TELECOMMUNICATIONS

The interdisciplinary telecommunications program (ITP) offers to students the skills that allow them to master not only the latest technologies associated with the Internet, but also the business skills and policy knowledge essential to achieving success in the companies driving today’s rapidly changing high-tech world. Within ITP, students can develop expertise in the growing fields of cybersecurity, wireless, network engineering and telecommunications policy and strategy. We offer hands-on experience in our world-class labs equipped with state-of-the-art technologies.

ITP also offers graduate certificates, where students gain a foundation of knowledge and skills focusing on a specific technology, as well as best practices and tools immediately applicable to the work environment. Graduate certificates aid the development or enhancement of a specialized expertise. Certificates also provide the flexibility to allow course credit hours to be applied toward a master’s degree.

For more information, visit the Interdisciplinary Telecom Program (http://www.colorado.edu/itp) website.

Course code for this program is TLEN.

Master's Degree

- Telecommunications - Master of Science (MS) (catalog.colorado.edu/graduate/colleges-schools/engineering-applied-science/programs-study/telecommunications/telecommunications-master-science-ms)

Doctoral Degree

- Telecommunications - Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) (catalog.colorado.edu/graduate/colleges-schools/engineering-applied-science/programs-study/telecommunications/telecommunications-doctor-philosophy-phd)

Certificates

- Computer and Network Security - Graduate Certificate (catalog.colorado.edu/graduate/colleges-schools/engineering-applied-science/programs-study/telecommunications/computer-network-security-graduate-certificate)
- Network Architecture - Graduate Certificate (catalog.colorado.edu/graduate/colleges-schools/engineering-applied-science/programs-study/telecommunications/network-architecture-graduate-certificate)
- Telecom Policy and Strategy - Graduate Certificate (catalog.colorado.edu/graduate/colleges-schools/engineering-applied-science/programs-study/telecommunications/telecommunications-policy-graduate-certificate)
- Wireless Networks and Technologies - Graduate Certificate (catalog.colorado.edu/graduate/colleges-schools/engineering-applied-science/programs-study/telecommunications/wireless-networks-technologies-graduate-certificate)

Faculty

While many faculty teach both undergraduate and graduate students, some instruct students at the undergraduate level only. For more information, contact the faculty member’s home department.

Bennett, John Knox (https://experts.colorado.edu/display/fisid_116933)
Professor; PhD, University of Washington

Cook, Charles I (https://experts.colorado.edu/display/fisid_149148)
Lecturer

Dehus, Mark D (https://experts.colorado.edu/display/fisid_146046)
Lecturer; MS, University of Colorado Boulder

Grunwald, Dirk C (https://experts.colorado.edu/display/fisid_102261)
Professor; PhD, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

McManus, Joseph E (https://experts.colorado.edu/display/fisid_152168)
Scholar In Residence; MS, Carnegie Mellon University

Mickelson, Alan R (https://experts.colorado.edu/display/fisid_100286)
Associate Professor; PhD, California Institute of Technology

Nettleton, Ray W. (https://experts.colorado.edu/display/fisid_125678)
Assoc Professor Adjunct; PhD, Purdue University

Ohm, Paul K (https://experts.colorado.edu/display/fisid_142996)
Associate Professor; JD, University of California-Los Angeles

Perigo, Levi D. (https://experts.colorado.edu/display/fisid_155562)
Scholar In Residence; PhD, Nova University

Reed, David Palmer (https://experts.colorado.edu/display/fisid_152458)
Scholar In Residence; PhD, Carnegie Mellon University

Santos, Jose Ramon (https://experts.colorado.edu/display/fisid_124623)
Senior Instructor; MS, University of Colorado Boulder

Schwengler, Thomas (https://experts.colorado.edu/display/fisid_143850)
Lecturer

Courses

TLEN 5010 (3) Network Economics and Finance I
Introduces students to the fundamental theoretical framework and tools used by economists to examine decision making under scarcity. Reviews mathematical economics and models. Examines consumer choice and firm supply. These two aspects of the market are brought together to examine how price and output are determined in competitive and imperfectly competitive markets. Introduces financial economics, network effects and public goods.
Requisites: Restricted to students with 87-180 credits (Senior) or graduate students in the College of Engineering or Leeds School of Business only.

