

*Charles L. Brown Department of
Electrical and Computer Engineering*

Fall 2006 Graduate Orientation

Program Overview

by Gang Tao

Welcome!

Where to get help?

- Katherine Harlow: administrative support
- Gary Li and David Durocher: computer support
- Susan Malone: forms for payment checks etc.
- advisor/advisory committee: study/research plan
- graduate office/committee: program requirements
- department Chair, graduate dean, Dean
- ITC, ISO, UVa/SEAS/ECE web pages, ...
- UVa police, ...

Where to start?

- Your visit to the graduate office for
 - office space and keys
 - personal contact information
 - GTA/GRA/fellowship paper work
- computer accounts: blue.unix and local
- ECE graduate handbook/UVa graduate record
- course registration
 - ◇ ECE 696: ECE Seminars (required)
- GTA/GRA duties
- advisor and advisory committee
- study and research plan

Graduate degrees

- Master of Engineering in EE
- Master of Science in EE
- Doctor of Philosophy in EE
- Master of Engineering in CompE
- Master of Science in CompE
- Doctor of Philosophy in CompE

MS degree requirements

- 24 credits of graduate courses
- 6 credits of Thesis Research: ECE 898
outcome: a thesis (to pass a defense exam)
- 1 credit of ECE 696: ECE Seminars (Fall)
- special requirements:
 - ≥ 4 courses from ECE
 - 3 courses each from a different subject area
 - 3 credits of mathematics
 - ≤ 9 credits of 500 level courses
 - ≤ 6 credits of 500 level ECE courses
 - ≤ 3 credits of Independent Study: ECE 693/793
- SPEAK test (for non-native speakers of English)

ME degree requirements

- 30 graduate credits
 - may include 3–6 credits of ECE 695/895: Project Research (graded)
 - demonstration of mastery of written and oral presentation skills:
 - by a project either in research or course work
- 1 credit of ECE 696: ECE Seminars (Fall)
- special requirements (same as MS)
- SPEAK test (for non-native speakers of English)

Ph.D. degree requirements

- 72 graduate course/research credits including
 - ME/MS degree or 24 credits of equivalent courses
 - 12 additional credits of graduate courses
 - 24 credits of Dissertation Research
- 1 credit of ECE 696: ECE Seminars (Fall)
- SPEAK test (for non-native speakers of English)
- qualifying examination
- dissertation proposal presentation
- ECE 996: Graduate Teaching Experience
- dissertation and defense
- one journal paper submission (minimum)

Your committees

- ME advisor
- MS thesis defense exam committee (3 members)
- Ph.D. advisory committee (≥ 4 members)
- Ph.D. qualifying exam committee (3 members)
assigned by Department (advisor as observer only)
- Ph.D. proposal exam committee (≥ 4 members)
- Ph.D. dissertation exam committee (≥ 5 members)
- forms for exams and committees
e.g., G101, G104, G105, G113, G110
they are due **two weeks** before exams

Some regulations and rules

- residency requirement / time limit
 - Ph.D.: 1.0/ \geq 2(with MS/ME) or 3, \leq 7 years
 - MS: 0.5/ \leq 5 years; ME: 0.0/ \leq 7 years
- \geq 12 credit hours per semester (ECE999: Research)
- transfer of credits (matching UVa courses)
 - \leq 6/12 credits for MS/ME degrees
- no course grade lower than C
- no GPA lower than 3.0 for two semesters
- regular reporting of TA/RA duties
- visa status for international students
- petitions for special cases

Good Luck!