MANAGEMENT SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING

Courses offered by the Department of Management Science and Engineering are listed under the subject code MS&E on the [Stanford ExploreCourses website](https://explorecourses.stanford.edu/search?view=catalog&AcademicYear=&page=0&q=MS%26E&filter-departmentCode-MS%26E=on&filter-coursestatus-Active=on&filter-term-Autumn=on) and [Stanford Bulletin’s ExploreCourses web site](https://studentaffairs.stanford.edu/registrar/publications/#Coterm).

The Department of Management Science and Engineering leads at the interface of engineering, business, and public policy. The department’s mission is, through education and research, to advance the design, management, operation, and interaction of technological, economic, and social systems. The department’s engineering research strength is integrated with its educational program at the undergraduate, master’s, and doctoral levels: graduates of the program are trained as engineers and future leaders in technology, policy, and industry. Research and teaching activities are complemented by an outreach program that encourages the transfer of ideas to the environment of Silicon Valley and beyond.

Management Science and Engineering (MS&E) provides programs of education and research by integrating three basic strengths:

1. depth in conceptual and analytical foundations
2. comprehensive coverage of functional areas of application
3. interaction with other Stanford departments, Silicon Valley industry, and organizations throughout the world.

The analytical and conceptual foundations include decision and risk analysis, dynamic systems, economics, optimization, organizational science, and stochastic systems. The functional areas of application include entrepreneurship, finance, information, marketing, organizational behavior, policy, production, and strategy. Close associations with other engineering departments and with industry enrich the programs by providing opportunities to apply MS&E methods to important problems and by motivating new theoretical developments from practical experience. MS&E’s programs also provide a basis for contributing to other areas such as biotechnology, defense policy, environmental policy, information systems, and telecommunications.

Mission of the Undergraduate Program in Management Science and Engineering

The mission of the undergraduate program in Management Science and Engineering is to provide students with the fundamentals of engineering systems analysis so that they are able to plan, design, and implement complex economic and technical management systems. The program builds on the foundational courses for engineering including calculus, engineering fundamentals, and physics or chemistry as well as management science. Students complete core courses in accounting, computer science, economics, ethics, organizational theory, mathematical modeling, optimization, probability, and statistics. To personalize their exploration, students select additional courses from different areas of the department, with greater emphasis in one of them. The major prepares students for a variety of career paths, including investment banking, management consulting, facilities and process management, or for graduate school in industrial engineering, operations research, business, economics, law, medicine, or public policy.

Learning Outcomes (Undergraduate)

The department expects undergraduate majors in the program to be able to demonstrate the following learning outcomes. These learning outcomes are used in evaluating students and the department’s undergraduate program. Students are expected to be able to:

1. apply the knowledge of mathematics, science, and engineering;
2. design and conduct experiments;
3. design a system or components to meet desired needs;
4. identify, formulate, and solve engineering problems;
5. use techniques, skills, and modern engineering tools necessary for engineering practice;
6. function on multidisciplinary teams;
7. communicate effectively;
8. recognize the need for and demonstrate an ability to engage in lifelong learning;
9. obtain the background necessary for admission to top professional graduate engineering or business programs;
10. understand professional and ethical responsibility;
11. obtain the broad education necessary to understand the impact of engineering solutions in a global and societal context; and
12. obtain a knowledge of contemporary issues pertinent to the field of management science and engineering.

Graduate Programs in Management Science and Engineering

MS&E offers programs leading to the degrees of Master of Science and Doctor of Philosophy. The department also offers a coterminal B.S./M.S. degree, a dual master’s degree in cooperation with each of the other departments in the School of Engineering, and joint master’s degrees with the School of Law and the Public Policy Program.

For University coterminal degree program rules and University application forms, see the Registrar’s coterm degrees web site [http://studentaffairs.stanford.edu/registrar/publications/#Coterm](http://studentaffairs.stanford.edu/registrar/publications/#Coterm).

Applicants for admission as graduate students in MS&E are required to submit the results of the verbal reasoning, quantitative reasoning, and analytical writing sections of the Graduate Record Examination General Test (GRE). The deadline for application to the doctoral program is December 3, 2019, and the deadline for application to the master’s program is January 14, 2020.

Except in unusual circumstances, admission is limited to the Autumn Quarter because courses are arranged sequentially with basic courses and prerequisites offered early in the academic year.

Assistantships and Fellowships

A limited number of fellowships and assistantships are awarded each year. Applicants admitted to the doctoral program, who have indicated on their application that they would like to be considered for financial aid, are automatically considered for these assistantships and fellowships. New and returning master’s students may apply for course assistantships each quarter, but priority is given to MS&E doctoral students.

Information about loan programs and need-based aid for U.S. citizens and permanent residents can be obtained from the Financial Aid Office.

Learning Outcomes (Graduate)

The M.S. prepares engineers for a lifelong career addressing the critical technical and managerial needs of private and public organizations. The program emphasizes developing analytic abilities, making better decisions, developing and executing strategies while also leading people who innovate. Unlike an M.B.A., our master’s program addresses the technical as well as the behavioral challenges of running organizations.
and complex systems. We emphasize quantitative analytic skills and an entrepreneurial spirit.

The Ph.D. is conferred upon candidates who have demonstrated substantial scholarship and the ability to conduct independent research. Through course work and guided research, the program prepares students to make original contributions in Management Science and Engineering and related fields.

**Careers in MS&E**

MS&E students are candidates for careers in consulting, product and project management, financial analysis, and work in policy arenas. A significant number join or found start-ups. Many have become leaders in technology-based businesses which have an increasing need for analytically oriented people who understand both business and technology. Other graduates make careers tackling the problems faced by local, national, and international governments by developing new healthcare systems, new energy systems and a more sustainable environment. The major problems of the day demand an ability to integrate the technical, social and economic ways of thinking. This is precisely what the department educates its students to do.

**COVID-19-Related Degree Requirement Changes**

For information on how Management Science and Engineering degree requirements have been affected by the pandemic, see the "COVID-19 Policies tab (p. 16)" in this section of this bulletin. For University-wide policy changes related to the pandemic, see the "COVID-19 and Academic Continuity (http://exploredegrees.stanford.edu/covid-19-policy-changes)" section of this bulletin.

**Bachelor of Science in Management Science and Engineering**

The program leading to the B.S. degree in Management Science and Engineering (MS&E) is outlined in the School of Engineering section of this bulletin; more information is contained in the School of Engineering's Handbook for Undergraduate Engineering Programs. Students are encouraged to plan their academic programs as early as possible, ideally in the freshman or sophomore year. Students should not wait until they are declaring a major to consult with the department's student services staff. This is particularly important for students who would like to study overseas or pursue another major or minor.