TLEN 5050 (3) Leading Oneself
Provides working engineers a background in leadership concepts and methods and enables students to develop practical leadership skills through numerous in-class exercises and experimentation based assignments. Topics include authentic leadership, motivating self and others, cultivating emotional intelligence, personal mastery, creating accountability, conflict resolution, leading change and organizational culture. Required for all Engineering Management degree students.
Equivalent - Duplicate Degree Credit Not Granted: EMEN 5050
Requisites: Restricted to Leeds School of Business or College of Engineering graduate students only.
TLEN 5106 (3) International Deployment of Broadband Networks
Evaluates the business potential for deploying fixed or mobile broadcast networks in an international context. Guides students to develop financial statements to evaluate the investment potential of the venture. Covers: strategy, market potential, sales channels, costs, regulatory and financial issues all in an international context. Project teams mimic the matrix structure of working teams in business context and present to an investor their recommendations.
Requisites: Restricted to students with 87-180 credits (Senior) or graduate students in the College of Engineering or Leeds School of Business only.

TLEN 5130 (3) Telecommunications Business Strategy
Covers concepts, strategies, and practical implementation of market oriented business strategy in the telecom industry grounded with real world examples. Topics include positioning, segmentation/ targeting, technology adoption, advertising/outreach, communication strategies, product management, sales process and business intelligence.
Requisites: Requires prerequisite course of TLEN 5010 (minimum grade D). Restricted to graduate students only.

TLEN 5150 (1) Managing Effectively in a Changing Telecommunications Environment
Provides students with an opportunity to join international managers and policy makers from around the world in an intensive seminar focused on the challenges of managing in a telecommunications environment in an era of technological change. Guest lecturers provide an effective overview of the cutting-edge issues managers face in telecom and technology companies around the world.
Equivalent - Duplicate Degree Credit Not Granted: ATLS 5150

TLEN 5190 (3) Standardization and Standards Wars
Examines current issues and strategy in the standardization of telecommunications and information technologies. Covers topics on the importance of standards, government and private sector perspectives, and impact of information age technologies on standards development. Introduces students to relevance of antitrust and intellectual property law to the topic.

TLEN 5210 (3) Principles of Telecommunications Policy
Learn the key issues and principles that guide the decisions of policy makers with respect to the regulatory treatment of voice, video and data communications. Engage in critical debate, and develop instincts for anticipating the likely regulatory models that may be applied to new technologies. This introductory course covers technical, economic, legal, political and institutional considerations.
Requisites: Requires prerequisite course of TLEN 5010 (minimum grade D). Repeatable for up to 3.00 total credit hours. Allows multiple enrollment in term.

TLEN 5230 (3) Spectrum Management and Policy
Studies how spectrum policy is developed and implemented. A general framework is developed for understanding telecommunications law and regulatory objectives. Specifically analyzes international and domestic dimensions of spectrum policy. Considers how economics, administrative processes and innovative technologies affects management of the spectrum.

TLEN 5240 (3) Telecommunications Law and Policy
Examines laws governing telecommunications industries, including federal and state regulation and international aspects. Includes telephone, cable, satellite, cellular and other wireless systems and the Internet.
Equivalent - Duplicate Degree Credit Not Granted: LAWS 7241
Repeatable: Repeatable for up to 6.00 total credit hours.
Requisites: Restricted to students with 87-180 credits (Senior) or graduate students in the College of Engineering or Leeds School of Business only.

TLEN 5245 (3) Introduction to Intellectual Property Law
Provides an overview of our nation's intellectual property laws, including patent, copyright, trademark, trade secret and also discusses other assorted matters related to intellectual property, including licensing, competition policy issues and remedies.
Equivalent - Duplicate Degree Credit Not Granted: LAWS 6301

TLEN 5250 (2-4) Technology Law and Policy Clinic
Features technology law advocacy before administrative, legislative and judicial bodies in the public interest.
Equivalent - Duplicate Degree Credit Not Granted: LAWS 7809
Grading Basis: Letter Grade

TLEN 5265 (3) Copyright
Examines state and federal laws relating to the protection of works of authorship ranging from traditional works to computer programs. Studies the 1976 Copyright Act as well as relevant earlier acts. Gives attention to state laws, such as interference with contractual relations, the right of publicity, moral right, protection of ideas and misappropriation of trade values, that supplement federal copyright.
Equivalent - Duplicate Degree Credit Not Granted: LAWS 7301

TLEN 5300 (1-3) Telecommunications Theory and Applications
Examines the mathematical and physical theory of telecommunications. Deals with the fundamental concepts related to a wide range of topics including physical units, numbering systems, trigonometric functions, logarithms, indices, decibels, complex numbers, calculus, elementary probability, and power circuit analysis.
Repeatable: Repeatable for up to 3.00 total credit hours. Allows multiple enrollment in term.
Requisites: Restricted to students with 87-180 credits (Senior) or graduate students in the College of Engineering or Leeds School of Business only.

