Master of Science in Civil Engineering Degree Program

Blueprint to Enhanced Professional Success?
Advantages

- NCEES (National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying) has approved a model licensure law requiring a B+30 or B + M to qualify for the Principles & Practice Exam – RECOMMENDED START DATE = JANUARY 1, 2020

- Many CE Design firms are beginning to insist on graduates with a masters degree
ADVANTAGES

Continued

- Reduction of one year for PE practical training in Kentucky, other states may not be as generous

- Greater education $\Rightarrow$ Greater confidence
ADVANTAGES - Continued

Average starting salary (NACE, April 2012)

- BSCE  = $57,300
- MSCE  ~ $5,000 higher

Median 1995 salaries (NSF):

- BSCE  = $50,000 (159,831)
- MSCE  = $56,750 (47,279)
- Ph.D.  = $75,000 (4,091)

(Parenthetical numbers are the number of engineers within each degree level – at least double the salary numbers for 2014.)
NACE Historical Trend of Starting Salaries for BSCE and MSCE Graduates Nationally
Figure 1: Trend in median salary for private-sector civil engineers by years of experience, 2004-2008.
ADVANTAGES

Continued

- Lifetime earnings ≈ $200K - $400K greater than BSCE graduate

MSCE Degree

Entrance Requirements

- 2.80/4.00 Cumulative GPA
- Earn a 300 or higher on the Graduate Record Exam (GRE)

**NOTE:** If your GPA is below a 2.75, work with the DGS on a petition to the Graduate School for conditional admittance
University Scholars

Entrance Requirements

- Cumulative GPA of 3.20/4.00; CE GPA of 3.50/4.00
- Earn a 300 or higher on the Graduate Record Exam (GRE)
- Completed 100 semester credit hours of CE curriculum including 30 hours of CE prefixed courses
University Scholars
Entrance Requirements

- Completed all but one University Core course
- Open only to UK undergraduates

ADVANTAGES:
- Reduction of six credit hours for degree
- Start graduate program during senior year
MSCE Degree
Plan A

- 24 semester credit hours plus thesis
- At least 12 credit hours at the 600 level or higher
- Thesis writing builds research competence and a greater knowledge of a subject area than is possible with just coursework
- Duration: 1.5 - 2.0 years
MSCE Degree
Plan B

- 30 semester credit hours, which must include three credit hours of independent study
- Minimum of 15 semester credit hours at or above the 600 level
- DURATION: Normally, one calendar year
University Scholars
Plan A

18 semester credit hours
12 semester hours at or above the 600 level
DURATION: One - two years
University Scholars
Plan B

- 24 semester credit hours, which must include three credit hours of independent study
- 15 semester hours at or above the 600 level

DURATION: Normally, one academic year