The undergraduate curriculum in Management Science and Engineering provides students training in the fundamentals of engineering systems analysis to prepare them to plan, design, and implement complex economic and technological management systems where a scientific or engineering background is necessary or desirable. The major prepares students for a variety of career paths, including investment banking, management consulting, facilities and process management, or for graduate school in industrial engineering, project management, financial analysis, and work in policy arenas. Students interested in a minor should see the Minor tab in this section.

**Areas**

The major is designed to allow a student to explore all three areas of the department in greater depth.

1. **Finance and Decision** focuses on the design and analysis of financial and strategic plans.
2. **Operations and Analytics** focuses on algorithms, theory, and the design and analysis of manufacturing, production, and service systems.
3. **Organizations, Technology, and Policy** focuses on understanding, design, and analysis of organizations and public policy, particularly technology-based issues.

**Management Science and Engineering (MS&E)**

Completion of the undergraduate program in Management Science and Engineering leads to the conferral of the Bachelor of Science in Management Science and Engineering.

**Requirements**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mathematics and Science</th>
<th>Units</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CME 100 or MATH 51 Vector Calculus for Engineers</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CME 103 Introduction to Matrix Methods</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MS&amp;E 120 Probabilistic Analysis</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MS&amp;E 121 Introduction to Stochastic Modeling</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MS&amp;E 125 Introduction to Applied Statistics</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Select two of the following:</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHEM 31B Chemical Principles II</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHEM 33 Structure and Reactivity of Organic Molecules</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PHYSICS 41 Mechanics</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Up to ten units of AP/IB Calculus, MATH 19, 20, 21, 41, or 42</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

All required; see SoE Basic Requirements 1 and 2
Core Courses (all six required)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PHYSICS 43</td>
<td>Electricity and Magnetism</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PHYSICS 23</td>
<td>Electricity, Magnetism, and Optics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BIO 81</td>
<td>Introduction to Ecology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BIO 82</td>
<td>Genetics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BIO 83</td>
<td>Biochemistry &amp; Molecular Biology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BIO 84</td>
<td>Physiology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BIO 85</td>
<td>Evolution</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BIO 86</td>
<td>Cell Biology</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Math, Science, or Statistics Elective from SoE approved lists. 3

Technology in Society

Select one of the following; see SoE Basic Requirement 4

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AA 252</td>
<td>Techniques of Failure Analysis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMM 120W</td>
<td>The Rise of Digital Culture</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BIOE 131</td>
<td>Ethics in Bioengineering</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CS 181</td>
<td>Computers, Ethics, and Public Policy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENGR 117</td>
<td>Expanding Engineering Limits: Culture, Diversity, and Equity</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

ENGR 148 | Principled Entrepreneurial Decisions 6

ME 267 | Ethics and Equity in Transportation Systems

MS&E 193 | Technology and National Security: Past, Present, and Future 6

POLISCI 114S | International Security in a Changing World

STS 1 | The Public Life of Science and Technology

Engineering Fundamentals 4

Two courses; see SoE Basic Requirement 3

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CS 106A</td>
<td>Programming Methodology 5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Select one of the following:

ENGR 10 | Introduction to Engineering Analysis
ENGR 14 | Intro to Solid Mechanics
ENGR 15 | Dynamics
ENGR 20 | Introduction to Chemical Engineering
ENGR 21 | Engineering of Systems
ENGR 25B | Biotechnology
ENGR 25E | Energy, Chemical Transformations for Production, Storage, and Use
ENGR 40A | Introductory Electronics
ENGR 40M | An Intro to Making: What is EE
ENGR 50 | Introduction to Materials Science, Nanotechnology Emphasis
ENGR 50E | Introduction to Materials Science, Energy Emphasis
ENGR 50M | Introduction to Materials Science, Biomaterials Emphasis
ENGR 80 | Introduction to Bioengineering (Engineering Living Matter)
ENGR 90 | Environmental Science and Technology

Elective Courses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MS&amp;E 180</td>
<td>Organizations: Theory and Management</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Area Courses (see below)

Choose four courses from a primary area and two courses from each of the other two areas.

Depth Areas

Finance and Decision Area

Students choosing F&D as their primary area must take at least two of ECON 51, MS&E 145 (or 245A), and MS&E 152 (or 252).

Introductory (no prerequisites)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ECON 143</td>
<td>Finance and Society for non-MBAs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MS&amp;E 152</td>
<td>Introduction to Decision Analysis</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Intermediate (has prerequisites and/or appropriate for juniors and seniors)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MS&amp;E 145</td>
<td>Introduction to Finance and Investment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MS&amp;E 146</td>
<td>Corporate Financial Management</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MS&amp;E 252</td>
<td>Decision Analysis I: Foundations of Decision Analysis</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Advanced (intended primarily for graduate students, but may be taken by advanced undergraduates)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MS&amp;E 245A</td>
<td>Investment Science</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MS&amp;E 245B</td>
<td>Advanced Investment Science</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MS&amp;E 246</td>
<td>Financial Risk Analytics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MS&amp;E 250A</td>
<td>Engineering Risk Analysis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MS&amp;E 250B</td>
<td>Project Course in Engineering Risk Analysis</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Operations and Analytics Area

Students choosing O&A as their primary area may also include CS 161, CS 229, and STATS 202 in their selections 6

Methods

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MS&amp;E 112</td>
<td>Mathematical Programming and Combinatorial Optimization</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MS&amp;E 135</td>
<td>Networks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MS&amp;E 213</td>
<td>Introduction to Optimization Theory</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MS&amp;E 223</td>
<td>Simulation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MS&amp;E 226</td>
<td>Fundamentals of Data Science: Prediction, Inference, Causality</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MS&amp;E 231</td>
<td>Introduction to Computational Social Science</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MS&amp;E 251</td>
<td>Introduction to Stochastic Control with Applications</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Applications

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MS&amp;E 130</td>
<td>Information Networks and Services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MS&amp;E 232</td>
<td>Introduction to Game Theory</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MS&amp;E 234</td>
<td>Data Privacy and Ethics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MS&amp;E 260</td>
<td>Introduction to Operations Management</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MS&amp;E 263</td>
<td>Healthcare Operations Management</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MS&amp;E 267</td>
<td>Service Operations and the Design of Marketplaces</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MS&amp;E 330</td>
<td>Law, Bias, &amp; Algorithms</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MS&amp;E 463</td>
<td>Healthcare Systems Design</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Organizations, Technology, and Policy Area

Students choosing OT&P as their primary area must take at least two of ENGR 145, MS&E 175, MS&E 182A, MS&E 182B, MS&E 184, and MS&E 185.