TLEN 5310 (3) Telecommunications Systems
Reviews fundamental technical concepts and terminology in telecommunications. Topics of focus include: decibels, noise analysis, transmission lines, electronic signals, radio spectrum characteristics, link budgets, AM modulation, angle modulation, digital modulation, multiplexing, sampling and digital encoding, detection, and similar physical layer concepts. Systems for analysis include CATV, cellular wireless, WLAN, satellite systems, internet networking and related voice and data networks.
Requisites: Restricted to students with 87-180 credits (Senior) or graduate students in the College of Engineering or Leeds School of Business only.
TLEN 5330 (3) Data Communications 1
Provides a comprehensive technical survey of data and computer communications including Wireless, LAN, MAN, and WAN systems and standards. Covers packet switching, internetworking, addressing, routing, transport layers, TCP/IP internet, wired and wireless LAN technologies, congestion control and flow control schemes.
Requisites: Restricted to ITP (TLEN-MS) students only.

TLEN 5340 (3) VOIP Network Design
Focuses on VoIP network design and optimization. The emphasis is on the convergence of VoIP PSTN and cell phone networks and signaling. Topics include voice processing as well as IP and SS7 signaling. In addition there will be a review of ISDN, DSL, Sonet, ATM, SIP and MPLS. There will be a case problem for sizing a VoIP network using silence suppression.
Requisites: Requires corequisite course of TLEN 5310. Restricted to students with 87-180 credits (Senior) or graduate students in the College of Engineering or Leeds School of Business only.

TLEN 5350 (3) Commercial Spaceflight Operations and Communications
Aimed at a high level fundamental understanding of broadcasting, communication and navigation satellite systems. Topics include orbital mechanics, orbit selection, spacecraft subsystems, spacecraft and earth station configurations, propagation issues, link budgets, modulation and multiplexing techniques, multiple access schemes (FDMA, TDMA, CDMA), error control coding, satellite network architecture, and economic, regulatory and business issues in Geo, Meo, and Leo systems.
Requisites: Requires corequisite course of TLEN 5330. Restricted to students with 87-180 credits (Senior) or graduate students in the College of Engineering or Leeds School of Business only.

TLEN 5370 (3) IP Routing Protocols
Breaks IP routing technologies into two fundamental pieces: an in-depth study of interior and then exterior gateway protocols. Department consent is required.
Requisites: Requires prerequisite course of TLEN 5330 (minimum grade D-). Restricted to students with 87-180 credits (Senior) or graduate students in the College of Engineering or Leeds School of Business only.

TLEN 5380 (3) Future of Video: Technology, Policy, and Economics
Examines the issues that have been created by the shift from analog to digital technologies, the shift from narrowband/wideband systems to broadband systems, and the shift to converged networks (i.e. networks able to convey voice, data, image and video traffic on a common platform) based upon packet switching and Internet Protocol (IP) suite.
Equivalent - Duplicate Degree Credit Not Granted: ATLS 5380
Requisites: Requires prerequisite courses of TLEN 5210 (minimum grade D-). Restricted to graduate students only.

TLEN 5410 (3) Network Management and Operations
Offers students a hands-on experience programatically managing network hardware and essential network services such as DHCP, DNS, ARP, FTP, Telnet, HTTP, SSH, SMTP, TFTP, and SNMP through the use of cross-platform scripting. Students with little or no programming experience will learn scripting by replicating functionality provided in common management suites such as HP OpenView, Nagios, Zennos, IBM Netview and others. Department consent required.
Requisites: Restricted to graduate students only.

TLEN 5430 (3) Data Communications 2
Provides a detailed technical study of Internet and Internet-related protocols following a top-down approach through the protocol stack. Bit-level analysis of a large number of Internet and Internet-related protocols, including the study of classic protocol suite principles. Covers real time and near real-time data streaming, IP mobility, IPv6, and an introduction to Internet security.
Requisites: Requires prerequisite course of TLEN 5330 (minimum grade D-). Restricted to students with 87-180 credits (Senior) or graduate students in the College of Engineering or Leeds School of Business only.

