ARCHITECTURAL ENGINEERING - DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY (PHD)

Graduate studies in architectural engineering are offered through the Department of Civil, Environmental and Architectural Engineering. The department offers a PhD degree with study emphases in several major areas:

- building systems engineering
- construction engineering and management
- engineering for developing communities

For more information, visit the department’s Graduate Studies (http://www.colorado.edu/ceae/prospective-students/graduate-studies) webpage.

Requirements

Course Requirements

For a Doctor of Philosophy degree (PhD) in architectural engineering, students need at least 30 hours of graduate-level course work plus a dissertation.

Courses offered in the architectural engineering graduate program may be separated into four tracks, one specific to the Construction Engineering & Management discipline and three related to the Building Systems Engineering discipline. Students may decide to concentrate in one of these track areas, or they may wish to take a broad selection from the courses; there is no requirement for picking any specific track under the general track option.

Code | Title | Credit Hours
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**Required Core Courses**
CVEN 5830 | Special Topics for Seniors/Grads (Building Energy Systems) | 3
AREN 5890 | Sustainable Building Design | 3
CVEN 5836 | Special Topics for Seniors/Grads (CEM Fundamentals) | 3
Applied Math course | | 3

**Electives**
Select 9 credits from the following:
- AREN 5110 HVAC System Design
- AREN 5080 Computer Simulation of Building Energy Systems
- CVEN 5830 Special Topics for Seniors/Grads (Building Electrical Systems)
- AREN 5020 Building Energy Audits
- CVEN 5830 Special Topics for Seniors/Grads (Applied Data Analysis & Modeling)
- CVEN 5830 Special Topics for Seniors/Grads (CFD of Buildings & Environment)

**Illumination Engineering Track**
Select 9 credits from the following:
- CVEN 5830 Special Topics for Seniors/Grads (Illumination 2)

**Materials and Resources Track**
Select 9 credits from the following:
- CVEN 5830 Special Topics for Seniors/Grads (Forensic Engineering)
- CVEN 5835 Special Topics for Seniors/Grads (Design of Wood Structures)
- CVEN 5835 Special Topics for Seniors/Grads (Design of Masonry Structures)
- CVEN 5830 Special Topics for Seniors/Grads (Sustainable Materials & Structures)
- CVEN 5831 Special Topics (Construction Materials)
- CVEN 5565 Life-Cycle Engineering of Civil Infrastructure Systems

**Construction Engineering & Management Track**
Select 9 credits from the following:
- CVEN 5246 Legal Aspects of Construction
- CVEN 5276 Engineering Risk and Decision Analysis
- CVEN 5226 Construction Safety
- CVEN 5286 Design Construction Operations
- CVEN 5836 Special Topics for Seniors/Grads (BIM for Construction)
- CVEN 5346 Managing Construction and Engineering Projects and Organizations

Residency Requirements

For an entrant from another university, up to 21 hours of acceptable graduate courses may be transferred, leaving at least 9 hours of course work to be completed at the University of Colorado upon the approval of their advisors. The transfer credits are transferable at the discretion of the research advisor, and students may be asked to take additional courses toward the completion of their degree. Work already applied toward a graduate degree received from the University of Colorado or another institution cannot be accepted for transfer toward another graduate degree of the same level at the University of Colorado. All courses accepted for transfer must be graduate-level courses. A course in which a grade of B- or lower was received will not be accepted for transfer.

For students already in the MS program in the CEAE department, 30 hours of graduate course work performed at CU is applicable towards the PhD degree upon the approval of their advisors. The transfer credits are transferable at the discretion of the research advisor, and students may be asked to take additional courses toward the completion of their degree. Work already applied toward a graduate degree received from the University of Colorado or another institution cannot be accepted for transfer toward another graduate degree of the same level at the University of Colorado. All courses accepted for transfer must be graduate-level courses. A course in which a grade of B- or lower was received will not be accepted for transfer.

For students already in the MS program in the CEAE department, 30 hours of graduate course work performed at CU is applicable towards the PhD degree upon the approval of their advisors. The PhD also requires that 30 hours of dissertation credit be taken, with a minimum residency of 2 years. After passing the comprehensive exam, PhD candidates are required to maintain continuous registration. Candidates must register for at least 5 hours of dissertation credits each semester.

Preliminary Examination

Each doctoral student shall take a preliminary examination as determined by the faculty of the specialty area in which the student is enrolled, normally not later than 12 months from the time the student is first enrolled in the doctoral program. Each CEAE group has a designated time for PhD students to take the exam. Students should discuss the schedule, date and format of the exam with their academic adviser.
Comprehensive Examination
Before admission to candidacy for the doctoral degree, students must pass a comprehensive examination, which shall consist of a written and an oral examination in the field of concentration and related fields. At the comprehensive examination, the student shall present a plan for the dissertation research to the Advisory Committee for approval.

PhD Dissertation
Students must write a dissertation based on original research conducted under the supervision of a graduate faculty member. The dissertation must fulfill all Graduate School requirements. After the dissertation is completed, an oral final examination on the dissertation and related topics is conducted by the student's doctoral committee.

Time Limit
All degree requirements must be completed within six years of the date of commencing course work.

Engineering for Developing Communities Certificate
Students admitted to the Engineering for Developing Communities (EDC) graduate certificate (catalog.colorado.edu/graduate/colleges-schools/engineering-applied-science/programs-study/civil-engineering/engineering-developing-communities-graduate-certificate) program must fulfill the course work and practicum requirements of that program. For AREN students, up to 6 credits of the required EDC course work can count as course work needed for the PhD degree.