Introductory (no prerequisites)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ENGR 148</td>
<td>Principled Entrepreneurial Decisions 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MS&amp;E 190</td>
<td>Methods and Models for Policy and Strategy Analysis</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Management Science and Engineering (MS&E) Minor

The following courses are required to fulfill the minor requirements:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Units</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CME 100</td>
<td>Vector Calculus for Engineers</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>or MATH 51</td>
<td>Linear Algebra, Multivariable Calculus, and Modern Applications</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CS 106A</td>
<td>Programming Methodology</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Advanced (has prerequisites and/or suitable for juniors and seniors)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Units</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BIOE 177</td>
<td>Inventing the Future</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENGR 145</td>
<td>Technology Entrepreneurship</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MS&amp;E 175</td>
<td>Innovation, Creativity, and Change</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MS&amp;E 182A</td>
<td>Leading Organizational Change</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MS&amp;E 182B</td>
<td>Leading Organizational Change II</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MS&amp;E 184</td>
<td>Future of Work: Issues in Organizational Learning and Design</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MS&amp;E 185</td>
<td>Global Work</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MS&amp;E 188</td>
<td>Organizing for Good</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MS&amp;E 243</td>
<td>Energy and Environmental Policy Analysis</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MS&amp;E 292</td>
<td>Health Policy Modeling</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1 Students without AP/IB mathematics credit, who skip MATH 19, 20, 21, 41, and/or 42, may petition to waive up to 10 units of math.

2 AP/IB credit for Chemistry and Physics may be used.

3 Electives must come from the School of Engineering approved list or PSYCH 50 Introduction to Cognitive Neuroscience, and may not repeat material from any other requirement. AP/IB credit for Chemistry and Physics may be used if not used above.

4 Engineering fundamentals plus engineering depth must total a minimum of 60 units. Recommended engineering fundamentals are E25B, E25E, E40A, E40M, and E80. MS&E majors may not use E60, E62, E62X, E70A, E70B, or E70X as engineering fundamentals.

5 Students may petition to waive CS 106A Programming Methodology.

6 A course may only be counted towards one requirement; it may not be double-counted. For example, MS&E 193 may not count towards both TiS and towards the OTP depth area, and MS&E 111/ENGR 62 may not count towards both an engineering fundamental and towards the MS&E core depth.

7 All courses taken for the major must be taken for a letter grade. Minimum combined GPA for all courses in Engineering Topics (Engineering Fundamentals and Depth courses) is 2.0.

For additional information and sample programs see the Handbook for Undergraduate Engineering Programs (UGHB) (http://ughb.stanford.edu).

COVID-19-Related Degree Requirement Changes

For information on how Management Science and Engineering degree requirements have been affected by the pandemic, see the "COVID-19 Policies tab (p. 16)" in this section of this bulletin. For University-wide policy changes related to the pandemic, see the "COVID-19 and Academic Continuity" section of this bulletin.

Coterminal Program in Management Science and Engineering

This program allows Stanford undergraduates an opportunity to work simultaneously toward a B.S. in Management Science and Engineering or another quantitative major, and an M.S. in Management Science and Engineering.

University Coterminal Requirements

Coterminal master's degree candidates are expected to complete all master’s degree requirements as described in this bulletin. University requirements for the coterminal master's degree are described in the "Coterminal Master's Program (http://exploredegrees.stanford.edu/cotermdegrees)" section. University requirements for the master's degree are described in the "Graduate Degrees (http://exploredegrees.stanford.edu/graduatedegrees/#masterstext)" section of this bulletin.

After accepting admission to this coterminal master's degree program, students may request transfer of courses from the undergraduate to the graduate career to satisfy requirements for the master’s degree. Transfer of courses to the graduate career requires review and approval of both the undergraduate and graduate programs on a case by case basis.

In this master's program, courses taken during or after the first quarter of the sophomore year are eligible for consideration for transfer to the graduate career; the timing of the first graduate quarter is not a factor. No courses taken prior to the first quarter of the sophomore year may be used to meet master's degree requirements.

Course transfers are not possible after the bachelor's degree has been conferred.

The University requires that the graduate adviser be assigned in the student's first graduate quarter even though the undergraduate career may still be open. The University also requires that the Master's Degree...
Master of Science in Management Science and Engineering

The M.S. degree programs require a minimum of 45 units beyond the equivalent of a B.S. degree at Stanford. All programs represent substantial progress in the major field beyond the bachelor’s degree.

University requirements for the master’s degree are described in the "Graduate Degrees (http://exploredegrees.stanford.edu/graduatedegrees)" section of this bulletin.

The master’s in Management Science and Engineering prepares engineers for a lifelong career addressing the technical and managerial needs of private and public organizations. The program emphasizes developing analytic abilities, making better decisions, and developing and executing strategies while also leading people who innovate. Unlike an M.B.A., the department’s master’s program addresses the technical as well as the behavioral challenges of running organizations and complex systems, emphasizing quantitative analytic skills and an entrepreneurial spirit.

MS&E students know math, engineering, as well as behavioral science. They can conduct experiments to design better systems, organizations and work processes. They understand how to analyze data to solve real world problems. They can develop mathematical and computational models to inform action. They know how to surface and examine unarticulated assumptions and root causes. These students can communicate effectively in the team environments found in so many contemporary organizations.

MS&E master’s students have breadth as well as depth. All are required to develop competence in optimization and analytics, organizations and decisions, and probability. In addition every student pursues a specialty in one of seven areas:

1. Financial Analytics: Students who concentrate in Financial Analytics are prepared for careers requiring analytical rigor and the ability to innovate around market challenges. Example career paths include financial services, risk management, investment management, financial technology and data processing, financial regulation and policy, exchanges and clearing houses, and auditing and compliance. The concentration combines the in-depth study of quantitative techniques with practical, hands-on business problem solving. Students learn to use mathematical models and quantitative tools to solve complex problems in finance practice. The concentration exploits the intellectual ties between finance, operations research, computer science, and engineering. It offers a high level of flexibility and a range of elective courses that allow students to tailor the program to their specific career goals. Required courses immerse students in quantitative methods and deepen their understanding of finance fundamentals. Projects courses feature practical, data-driven team projects and case studies, fostering group learning and interaction with peers.

2. Operations and Analytics: The Operations and Analytics track prepares students in the fundamentals and applications that are critical to careers in fields ranging from operations management in the service, healthcare, production, and manufacturing, computer, telecommunications, and banking industries, to modern Silicon Valley information technology and data analytics. The program emphasizes a balance between the technical rigor of methodologies with lasting value and insightful modern applications and design challenges in a variety of established and emerging industries and operations environments. It offers a portfolio of courses in probabilistic modeling, optimization, simulation, algorithms, data science, networks, markets, and corresponding applications.

