

The BS/MS Program

BS/MS Degree Options

- **BSME leading to an MSME**
- **BSME leading to an MSNRE, MSMP, or MSBIOE**
- **BSNRE leading to an MSNRE**
- **BSNRE leading to an MSME, MSMP, or MSBIOE**

When Do I Apply?

- **Completed 30 credit hours at GT**
 - Typically end of freshman year
- **Less than 75 total credit hours**
 - Includes transfer and advanced placement
 - Typically at mid-point of junior year
- **GPA of 3.50 or higher is required**

How do I Apply?

- No application fee required
- No Graduate Record Exam (GRE) is required
- Application Requirements:
 - On-line application at:
<http://www.me.gatech.edu/undergraduate/bsms>
 - Several short answer questions including:
 - Career goals
 - Objective
 - Personal Interests
 - Why should GT consider you?
 - One recommendation letter from a GT faculty member

Program Highlights

- You can use 6 hours of ME or NRE undergraduate courses toward both your B.S. and M.S. degrees.
- A maximum of 6 additional hours taken at the bachelor's level, but not counted toward your B.S. degree, may be used toward your master's degree.
- You need to maintain a grade point average of 3.3 or higher to remain in the BSMS program after being accepted.
- Only course work taken with Graduate Standing counts toward your graduate GPA.
- There is no obligation to complete your master's degree if your plans change.

Master's Degree Options

NON-THESIS OPTION:

- Students only take classes according to the MS degree requirements.
- There is no funding available in this case.
- With proper planning, the MS can be completed in 1 year.
- Well-motivated students can finish the MS in medical physics in 1.5 years.

THESIS OPTION:

- This option involves working with a faculty member on a project in one of the traditional or cutting edge research areas.
 - Hands-on experience in working with a faculty mentor
 - The chance to work in a laboratory or a research environment
 - The chance to perform theoretical and experimental work
 - These events will expand your selection of possible employers
- You may have a GRA/GTA and receive a stipend and a tuition waiver.
- The time it takes to complete your MS degree depends on your thesis project, your advisor, and your work ethic (generally 1.5 – 2 years)

MSME Degree Requirements

	<u>With Thesis</u>	<u>Without Thesis</u>
Coherent Major Area	12	21
Coherent Minor Area	6	6
All work in the major and minor areas must be from the College of Computing, Science, and/or Engineering.		
Mathematics	3	3
Thesis (ME 7000)	9	0
Total for Degree	30	30

<u>Additional Requirements</u>	<u>With Thesis</u>	<u>Without Thesis</u>
ME xxxx Credits	9	18
Credits at 6000 Level or above	15	24
All classes must be 4000 level or above.		
Special Problem Credit (ME 89xx)	0	0 or 3

Degree Requirements (Fine Print)

- Note that ME 6753, ME 6789, and ME 6799 do not satisfy the requirement for the major area
- Only courses from the Math department fulfill the mathematics requirement.
- The minor area must be distinctly different from the major area.
- ME xxxx credits do not include thesis credits (ME 7000).
- Classes that cannot be used for the MS degree:
 - Any course in which you receive a grade of D or F
 - Any course taken for a non-letter grade (except thesis, transfer credit, or advanced standing)
 - Any course required for the BSME degree

MS Program of Study

- Use the graduate handbook to create your program of study.
 - The graduate handbook is at:
<http://www.me.gatech.edu/graduate/handbook>
 - Courses options and frequencies of course offerings are at:
<http://www.me.gatech.edu/graduate/handbook/app>
- To initiate your MS Program of Study submission, please go to the following link and follow the online instructions:
<https://www2.me.gatech.edu/graddb/forms/student/>

BS/MS Financial Aid Options

- **Funding opportunities**
 - **GRA (Graduate Research Assistant)**
 - **Fellowships**
 - **GTA (Graduate Teaching Assistant)**
- **The following priorities are used for assigning GTA support:**
 - **Ph.D. students who have passed the qualifying exam and presented their Ph.D. proposal**
 - **Ph.D. students who have passed the qualifying exam**
 - **Ph.D. students**
 - **M.S. thesis students**
 - **Non-thesis master's students generally are not given GTA support**

Applying for Financial Aid

- The semester before you start your graduate studies go to the Graduate Database and submit an electronic financial support form.

<https://www2.me.gatech.edu/graddb/forms/student/>

- Because resources are limited, only a fraction of these requests are granted.

What if I am accepted, but then realize that I will not start the MS degree the semester I initially applied for?

- Come to the Office of Student Services (MRDC 3112) or email Camellia Henry at camellia.henry@me.gatech.edu.
- Tell her that you are a BSMS student and that you are changing the semester that you will be starting the MS portion of your studies.

What if I decide to change my major after I am admitted into the program? How is that handled?

Come to the Office of Student Services (MRDC 3112) and complete a “Change of Major” form.

I want to do the MS Thesis Option. How do I meet professors/students in the research area I am interested in?

- Visit our web site and find research areas you are interested in by looking through the research brochure and faculty profiles.
- Go to the faculty labs and talk with graduate students.
- Contact the professor and ask for an interview to discuss joining his/her research group.

Important

- Be an “informed consumer” about the BSMS program.
- Attend all orientations/briefings offered about graduate school opportunities.
- Attend the Fall Orientation session for new graduate students prior to your entrance into the MS portion of your studies.

BSMS Final Thoughts

- **Consider the MS Thesis option even if it may take longer than one year to finish your MS**
 - You might find it a more enriching experience to work directly with a faculty advisor
 - You may get your graduate schooling paid while serving as a Graduate Research Assistant (GRA)
- **If you find the research experience enjoyable, we would like you to also consider a PhD.....you are one of our top undergraduates!**

Still Have Questions?

- [Dr. Kathryn Wingate](#) is the BS/MS advisor for the MSME program.
- [Dr. Farzad Rahnema](#) is the BS/MS advisor for MSNRE and MSMP programs.