System Engineering, PhD

ESSYSPHD

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, 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 will be 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, or a closely related field, from a regionally accredited institution.

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  
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 (regardless of current residency) must provide proof of English proficiency: [https://admission.asu.edu/international/graduate/english-proficiency](https://admission.asu.edu/international/graduate/english-proficiency).

**Application Deadlines**

**Fall**

**Spring**

**Contact Information**

[Engineering Programs](mailto:polygrad@asu.edu) | WANER 101  
[polygrad@asu.edu](mailto:polygrad@asu.edu) | 480-727-4723  
[Admission Deadlines](#)