3. Technology and Engineering Management: Students who concentrate in Technology and Engineering Management are prepared for careers including product and project management, management consulting, and entrepreneurship. They acquire skills to manage technical organizations, foster innovation, and deal with rapidly evolving technologies and dynamic markets. Specialized coursework is flexible, allowing students to explore and gain depth and understanding of technical organizations to develop a culture of successful innovation and entrepreneurship, along with methods for decision making under uncertainty, financial analysis, and strategic planning.

4. Computational Social Science: The Computational Social Science track teaches students how to apply rigorous statistical and computational methods to address problems in economics, sociology, political science, and beyond. The program prepares students for a diverse set of career paths in data science, information technology, and policy analysis. The core coursework covers fundamental statistical concepts, large-scale computation, and network analysis. Through electives, students can explore topics such as experimental design, algorithmic economics, and machine learning.

5. Decision and Risk Analysis: Students who specialize in Decision and Risk Analysis are prepared for careers including management consulting, policy analysis, and risk management, applying engineering systems analysis to tackle complex economic and technical management problems in the private and public sectors. They acquire the skills to identify and develop opportunities in uncertain situations while recognizing and hedging the downside risks. Specialized course work includes the mathematical foundations for modeling in dynamic uncertain environments to value and manage uncertain opportunities and risks, applications to public policy, and an opportunity to work on a client project under faculty guidance.

6. Energy and Environment: The Energy and Environment track is designed for students interested in energy and environmental issues from the perspectives of public policy, non-governmental organizations, or corporations. This track includes core courses in economic analysis, energy resources, and energy/environmental policy analysis; and an individually designed concentration, typically emphasizing policy, strategy, or technology. Seminars provide insights into current corporate strategy, public policy, and research community developments. Energy/environmental project courses give practice in applying methodologies and concepts.

7. Health Systems Modeling: The Health Systems Modeling track is designed for students interested in healthcare operations and policy. The courses in this track emphasize the application of mathematical and economic analysis to problems in public health policy and the design and operation of healthcare services.

The master’s degree is designed to be a terminal degree program with a professional focus. The M.S. degree can be earned in one academic year (three academic quarters) of full-time work, although most students choose to complete the program in five academic quarters, or eighteen months, and work as an intern in the Summer Quarter.

Background Requirements

Students are expected to have completed both MATH 51 Linear Algebra, Multivariable Calculus, and Modern Applications, or an equivalent multivariable differential calculus course, and CS 106A Programming Methodology, or an equivalent general programming course, before beginning graduate study. These courses do not count toward degree requirements.

Degree Requirements

Students must take a minimum of 45 course units as follows:

1. Financial Analytics: Students who concentrate in Financial Analytics are prepared for careers requiring analytical rigor and the ability to innovate around market challenges. Example career paths include financial services, risk management, investment management, financial technology and data processing, financial regulation and policy, exchanges and clearing houses, and auditing and compliance. The concentration combines the in-depth study of quantitative techniques with practical, hands-on business problem solving. Students learn to use mathematical models and quantitative tools to solve complex problems in finance practice. The concentration exploits the intellectual ties between finance, operations research, computer science, and engineering. It offers a high level of flexibility and a range of elective courses that allow students to tailor the program to their specific career goals. Required courses immerse students in quantitative methods and deepen their understanding of finance fundamentals. Projects courses feature practical, data-driven team projects and case studies, fostering group learning and interaction with peers.

2. Operations and Analytics: The Operations and Analytics track prepares students in the fundamentals and applications that are critical to careers in fields ranging from operations management in the service, healthcare, production, manufacturing, computer, telecommunications, and banking industries, to modern Silicon Valley information technology and data analytics. The program emphasizes a balance between the technical rigor of methodologies with lasting value and insightful modern applications and design challenges in a variety of established and emerging industries and operations environments. It offers a portfolio of courses in probabilistic modeling, optimization, simulation, algorithms, data science, networks, markets, and corresponding applications.

3. Technology and Engineering Management: Students who concentrate in Technology and Engineering Management are prepared for careers including product and project management, management consulting, and entrepreneurship. They acquire skills to manage technical organizations, foster innovation, and deal with rapidly evolving technologies and dynamic markets. Specialized coursework is flexible, allowing students to explore and gain depth and understanding of technical organizations to develop a culture of successful innovation and entrepreneurship, along with methods for decision making under uncertainty, financial analysis, and strategic planning.

4. Computational Social Science: The Computational Social Science track teaches students how to apply rigorous statistical and computational methods to address problems in economics, sociology, political science, and beyond. The program prepares students for a diverse set of career paths in data science, information technology, and policy analysis. The core coursework covers fundamental statistical concepts, large-scale computation, and network analysis. Through electives, students can explore topics such as experimental design, algorithmic economics, and machine learning.

5. Decision and Risk Analysis: Students who specialize in Decision and Risk Analysis are prepared for careers including management consulting, policy analysis, and risk management, applying engineering systems analysis to tackle complex economic and technical management problems in the private and public sectors. They acquire the skills to identify and develop opportunities in uncertain situations while recognizing and hedging the downside risks. Specialized course work includes the mathematical foundations for modeling in dynamic uncertain environments to value and manage uncertain opportunities and risks, applications to public policy, and an opportunity to work on a client project under faculty guidance.

6. Energy and Environment: The Energy and Environment track is designed for students interested in energy and environmental issues from the perspectives of public policy, non-governmental organizations, or corporations. This track includes core courses in economic analysis, energy resources, and energy/environmental policy analysis; and an individually designed concentration, typically emphasizing policy, strategy, or technology. Seminars provide insights into current corporate strategy, public policy, and research community developments. Energy/environmental project courses give practice in applying methodologies and concepts.

7. Health Systems Modeling: The Health Systems Modeling track is designed for students interested in healthcare operations and policy. The courses in this track emphasize the application of mathematical and economic analysis to problems in public health policy and the design and operation of healthcare services.

The master’s degree is designed to be a terminal degree program with a professional focus. The M.S. degree can be earned in one academic year (three academic quarters) of full-time work, although most students choose to complete the program in five academic quarters, or eighteen months, and work as an intern in the Summer Quarter.

Background Requirements

Students are expected to have completed both MATH 51 Linear Algebra, Multivariable Calculus, and Modern Applications, or an equivalent multivariable differential calculus course, and CS 106A Programming Methodology, or an equivalent general programming course, before beginning graduate study. These courses do not count toward degree requirements.

