ARCHITECTURAL ENGINEERING - MASTER OF SCIENCE (MS)

Graduate studies in architectural engineering are offered through the Department of Civil, Environmental and Architectural Engineering. The department offers a Master of Science 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.

Concurrent Degree Program

BS/MS in Architectural Engineering

A concurrent BS/MS degree program in architectural engineering is available. Students may apply to the program when they have 75–110 credit hours toward the undergraduate BS degree (including completed and in-progress courses). Once accepted into the program, students are allowed to count 6 credit hours taken at the graduate level for both the BS and MS degrees (if certain grade and GPA requirements are met); this allows a student to obtain both degrees in five to six years.

For more information, visit the BS/MS Program (http://www.colorado.edu/ceae/current-students/undergraduate-studies/bsms-program) webpage.

Requirements

For a Master of Science (MS) degree in architectural engineering, students may undertake Plan I (with a thesis) or Plan II (based on course work).

Up to 6 hours of independent study may be taken, where an individual course of study is worked out between the student and a faculty member. Up to 9 hours of graduate courses can be transferred from another institution. Students are allowed up to 6 credits in total of non-technical course work for the MS/PhD degree.

Degree Plans

Plan I: Thesis Option

Plan I requires 24 credit hours of course work, plus 6 credit hours of thesis work. The thesis is a formal research report that discusses an organized research topic. Experience has shown that it takes a student from 24 to 30 months to complete this plan. Financial support is generally limited to exceptionally well-qualified students selecting Plan I.

Plan II: Non-Thesis Option

Plan II requires 30 credit hours of course work. It can be successfully completed in 18–24 months by a diligent student. With the approval of the advisor, non-CEAE courses at the 4000 level may be used for graduate credits up to a maximum of 6 hours. Note that one-half of the course work must be taken in the CEAE Department (an exception may be made if the relevant courses were taken as part of an undergraduate degree).

- Plan IIa: The 30 hours of course work may include a 3-credit hour Master’s Thesis (AREN 6950) or Master’s Report (AREN 6960).
- Plan IIb: For students with previous research and/or industry experience who achieve a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.75, the 30 hours of course work may be all formal course work. In addition, those students pursuing Plan IIb must take a final exit examination. Departmental approval is required for Plan IIb.