Welcome to the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering

MSCE and MCE Degrees in Civil Engineering

Ph.D. Degree in Environmental Science and Engineering

Small class sizes ensure personal attention from the highly qualified faculty. The Department has state-of-the-art laboratories for each major technical area. They are housed in the Engineering Building, Biotechnology, Sciences and Engineering (BSE) building and Applied Engineering and Technology (AET) building. They include:

- Geomaterials (AASHTO Accredited)
- Geotechnical
- Environmental
- Bio-environmental
- Structures
- Hydraulics
- PC/CAD

Research and Teaching Assistantships are available on a competitive basis to full-time students carrying out research. Typical amounts are $22.5k and $27.5k/yr for MSCE and PhD students. Funding agencies include NSF, NOAA, TxDOT, HP, DOE, DOA, USAF, CPS Energy, City of SA, SAWS and others. The Department is affiliated with the Texas Sustainable Energy Institute http://texasenergy.utsa.edu/

About UTSA

The University of Texas at San Antonio serves the San Antonio metropolitan area and the broader region of South Texas through programs and services offered from its three campuses: Main Campus, Downtown Campus and UTSA’s Institute of Texan Cultures.

With over 30,000 students enrolled in eight colleges, UTSA is the second-largest component in the University of Texas System and has been one of the state’s fastest-growing public universities for much of the last decade.

UTSA offers 63 bachelor’s, 49 master’s and 24 doctoral degree programs. With several new doctoral programs in the planning stages, UTSA is rapidly moving toward classification as a doctoral/research intensive institution.

The University’s two campuses provide access and opportunity for large numbers of historically underserved students. More than 57 percent of UTSA’s students come from groups underrepresented in higher education. Many students are the first in their families to attend a college or university.

CEE Department contacts

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For additional information, please visit our web-
Master of Science & Master in Civil Engineering Degrees

The MSCE degree is designed to provide civil engineering graduates with advanced research training, while the new MCE degree is targeted towards providing advanced technical training to practicing engineers. Technical training is provided in five technical areas: environmental, geotechnical, hydraulic, structural and transportation engineering.

The MSCE is a courses plus thesis program, while the MCE is a courses only program. Both programs provide advanced training and built critical thinking skills through course work. In addition, the MSCE emphasizes research and technical writing skills by requiring a thesis.

MSCE and MCE Program Admission Requirements. In addition to the University-wide graduate admission requirements for unconditional admission, applicants must satisfy the following, and admission decisions will be based on the following criteria:

- a satisfactory score, as specified by the Graduate Program Committee for Civil Engineering, on the Graduate Record Examination (GRE),
- an undergraduate degree in civil engineering or a closely related field from an accredited institution, or proof of equivalent training at a foreign institution,
- a statement of research/specialization interest,
- a favorable recommendation by the Master of Science in Civil Engineering Admissions Committee.

A student who does not qualify for unconditional admission may be admitted on a conditional basis as determined by the Masters Admissions Committee.

Degree Requirements. The minimum number of semester credit hours required for the degree, in addition to any conditional course requirements, is 34 semester credit hours for the MCE and 30 semester credit hours for the MSCE. At least 24 semester credit hours must be taken at UTSA. MSCE students are required to pass an oral thesis defense administered by his or her advisory committee which is chaired by a faculty member. MCE students are required to give a technical seminar or a thesis defense.

CEE Faculty.
The CEE faculty has a broad technical background and strong contacts with industry and academia nationally and internationally. The size of the faculty, currently numbering 16, includes:

Dr. Alberto Arroyo
Dr. Sazzad Bin-Shafique
Dr. A. Chowdhury (SWRI)
Dr. Manuel Diaz
Dr. Arturo Montoya
Dr. Samer Dessouky
Dr. Jie Huang
Dr. Drew Johnson
Dr. Xiaofeng Liu
Dr. Louis Manz
Dr. T. Papagiannakis, Chair
Dr. Ruoting Pei
Dr. Hatim Sharif
Dr. Les Shephard, SERI Dir.
Dr. Heathcr Shipley
Dr. Jose Weissmann

Doctor of Philosophy Degree in Environmental Science and Engineering

The CEE Department offers a Doctor of Philosophy degree in Environmental Science and Engineering. This program draws on the resources of the College of Sciences and the College of Engineering. Faculty share responsibilities in providing courses, research supervision, and facilities for this program.

Areas of research emphasis include water resources, environmental quality, environmental remediation, pollution control, conservation ecology, spatial analysis, remote sensing, and natural hazards. The Ph.D. in Environmental Science and Engineering is awarded to candidates who display an in-depth understanding of the subject matter and demonstrate the ability to make an original contribution to knowledge in their field of specialty.

Program Admission Requirements. In addition to satisfying the University-wide graduate admission requirements, all prospective students must have:

- A Bachelor of Arts or Bachelor of Science degree and a Master of Science degree from an accredited university. The degree should be in biology, ecology, environmental science, chemistry, biology, geography, engineering, or other related scientific discipline.

- A minimum grade point average of 3.0 in upper-division and graduate work. Applicants with only a Bachelor of Science degree may apply to the program and will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

- Applicants whose native language is not English must score at least 550 on the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL; paper version).

- Three letters of recommendation from persons familiar with the applicant’s academic potential, Graduate Record Examination (GRE) scores, a letter of research interest, and resume/CV by the applicant are required and should be sent to the Doctoral Studies Committee Chair. Incomplete applications will not be considered until all required items are in an applicant’s file.

The academic overview of this PhD program is effected by the Doctoral Studies Committee (DSC) which is comprised of members elected from the program faculty.

Degree Requirements. The Ph.D. in Environmental Science and Engineering requires students to complete a minimum of 60 semester credit hours beyond the master’s degree. This coursework includes courses that have been designed to provide advanced instruction in areas considered to form the foundation for the disciplines of environmental science and engineering. Enrollment in the Graduate Seminar is required for a minimum of 6 semester credit hours. A minimum of 15 semester credit hours of Doctoral Research and 15 semester credit hours of Doctoral Dissertation must be completed and applied for graduation. Students can apply, with approval from their Chair Advisor, to up to 12 semester credit hours of graduate coursework to elective courses, if not applied toward their M.S. degree. Students with only a baccalaureate degree are required to have a minimum of 75 semester credit hours to graduate with approval of the Doctoral Studies Committee.

CEE Ph.D. Program Faculty. The CEE Ph.D. faculty is drawn from the Department of CEE, Geology, Chemistry, Biology and Public Policy. The faculty, currently numbering 21, includes:

Dr. Stephan Bach
Dr. Sazzad Bin-Shafique
Dr. Janis Bush
Dr. Stuart Birnbaum
Dr. James Chambers
Dr. Alan Dutton
Dr. Judy Haschenburger
Dr. Drew Johnson
Dr. Jerome Keating
Dr. Xiaofeng Liu
Dr. Hatim Sharif
Dr. Heathcr Shipley
Dr. Oscar Van Auken
Dr. Hongjie Xie
Dr. Marina Suarez
Dr. Weldon Hammond
Dr. Lance Lambert
Dr. Les Shephard (SERI)
Dr. Juan Gomez (SERI)
Dr. T. Papagiannakis, Dir.

Master Program Coordinator: Jose Weissmann, Ph.D. P.E. jose.weissmann@utsa.edu (210) 458-5595

Ph.D. Program Director: T. Papagiannakis, Ph.D. P.E. F.ASCE at.papagiannakis@utsa.edu (210) 458-7517

For more information: http://engineering.utsa.edu/CE/curriculum.html