Degree Requirements

Students must take a minimum of 45 course units as follows:
Three core courses (9-12 units)
Four to six courses in a primary or specialized concentration (12-24 units)
One project course or two integrated project courses (0-8 units)
Elective courses (1-24 units; see restrictions below)

Core Courses (three courses required)
Optimization and Analytics (select one)

- MS&E 211: Introduction to Optimization
- MS&E 211X: Introduction to Optimization (Accelerated)
- MS&E 226: Fundamentals of Data Science: Prediction, Inference, Causality

Organizations and Decisions (select one)

- MS&E 252: Decision Analysis I: Foundations of Decision Analysis
- MS&E 270: Strategy in Technology-Based Companies
- MS&E 280: Organizational Behavior: Evidence in Action

Probability (select one)

- MS&E 220: Probabilistic Analysis
- MS&E 221: Stochastic Modeling

Primary Concentrations (may not duplicate Core courses)
Financial Analytics Concentration (five courses required)

Financial Theory and Modeling (select one):
- MS&E 245A: Investment Science
- MS&E 245B: Advanced Investment Science
- MS&E 246: Financial Risk Analytics

Quantitative Methods (two required):
Select one (whichever of optimization or analytics wasn’t taken for core):
- MS&E 211: Introduction to Optimization
- MS&E 211X: Introduction to Optimization (Accelerated)
- MS&E 226: Fundamentals of Data Science: Prediction, Inference, Causality

Select one:
- MS&E 223: Simulation
- MS&E 245B: Advanced Investment Science (if not used above)
- MS&E 246: Financial Risk Analytics (if not used above)
- MS&E 322: Stochastic Calculus and Control
- MS&E 349: Financial Statistics
- STATS 207: Introduction to Time Series Analysis
- STATS 240: Statistical Methods in Finance

Operations and Analytics Concentration (four courses required)

Required Courses
- MS&E 211X: Introduction to Optimization (Accelerated) (whichever of optimization or analytics wasn’t taken for core)
- MS&E 221: Stochastic Modeling (or a more advanced course in probability or stochastics (i.e. MS&E 223 Simulation) if a student has taken an equivalent class in stochastic modeling)
- MS&E 212: Mathematical Programming and Combinatorial Optimization
- MS&E 220: Introduction to Operations Management
- MS&E 260: Introduction to Operations Management
- MS&E 263: Healthcare Operations Management
- MS&E 267: Service Operations and the Design of Marketplaces

Recommended Elective Courses:
- MS&E 223: Simulation
- MS&E 231: Introduction to Computational Social Science
- MS&E 234: Data Privacy and Ethics
- MS&E 241: Economic Analysis
- MS&E 243: Energy and Environmental Policy Analysis
- MS&E 245A: Investment Science
- MS&E 250A: Engineering Risk Analysis
- MS&E 252: Decision Analysis I: Foundations of Decision Analysis
- MS&E 292: Health Policy Modeling

Technology and Engineering Management Concentration (four courses required)

Courses for Core and Concentration must cover each of the three sub-areas below.

- Organizations and Strategy (select one):
  - MS&E 265: Introduction to Product Management
Management Science and Engineering

Specialized Concentrations (must have approval of the academic adviser)
Computational Social Science (four courses required)

Statistics (select at least one)

- MS&E 226 Fundamentals of Data Science: Prediction, Inference, Causality
- STATS 203 Introduction to Regression Models and Analysis of Variance
- STATS 305A Applied Statistics I
- STATS 315A Modern Applied Statistics: Learning
- STATS 315B Modern Applied Statistics: Data Mining

Computation (select at least one)

- MS&E 231 Introduction to Computational Social Science
- CS 224N Natural Language Processing with Deep Learning
- CS 229 Machine Learning
- CS 246 Mining Massive Data Sets

Networks (select at least one)

- MS&E 334 Topics in Social Data
- CS 224W Machine Learning with Graphs
- ECON 291 Social and Economic Networks

Social Science (select at least one)

- MS&E 232 Introduction to Game Theory
- MS&E 241 Economic Analysis

MS&E 270 Strategy in Technology-Based Companies
MS&E 274 Dynamic Entrepreneurial Strategy
MS&E 278 Patent Law and Strategy for Innovators and Entrepreneurs
MS&E 280 Organizational Behavior: Evidence in Action
MS&E 284 Designing Modern Work Organizations

Entrepreneurship and Innovation (select one):

- MS&E 270 Strategy in Technology-Based Companies
- MS&E 271 Global Entrepreneurial Marketing
- MS&E 272 Entrepreneurship without Borders
- MS&E 273 Technology Venture Formation
- MS&E 275 Intelligent Growth in Startups
- MS&E 276 Entrepreneurial Management and Finance
- MS&E 277 Creativity and Innovation
- ENGR 245 The Lean LaunchPad: Getting Your Lean Startup Off the Ground
- ENGR 248 Principled Entrepreneurial Decisions

Finance and Decisions (select one):

- MS&E 240 Accounting for Managers and Entrepreneurs
- MS&E 245A Investment Science
- MS&E 245B Advanced Investment Science
- MS&E 246 Financial Risk Analytics
- MS&E 249 Corporate Financial Management
- MS&E 250A Engineering Risk Analysis
- MS&E 250B Project Course in Engineering Risk Analysis
- MS&E 252 Decision Analysis I: Foundations of Decision Analysis
- MS&E 355 Influence Diagrams and Probabilistic Networks

Select one additional course from any sub-area above

Causal Inference

- COMM 382 Big Data and Causal Inference
- POLISCI 355C Causal Inference for Social Science

Computation

- CS 124 From Languages to Information
- CS 224N Natural Language Processing with Deep Learning
- CS 224S Spoken Language Processing
- POLISCI 452 Machine Learning with Application to Text as Data
- LINGUIST 278 Programming for Linguists

Social Science (select at least one)

- MS&E 232 Introduction to Game Theory
- MS&E 241 Economic Analysis

Psychology

- PSYCH 216 Public Policy and Social Psychology: Implications and Applications
- PSYCH 238 Wise Interventions

Sociology

- SOC 214 Economic Sociology
- SOC 218 Social Movements and Collective Action
- SOC 262 The Social Regulation of Markets
- SOC 270 Classics of Modern Social Theory

Statistics

- STATS 209 Statistical Methods for Group Comparisons and Causal Inference
- STATS 263 Design of Experiments
- STATS 315A Modern Applied Statistics: Learning
- STATS 315B Modern Applied Statistics: Data Mining

