Program Description

Degree Awarded: PHD Systems Engineering

The PhD in systems engineering is a transdisciplinary graduate program offered by the Polytechnic School.

The program is aimed at advancing the understanding of complex engineering systems and where these systems are inclusive of technological aspects, as well as social, cultural, environmental and other interacting components that impact the input, output and interactions within a system. The program prepares students to identify, model, analyze, interpret, optimize and manage the multidimensional interactions of the ever-increasing complexity of modern technological and societal challenges.

A typical incoming student in this program would have a master's degree in engineering or related discipline. The core curriculum provides the foundation for systems thinking, systems identification, systems modeling and systems design and analysis using diverse disciplinary methodological approaches. Students in this doctoral program use their capacity to evaluate complex systems and a depth of mathematical maturity to study problems for which complexity is impeding progress.

At a Glance

- **College/School:** [Ira A. Fulton Schools of Engineering](#)
- **Location:** [Polytechnic campus](#)

Degree Requirements

84 credit hours, a written comprehensive exam, an oral comprehensive exam, and a dissertation
Required Core (9 credit hours)
EGR 602 Principles of Independent Research (3)
EGR 608 Advanced Simulation (3)
EGR 611 Complex Engineering Systems (3)

Technical Electives (3 credit hours)

Electives and Research (60 credit hours)

Culminating Experience (12 credit hours)
EGR 799 Dissertation (12)

Additional Curriculum Information
When approved by the student's supervisory committee and the Graduate College, this program allows 30 credit hours from a previously awarded master's degree to be used toward this degree. If students do not have a previously awarded master's degree, the 30 credit hours of coursework is made up of electives to reach the required 84 credit hours.

Students are required to take 12 credit hours of EGR 792 as part of their research coursework.

Elective coursework should be directly in support of the student's research as advised by the supervisory committee.

Students with a BS degree coming into the doctoral program in systems engineering must complete at least nine credit hours of approved mathematics courses after the completion of their bachelor's degree. Students select appropriate elective courses in consultation with the academic unit.

Admission Requirements

Applicants must fulfill the requirements of both the Graduate College and the Ira A. Fulton Schools of Engineering.

Applicants are eligible to apply to the program if they have earned a minimum of a bachelor's or master's degree in engineering from a regionally accredited institution, or if they have earned the equivalent of a US bachelor's degree from an international institution that is officially recognized by that country in engineering, physical sciences, mathematics or a similar field.

Applicants without a master's degree in engineering or a closely related field must have a minimum of a 3.75 cumulative GPA (scale is 4.00 = "A") in the last 60 hours of their first bachelor's degree program coupled with a record of research or leadership accomplishments (or both). Applicants with a master's degree in
engineering or a closely related field must have a minimum of 3.25 cumulative GPA (scale is 4.00 = "A") in the applicable master's degree program. Exceptional undergraduates are encouraged to apply after completion of a BS degree.

All applicants must submit:

1. graduate admission application and application fee
2. official transcripts from each college or university attended
3. two letters of recommendation
4. GRE scores
5. statement of purpose
6. resume or curriculum vitae
7. proof of English proficiency

Additional Application Information
An applicant whose native language is not English must provide proof of English proficiency regardless of current residency. Applicants should see the Graduate Admission Services website at https://admission.asu.edu/international/graduate/english-proficiency. Global Launch at ASU offers an online alternative to standardized testing for international students who are seeking admission to ASU but need proof of English proficiency: https://learnenglish.asu.edu/online/admission

If the applicant does not meet the minimum GPA requirements, the application may still be considered. In certain cases, demonstrated aptitude through professional experience or additional postbaccalaureate education is considered.

A GRE waiver may be requested if the applicant received a bachelor’s degree in a related field from the United States with a cumulative GPA of 3.00 or better. Engineering programs must have a bachelor’s degree from an ABET-accredited program. Applicants should email polygrad@asu.edu to request a waiver. They can also submit a GRE waiver request form if they have five years of full-time applicable professional experience. An approved waiver does not guarantee admission.

Application Deadlines

Fall

Spring

Contact Information

Engineering Programs | WANER 101
polygrad@asu.edu | 480-727-4723
Admission Deadlines