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

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

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<tr>
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<th>With Thesis</th>
<th>Without Thesis</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ME xxxx Credits</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Credits at 6000 Level or above</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>All classes must be 4000 level or above.</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Special Problem Credit (ME 89xx)</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0 or 3</td>
</tr>
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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](http://www.me.gatech.edu/graduate/handbook)
  - Courses options and frequencies of course offerings are at: [http://www.me.gatech.edu/graduate/handbook/app](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/](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.