Economics

- ECON 284 Designing Modern Work Organizations
- ECON 202N Microeconomics I For Non-Economics PhDs
- PSYCH 212 Classic and contemporary social psychology research
- PSYCH 265 Social Psychology and Social Change
- SOC 220 Interpersonal Relations
- SOC 224B Relational Sociology

Recommended Elective Courses

- MS&E 270 Strategy in Technology-Based Companies
- MS&E 280 Organizational Behavior: Evidence in Action
- ECON 202N Microeconomics I For Non-Economics PhDs
- PSYCH 212 Classic and contemporary social psychology research
- PSYCH 265 Social Psychology and Social Change
- SOC 220 Interpersonal Relations
- SOC 224B Relational Sociology

Select one additional course from any sub-area above

Core Courses are restricted as follows:

- MS&E 211 Introduction to Optimization
- or MS&E 211X Introduction to Optimization (Accelerated)
- or MS&E 213 Introduction to Optimization Theory
- MS&E 221 Stochastic Modeling
- MS&E 252 Decision Analysis I: Foundations of Decision Analysis

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### Required Courses (select two):

- MS&E 241  |  Economic Analysis
- MS&E 250A  |  Engineering Risk Analysis
- MS&E 251  |  Introduction to Stochastic Control with Applications
  or EE 263  |  Introduction to Linear Dynamical Systems
- MS&E 355  |  Influence Diagrams and Probabilistic Networks

### Policy Course (select one):

- MS&E 243  |  Energy and Environmental Policy Analysis
- MS&E 292  |  Health Policy Modeling
- MS&E 293  |  Technology and National Security: Past, Present, and Future

### Project Course:

- MS&E 250B  |  Project Course in Engineering Risk Analysis
- MS&E 297  |  "Hacking for Defense": Solving National Security issues with the Lean Launchpad

### Energy and Environment Concentration (six courses required)

#### Required Courses:

- MS&E 241  |  Economic Analysis
- MS&E 243  |  Energy and Environmental Policy Analysis
- CEE 207A  |  Understanding Energy
  or CEE 273S  |  Electricity Economics
  or ENERGY 291  |  Optimization of Energy Systems

#### Three additional courses from energy, policy, or strategy areas below:

- MS&E 292  |  Health Policy Modeling
- MS&E 293  |  Technology and National Security: Past, Present, and Future
- MS&E 394  |  Advanced Methods in Modeling for Climate and Energy Policy
- ECON 251  |  Natural Resource and Energy Economics

### Health Systems Modeling and Policy Concentration (four courses required)

#### Required Courses (select four):

- MS&E 263  |  Healthcare Operations Management
- MS&E 292  |  Health Policy Modeling
- MS&E 463  |  Healthcare Systems Design
- HRP 263  |  Advanced Decision Science Methods and Modeling in Health
- HRP 392  |  Analysis of Costs, Risks, and Benefits of Health Care

#### Recommended Elective Courses:

- MS&E 256  |  Technology Assessment and Regulation of Medical Devices
- HRP 256  |  Economics of Health and Medical Care
- HRP 391  |  Health Law: Finance and Insurance

### Projects (may duplicate Core and/or Concentration courses)

Select one project course or two integrated project courses.

#### Project Courses:

- MS&E 250B  |  Project Course in Engineering Risk Analysis  
  3
- MS&E 348  |  Optimization of Uncertainty and Applications in Finance  
  3
- MS&E 448  |  Big Financial Data and Algorithmic Trading  
  3
- MS&E 463  |  Healthcare Systems Design  
  3-4

#### Integrated Project Courses:

- ENGR 248  |  Principled Entrepreneurial Decisions  
  3
- MS&E 201  |  Dynamic Systems  
  3
- MS&E 226  |  Fundamentals of Data Science: Prediction, Inference, Causality  
  3
- MS&E 243  |  Energy and Environmental Policy Analysis  
  3
- MS&E 245A  |  Investment Science  
  3-4
- MS&E 245B  |  Advanced Investment Science  
  3
- MS&E 246  |  Financial Risk Analytics  
  3
- MS&E 252  |  Decision Analysis I: Foundations of Decision Analysis  
  3-4
- MS&E 256  |  Technology Assessment and Regulation of Medical Devices  
  3
MS&E 260  Introduction to Operations Management  3
MS&E 265  Introduction to Product Management  3
MS&E 270  Strategy in Technology-Based Companies  3-4
MS&E 271  Global Entrepreneurial Marketing  3-4
MS&E 272  Entrepreneurship without Borders  3-4
MS&E 273  Technology Venture Formation  3-4
MS&E 274  Dynamic Entrepreneurial Strategy  3
MS&E 275  Intelligent Growth in Startups  3
MS&E 277  Creativity and Innovation  3-4
MS&E 280  Organizational Behavior: Evidence in Action  3-4
MS&E 284  Designing Modern Work Organizations  3
MS&E 311  Optimization  3
MS&E 338  Reinforcement Learning  3
MS&E 347  Credit Risk: Modeling and Management  3
MS&E 349  Financial Statistics  3
MS&E 355  Influence Diagrams and Probabilistics Networks  3

Additional Requirements
1. At least 45 units must be in courses numbered 100 and above.
2. The degree program must be completed with a grade point average (GPA) of 3.0 or higher.
3. At least 27 units must be in courses numbered 200 and above in MS&E, taken for a letter grade and a minimum of two units each.
4. At least 36 letter-graded units must be in MS&E or closely related fields. Closely related fields include any department in the School of Engineering, mathematics, statistics, economics, sociology, or business.
5. A maximum of 4 units of directed or individual study units may count toward the letter-grade requirement.
6. All courses used to satisfy core, concentration, or project requirements must be taken for a letter grade.
7. A maximum of three units of 1-unit courses such as seminars, colloquia, workshops, in any department, including MS&E 208A, B, C, and D Practical Training, and MS&E 208E Part-Time Practical Training.
8. A maximum of 18 non-degree option (NDO) units through the Stanford Center for Professional Development (SCPD).
9. Courses taken in Health and Human Performance (e.g. Athletics, Club Sports, Kinesiology, Leadership Innovations, Lifeworks, Outdoor Education, Physical Education, and Wellness Education) may not be applied toward the degree.

Professional Education
The Stanford Center for Professional Development (SCPD) provides opportunities for employees of some local and remote companies to take courses at Stanford.

The Honors Cooperative Program (HCP) provides opportunities for fully employed working professionals to earn an M.S. degree, over a longer period, by taking one or two courses per academic quarter. Some courses are only offered on campus; HCP students may attend those courses at Stanford to meet the degree requirements. It is possible to complete this program as a remote HCP student although the remote offerings are limited. Students must apply for a degree program through the standard application process, and must meet the standard application deadlines.