TLEN 5438 (3) Internet Lab
Have you ever wondered how the Internet actually works? This course teaches students simple, hands-on understanding of the technical components and challenges of providing Internet Services to everyday users. This is the ideal course for technical or non-technical students who have a passion for the Internet or need to have a more detailed understanding of the Internet within their career.
Grading Basis: Letter Grade

TLEN 5460 (3) Telecommunication Systems Laboratory
Provides direct experience with telecommunications functions and equipment through experiments and demonstrations. Student teams learn the fundamental techniques of signal transmission and impairment measurement, voice and data switching, systems administration, and the fundamental functions of data networking and services. Each experiment is designed to focus on some particular aspect of system management, development, or maintenance for either enterprise telecommunications customers or telecommunication service providers. Procedures require the use of actual commercial equipment, services, observation, reporting of behavior, and performance, compared to specified requirements. Student teams and laboratory periods for the semester are established during the first class lecture meeting. Department consent required.
Requisites: Requires prerequisite courses of TLEN 5310 and TLEN 5330 (all minimum grade D-). Restricted to students with 87-180 credits (Senior) or graduate students in the College of Engineering or Leeds School of Business only.

TLEN 5462 (3) Datacenter Networks
Presents advanced networking techniques through experiments with network measurement equipment, switches, routers, and management interfaces. Each experiment focuses on some particular aspect of system management, development, or maintenance. Procedures require the use of actual commercial equipment, services, observation, reporting of behavior, and performance, compared to specified requirements.
Requisites: Requires prerequisite course of TLEN 5460 (minimum grade D-). Restricted to graduate students only.

TLEN 5490 (3) Network Programming
Exposes students to Unix/Linux systems and network programming with an emphasis on practical programming problems and experience. Covers the unique challenges of programming distributed systems including resolving synchronization, threads, pipes, sockets, and other constructs for building TCP/IP network servers and clients.

TLEN 5510 (3) Wireless and Cellular Communications
Presents in detail the technologies and architectures employed in cellular and other modern wireless systems and discusses regulatory and other industry issues. Major topics include radio technology, multiple access techniques, analog and digital cellular telephony, and personal communications systems.
Requisites: Requires prerequisite course of TLEN 5310 (minimum grade D-). Restricted to students with 87-180 credits (Senior) or graduate students in the College of Engineering or Leeds School of Business only.
TLEN 5520 (3) Wireless Local Area Networks
Examines small-scale wireless networks particularly personal and local area networks. Covers licensed and unlicensed spectrum, indoor and small-scale radio propagation, modulation techniques, network topologies, ad hoc and infrastructure networks, protocol design, TCP/IP-wireless interactions and protocol standards.
Equivalent - Duplicate Degree Credit Not Granted: ECEN 5122
Requisites: Requires prerequisite course of ECEN 3810 or APPM 3570 or MATH 4510 (minimum grade D-).
Recommended: Prerequisite TLEN 5430.

TLEN 5530 (3) Applied Network Security
Examines the critical aspects of network security. A technical discussion of threats, vulnerabilities, detection, and prevention is presented. Issues addressed are cryptography, firewalls, network protocols, intrusion detection, security architecture, security policy, forensic investigation, privacy, and the law.
Requisites: Restricted to graduate students only.

TLEN 5540 (3) Network Security Laboratory
Applies what students have learned in computer and network security foundations in a simulated network environment. Topics to be covered include: system hardening, firewalls, intrusion detection, vulnerability assessment, and investigation.
Recommended: Prerequisite TLEN 5530 and operating system experience.

TLEN 5550 (3) Computer and Network Security
Studies methods to protect information, and the ability to process and move information, from theft, misuse, tampering, destruction and unauthorized access. Introduces foundational topics of computer and network security, including security models, cryptography and authentication protocols.
Equivalent - Duplicate Degree Credit Not Granted: CSCI 6268
Requisites: Restricted to graduate students only.
Recommended: Prerequisites CSCI 5273 and significant experience in coding (C or C++) and some experience in networks and familiarity with TCP/IP, UDP and ICMP.

TLEN 5560 (3) Wireless Systems Laboratory
Serves as hands-on exploration of wireless communication systems. Designed to complement TLEN 5510 and TLEN 5520 by taking several subjects to greater depth. Students will work with, and in some cases build, radio frequency test equipment, transmitters, receivers, antennas and wireless communication systems.
Requisites: Requires prerequisite course of TLEN 5310 (minimum grade D-). Restricted to graduate students only.
Recommended: Corequisite TLEN 5510 or TLEN 5520.

TLEN 5570 (3) IP Network Design
Implement fundamentals of IP Routing Protocols and apply them directly to design based networking problems. Design scenarios will incorporate physical and logical design, financial analysis, and laboratory configuration.
Requisites: Requires prerequisite course of TLEN 5370 (minimum grade D-). Restricted to graduate students only.

