GRADUATE EDUCATION IN
THE ECE DEPARTMENT

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Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering
Outline

• Do you have the right stuff?
• Academic Advisor and Committees
• Academic Requirements
• Academic Progress
• Graduate Student Support
• Graduate Student Reference Material
Do you have the right stuff?

• GRADES:
  ✓ MS - you must have a minimum 3.0 on UGPA
  ✓ PhD - you must also have a minimum 3.5 GGPA

• GRE SCORES:
  ✓ MS - minimum of 1100 on V+Q
  ✓ PhD – 1200 on V+Q

• International
  ✓ TOEFL of at least 550 (213) **
Application Information

• DOMESTIC:
  ✓ Deadline: Application must be submitted 1 month before entrance begins
  ✓ $35

• INTERNATIONAL:
  ✓ Deadline: Application must be submitted Feb. 1 for the Fall 2003 semester **
  ✓ $45

➢ All transcripts from all schools need to be turned in before admission can be granted
Application Information

- University Scholars Program:
  - Can enter once you have at least 90 hours
  - Must have a 3.5 UGPA
  - Combined BS/MS
  - Can count two of your EE 5XX courses for both your undergrad and grad programs
  - Effectively, you shorten your graduate course requirement by 2 courses – sweet!
Academic Advisor and Committees

• Academic Advisor:
  ✓ For either the MS or PhD, you need to have a research/academic advisor

• MS COMMITTEES:
  ✓ For MS, your advisor chairs a committee with at least 2 other faculty.
  ✓ All least 2 faculty must have Graduate Faculty Status (including chair) with at least one having Full Graduate Faculty Status
Academic Advisor and Committees

• PhD Committees:
  ✓ For PhD, your advisor chairs a committee with at least 3 other faculty
  ✓ One member must be from outside ECE
  ✓ All faculty must have Graduate Faculty Status with at least 3 (including the chair) having Full Graduate Faculty Status
Academic Requirements

- **CORE COURSES:**
  - All graduate students must satisfy the core course requirement: You must take at least 3 of the following courses:
  - EE 611 Deterministic Systems
  - EE 621 Electromagnetic Fields
  - EE 640 Stochastic Systems
  - EE 661 Solid-State Electronics
  - EE 685 Digital Computer Structure
Academic Requirements

- **MS – Thesis**
  - ✔️ 24 hours of required graduate course work
  - ✔️ At least 1/2 must be at the 6XX level
  - ✔️ At least 2/3 must be EE courses
  - ➢ Fewer courses, more in-depth research, must write a thesis
Academic Requirements

• MS – non-Thesis
  ✔ 30 hours of required graduate course work
  ✔ At least 1/2 must be at the 6XX level
  ✔ At least 2/3 must be EE courses
  ✔ Also must sign up for the EE 784 Project course when you are ready to defend
  ➢ More courses, still have to do research, not quite as in-depth
Academic Requirements

• PhD
  ✓ PhD courses are determined by the student and the advisory committee
  ✓ Your course work must satisfy the Graduate School’s pre-qualifying residency credit models (exceptions have to be approved by the Dean of the Graduate School)
  ✓ PhD students must pass a qualifying examination based primarily on your graduate course work
  ✓ PhD students also have a technical writing requirement
Academic Requirements

• For example, here is Model I for PhD’s:
  - master's degree or 18 graduate hours at the University of Kentucky, or transfer of residence credit from an awarded master's at another accredited school; plus,
  - two consecutive semesters enrolled full-time, i.e., nine or more credits per semester (may include combined first and second summer sessions); plus,
  - completion with a grade of "S" of two consecutive full-time semesters (9 credits each) or three consecutive part-time semesters (6 credits each) of course 769 after successfully passing the qualifying examination.
Academic Requirements

• Final Examinations:
  ➢ MS Thesis, non-thesis and dissertations all require a final oral defense of your research work

• Length of study:
  ➢ The typical full-time master’s degree takes on the order of two years
  ➢ The typical full-time PhD takes on the order of 3 to 4 years
Academic Progress

• MS Students:
✓ Activities used to satisfy degree requirements must be completed within *eight years* preceding the proposed date of graduation.

• PhD Students:
✓ All degree requirements for the doctorate must be completed within *five years* following the semester or summer session in which the candidate successfully completes the qualifying examination.
Academic Progress

• Must maintain at least a 3.0 grade point average to avoid probation

• If you are on probation, you have 9 hours to raise your GPA to 3.0 before being dismissed from Graduate School

• Graduate students are allowed one course “repeat” option
Graduate Student Support

• Teaching Assistantships are in short supply and very competitive
• Research Assistantships are more plentiful and a better deal
• Graduate School Fellowships are available and usually have an **early spring semester deadline**
  ➢ See [www.rgs.uky.edu/gs/fellowship/fellowships.html](http://www.rgs.uky.edu/gs/fellowship/fellowships.html)
• National Fellowships have deadlines that are also soon approaching (NSF, NASA, DOD, DOE,…)
Graduate Student Reference Material

Here are some important web sites

- www.rgs.uky.edu/gs/gradhome.html
- www.rgs.uky.edu/gs/bulletin/current/bulletin.html
- www.rgs.uky.edu/gs/gsforms.html
- www.engr.uky.edu/ece/index.html