The non-degree option (NDO) program allows industry students with the opportunity to take Stanford graduate courses on a part-time basis without having to be formally admitted to a degree program. NDO students enroll as distance learners where up to 18 units of graduate credit earned may later be applied toward a degree program (if admitted). Students who have completed an undergraduate degree with a minimum of a 3.0 grade point average, may apply to take MS&E courses online each quarter through the Stanford Center for Professional Development. Completion of multivariable calculus and linear algebra is required for most MS&E courses and graduate certificates. For additional information about the NDO application process and deadlines, see the SCPD website (http://scpd.stanford.edu/non-degree-option-program), or contact SCPD at (650) 725-3000.

Certificate
The department offers a certificate program within the framework of the NDO program. A certificate can be obtained by completing three MS&E core courses, plus one MS&E elective course for a total of four courses. For further information, see http://scpd.stanford.edu/programs/graduate-certificates.

COVID-19-Related Degree Requirement Changes
For information on how Management Science and Engineering degree requirements have been affected by the pandemic, see the "COVID-19 Policies tab (p. 16)" in this section of this bulletin. For University-wide policy changes related to the pandemic, see the "COVID-19 and Academic Continuity (http://exploredegrees.stanford.edu/covid-19-policy-changes)" section of this bulletin.

Dual Master's Degree Program
The dual degree program enables a small group of graduate students to obtain two master’s degrees simultaneously. Students complete the course requirements for each department. A total of 90 units is required to complete the dual master’s degree.

Admission
For the dual degree, admission to two departments is required, but is coordinated by designated members of both admissions committees who make recommendations to the committees of their respective departments. Students may apply to only one department initially. After the first quarter at Stanford, students may apply to be admitted to the second department.

Advising
Every student in the dual degree program has one adviser in each department.

Joint MS&E and Law Degrees
The School of Law and the Department of Management Science and Engineering offer joint degree programs leading to a J.D. degree and an M.S. degree in MS&E, or to a J.D. and Ph.D. in MS&E. These programs are designed for students who wish to prepare themselves for careers in areas relating to both law and to the decision making, policy making, and problem solving knowledge and skills developed in the MS&E program. Students interested in either joint degree program must apply and gain admission separately to the School of Law and the Department of Management Science and Engineering and, as an additional step, must secure consent from both academic units to pursue degrees in those units as part of a joint degree program. Interest in either joint degree program should be noted on the student’s admission applications and may be considered by the admission committee of each program. Alternatively, an enrolled student in either the Law School or MS&E may apply for admission to the other program and for joint degree status in both academic units after commencement of study in either program.

Joint degree students may elect to begin their course of study in either the School of Law or MS&E. Students are assigned to a joint program committee composed of at least one faculty member from Law and one from MS&E. This committee plans the student’s program jointly with the...
student. Students must be enrolled full time in the Law School for the first year of law studies, and it is recommended that students devote exclusively one Autumn Quarter to the MS&E M.S. program to initiate their MS&E work. After that time, enrollment may be in MS&E or Law, and students may choose courses from either program regardless of where enrolled. A candidate in the joint J.D./Ph.D. program should spend a substantial amount of full time residency in MS&E. Students must satisfy the requirements for both the J.D. and the M.S. or Ph.D. degrees as specified in this bulletin or by the School of Law. The Law School may approve courses from MS&E or courses in the student’s MS&E program from outside of the Department of Management Science and Engineering that may count toward the J.D. degree, and MS&E may approve courses from the Law School that may count toward the M.S. or Ph.D. degree in MS&E. In either case, approval may consist of a list applicable to all joint degree students or may be tailored to each individual student’s program. The lists may differ depending on whether the student is pursuing an M.S. or a Ph.D. in MS&E.

In the case of a J.D./M.S. program, no more than 45 units of approved courses may be counted toward both degrees. In the case of a J.D./Ph.D. program, no more than 54 units of approved courses may be counted toward both degrees. In either case, no more than 36 units of courses that originate outside the Law School may count toward the law degree. To the extent that courses under this joint degree program originate outside the Law School but count toward the law degree, the law credits permitted under Section 17(1) of the Law School Regulations are reduced on a unit-per-unit basis, but not below zero. The maximum number of law school credits that may be counted toward the M.S. in MS&E is the greater of: (a) 18 units in the case of the M.S., or (b) the maximum number of hours from courses outside the department that an M.S. candidate in MS&E is permitted to count toward the applicable degree under general departmental guidelines or under departmental rules that apply in the case of a particular student.

Tuition and financial aid arrangements are normally through the school in which the student is then enrolled.

**Joint MS&E and Master of Public Policy Degree**

M.S. MS&E students who wish to apply their analytical and management skills to the field of public policy can simultaneously pursue a master degree in MS&E and a master degree in Public Policy. The MPP is a two-year degree program, but M.S. MS&E students who pursue the joint program can earn both degrees in a minimum of two years, depending on prior preparation and elective choices, by counting up to 45 quarter units of course work toward both degrees. After admission to the Department of Management Science and Engineering, incoming or current M.S. students request that their application file be forwarded to the MPP program director for review.

Students in the joint program normally will spend most of their first year taking MS&E core courses. The second year is typically devoted to the MPP core, concentration, and practicum. The joint degree requires 90 quarter units. Tuition for the first year of study is paid at the Graduate Engineering rate, the remaining time at the graduate rate.

**COVID-19-Related Degree Requirement Changes**

For information on how Management Science and Engineering degree requirements have been affected by the pandemic, see the "COVID-19 Policies tab (p. 16)" in this section of this bulletin. For University-wide policy changes related to the pandemic, see the "COVID-19 and Academic Continuity (http://exploredegrees.stanford.edu/covid-19-policy-changes)" section of this bulletin.

**Doctor of Philosophy in Management Science and Engineering**

University requirements for the Ph.D. degree are described in the "Graduate Degrees" section of this bulletin.

The Ph.D. degree in MS&E is intended for students primarily interested in a career of research and teaching, or high-level technical work in universities, industry, or government. The program requires three years of full-time graduate study, at least two years of which must be at Stanford. Typically, however, students take four to five years after entering the program to complete all Ph.D. requirements. The Ph.D. is organized around the expectation that the students acquire a certain breadth across all areas of the department, and depth in one of them. The current areas are:

- Computational Social Science
- Decision Analysis and Risk Analysis
- Energy and Environment
- Quantitative Finance
- Health Systems Modeling and Policy
- National Security Policy
- Operations Management
- Optimization and Stochastics
- Organizations
- Strategy, Innovation, and Entrepreneurship

Doctoral students are required to take a number of courses, both to pass a qualifying exam in one of these areas, and to complete a dissertation based on research which must make an original contribution to knowledge.