TLEN 5600 (1) Telecommunications Seminar
Provides a series of weekly lectures with questions and discussion. Many of the speakers are nationally known experts in telecommunications.
Repeatable: Repeatable for up to 4.00 total credit hours.
Requisites: Restricted to students with 87-180 credits (Senior) or graduate students in the College of Engineering or Leeds School of Business only.

TLEN 5700 (2) Research Methods
Develop basic concepts and methods for pursuing quantitative and qualitative research. Students will develop a research proposal that will be completed in TLEN 5710 or as a Master’s Thesis. Writing skills test required.
Requisites: Restricted to students with 87-180 credits (Senior) or graduate students in the College of Engineering or Leeds School of Business only.

TLEN 5710 (1-3) Capstone
Complete Capstone research project initiated in TLEN 5700.
Repeatable: Repeatable for up to 3.00 total credit hours.
Requisites: Requires prerequisite course of TLEN 5700 (minimum grade D-). Restricted to graduate students only.

TLEN 5830 (1-6) Special Topics
Repeatable: Repeatable for up to 15.00 total credit hours. Allows multiple enrollment in term.
Requisites: Restricted to graduate students only.

TLEN 5831 (3) Special Topics
Repeatable: Repeatable for up to 6.00 total credit hours. Allows multiple enrollment in term.
Requisites: Restricted to graduate students only.

TLEN 5832 (1-4) Special Topics
Repeatable: Repeatable for up to 15.00 total credit hours. Allows multiple enrollment in term.

TLEN 5833 (2-3) Special Topics
Repeatable: Repeatable for up to 3.00 total credit hours.

TLEN 5834 (1-3) Special Topics
Repeatable: Repeatable for up to 15.00 total credit hours. Allows multiple enrollment in term.

TLEN 5835 (2-3) Special Topics
Requisites: Restricted to students with 87-180 credits (Senior) or graduate students in the College of Engineering or Leeds School of Business only.

TLEN 5836 (1-3) Special Topics
Repeatable: Repeatable for up to 15.00 total credit hours. Allows multiple enrollment in term.

TLEN 5840 (3) Voice Over IP Lab: Voice Network Design and Implementation
Provides an in-depth immersion into the foundational theories and technologies of Voice Over IP (VoIP), and direct experience with real-world, hands-on lab experiments and demonstrations. In this class students will learn the fundamentals of voice technologies, services and tools used in industry to design, deploy and troubleshoot VoIP networks.
Grading Basis: Letter Grade

TLEN 5841 (3) Secure Web Application Development
Learn to develop and protect secure applications for web and mobile. Students will develop in a production cloud environment mirroring industry trends. Techniques to resist attackers and increase situational awareness will be covered. The class culminates with an end of semester project applying secure coding techniques to build a secure web application from start to finish.
Grading Basis: Letter Grade
TLEN 5842 (3) Linux Systems Administration
Learn to configure, maintain and deploy Linux operating systems and services. The backbone of the Internet is made up of Linux systems running web server, databases, DNS, backup and more. The class will prepare students to deploy services and code in a Linux environment.
Requisites: Restricted to Telecommunications (TLEN) graduate students only.
Grading Basis: Letter Grade

TLEN 5920 (1-6) Independent Study
Repeatable: Repeatable for up to 6.00 total credit hours. Allows multiple enrollment in term.
Requisites: Restricted to students with 87-180 credits (Senior) or graduate students in the College of Engineering or Leeds School of Business only.

TLEN 6940 (1) Candidate for Degree
Requisites: Restricted to Leeds School of Business or College of Engineering graduate students only.
Grading Basis: Pass/Fail

TLEN 6950 (1-6) Master's Thesis
Requisites: Restricted to Leeds School of Business or College of Engineering graduate students only.

TLEN 7000 (1-6) Current Topics in Telecommunications
Studies research topics of current interest in telecommunication and networking.
Repeatable: Repeatable for up to 8.00 total credit hours.
Requisites: Restricted to graduate students only.

TLEN 7001 (3) Interdisciplinary Telecom Analysis
Examines a set of problems, research methodologies and analytical techniques that are common to the research, problem solving and analysis of information and communications technology development and deployment issues. Looks critically at the strengths, limitations and underlying assumptions of key research and analysis approaches that relate business, economic and policy objectives to current and future telecommunications development and deployment efforts.
Grading Basis: Letter Grade

TLEN 8990 (1-10) Doctoral Dissertation
Investigates specialized topic or field in the area of telecommunications. Approved and supervised by faculty members.
Requisites: Restricted to graduate students only.