the qualifying examination if their MS GPA and total GRE scores satisfy a departmental exemption rule. See https://engineering.missouri.edu/departments/mechanical-aerospace-engineering/ for more information.

Comprehensive Examination & Dissertation

A comprehensive examination is given after all course work and language or collateral requirements have been satisfied. Upon completion of the plan of study and research a final examination, essentially a defense of the dissertation, is administered.

Admission Contact Information

muengrgraduatesup1@missouri.edu

Application Deadlines for all Applicants

Fall deadline: May 31 (priority deadline Jan 1)
Spring deadline: October 31 (priority deadline Oct 1)
Summer deadline: April 30

Admission Criteria

- Minimum GPA: 3.0
- Strong record in the MS program
- Minimum GRE score: 298 combined score on Verbal and Quantitative sections
- Minimum TOEFL score: 80
- Minimum Academic IELTS Overall score: 6.5

Note: Doctoral degree program applicants are closely and individually reviewed.

How to apply to the MAE doctoral program:

Step 1: All documents should be uploaded directly in Slate: https://gradstudies.missouri.edu/admissions/apply/

Step 2: Required documents:
- Unofficial Transcripts (all Universities and Colleges attended) uploaded in Slate
- TOEFL/IELTS score - sent electronically to the University by ETS
- 3 letters of recommendation (preferably from MS advisor and 2 other letters) - uploaded by the recommenders. Letters must come from a school e-mail address, not personal accounts (like yahoo, gmail, etc).
- GRE score - sent electronically by ETS
- Statement of Objectives - one page letter telling about yourself and the area you will study if accepted
- CV/Résumé

Contact:
Mechanical & Aerospace Engineering, Graduate Admissions
muengrgraduatesup1@missouri.edu