Each student admitted to the Ph.D. program must satisfy a breadth requirement and pass a qualification procedure. The purpose of the qualification procedure is to assess the student's command of the field and to evaluate his or her potential to complete a high-quality dissertation in a timely manner. The student must complete specified course work in one of the areas of the department.

The qualification decision is based on the student’s course work and grade point average (GPA), on the one or two preliminary papers prepared by the student with close guidance from two faculty members, at least one of whom must be an MS&E faculty member, the student's performance in an area examination or defense of the written paper(s), and an overall assessment by the faculty of the student’s ability to conduct high-quality Ph.D. research. Considering this evidence, the department faculty vote on advancing the student to candidacy in the department at large. The Ph.D. requires a minimum of 135 units, up to 45 units of which may be transferred from another graduate program.

All courses used to satisfy breadth and depth requirements must be taken for a letter grade, if the letter graded option is available. Prior to candidacy, at least 3 units of work must be taken with each of four Stanford faculty members. Finally, the student must pass a University oral examination and complete a Ph.D. dissertation. During the course of the Ph.D. program, students who do not have a master's degree are strongly encouraged to complete one, either in MS&E or in another Stanford department.

**Breadth Requirement**

All first year students are required to attend and participate in MS&E 302 Fundamental Concepts in Management Science and Engineering, which meets in the Autumn Quarter.

Each course session is devoted to a specific MS&E Ph.D. research area. At a given session several advanced Ph.D. students in that area make carefully prepared presentations designed for first-year doctoral students
regardless of area. The presentations are devoted to: (a) illuminating how people in the area being explored that day think about and approach problems, and (b) illustrating what can and cannot be done when addressing problems by deploying the knowledge, perspectives, and skills acquired by those who specialize in the area in question.

Faculty in the focal area of the week comment on the student presentations. The rest of the session is devoted to questions posed and comments made by the first year Ph.D. students.

During the last two weeks of the quarter, groups of first year students make presentations on how they would approach a problem drawing on two or more of the perspectives to which they have been exposed earlier in the class.

Attendance is mandatory and performance is assessed on the basis of the quality of the students’ presentations and class participation.

Qualification Procedure Requirements
The qualification procedure is based on depth in an area of the student’s choice and preparation for dissertation research. The qualification process must be completed by the end of the month of May of the student’s second year of graduate study in the department. The performance of all doctoral students is reviewed every year at a department faculty meeting at the end of May or beginning of June. Ph.D. qualification decisions are made at that time and individual feedback is provided.

The Ph.D. qualification requirements comprise these elements:

1. Courses and GPA: Students must complete the depth requirements of one of the areas of the MS&E department. (The Ph.D. area course requirements are below). All courses used to satisfy depth requirements must be taken for a letter grade, if the letter graded option is available. Course substitutions may be approved by the doctoral program adviser or the MS&E dissertation adviser on the candidacy form or on a request for graduate course waiver/substitution form. A student must maintain a GPA of at least 3.4 in the set of all courses taken by the student within the department. The GPA is computed on the basis of the nominal number of units for which each course is offered.

2. Paper(s): A student may choose between two options. The first option involves one paper supervised by a primary faculty adviser and a second faculty reader. This paper should be written in two quarters. The second option involves two shorter sequential tutorials, with two different faculty advisers. Each tutorial should be completed in one quarter. In both options, the student chooses the faculty advisor(s)/reader with the faculty members’ consent. There must be two faculty members, at least one of whom must be an MS&E faculty member, supervising and evaluating this requirement for advancement to candidacy. The paper/tutorials must be completed before the Spring Quarter of the student’s second year of graduate study in the department; if the student’s qualifying exam is during the Spring Quarter, and before the end of May of that year otherwise.

3. Area Qualification: In addition, during the second year, a student must pass an examination in one of the areas of the MS&E department, or defense of the written paper(s). The student chooses the area/program in which to take the examination. This area examination is written, oral, or both, at the discretion of the area faculty administering the exam. Most areas offer the qualifying exam only once per year, which may be early in the second year.

Degree Progress and Student Responsibility
Each doctoral student’s progress is reviewed annually by the MS&E faculty. Typically, this occurs at a faculty meeting at the end of Spring Quarter, and an appropriate email notification is sent over the summer to the student and their adviser. It shall be the responsibility of the student to initiate each required step in completing the Ph.D. program.

1. To maintain good standing in the degree program, first-year students must:
   a. complete 30 units, including MS&E 302 and doctoral courses taught by faculty in their research area;
   b. develop relationships with faculty members who can potentially serve as dissertation adviser or reading committee member. A faculty member is more likely to accept the responsibility of supervising the research of a student whom he or she knows fairly well than a student whose abilities, initiative, and originality the faculty member knows less well. It is recommended that students participate in research rotations with MS&E and related faculty to facilitate the development of these relationships.

2. To maintain good standing in the degree program second-year students must:
   a. submit a candidacy form signed by at least one MS&E faculty member with whom they have or will complete research rotations, tutorials, or papers, and listing the course requirements agreed upon by both the student and the program adviser;
   b. complete at least two one-quarter research rotations or tutorials, or one two-quarter research rotation, tutorial, or research paper, continuing to develop relationships with faculty members who might serve as dissertation adviser or reading committee member;
   c. complete 30 units, including most, if not all, of the required courses listed on the candidacy form;
   d. pass an area qualifying exam;
   e. be advanced to candidacy by the faculty.

3. To maintain good standing in the degree program, third-year students must:
   a. submit a progress form listing the dissertation topic and signed by the dissertation adviser (if the dissertation adviser is not an MS&E faculty member, the form must also be signed by an MS&E faculty member who agrees to be on the student’s reading committee, as well as the student’s point of contact within the department);  
   b. complete 30 units, including any remaining depth courses.

4. To maintain good standing in the degree program, fourth-year students must:
   a. select a reading committee (a dissertation adviser and two readers) with at least one member from the student’s major department, and submit the reading committee form signed by each member on the reading committee;
   b. make satisfactory progress on their dissertation as determined by their dissertation adviser;
   c. if the student has not transferred any previous graduate units to Stanford, complete 30 dissertation units.

5. To maintain good standing in the degree program beyond the fourth year, students must make satisfactory progress on their dissertation as determined by their dissertation adviser and approved by the faculty. Indeed, the dissertation adviser will have to present the case to (and seek approval for good standing of the student from) the faculty in the annual faculty meeting for student review. It should be noted that each student inherently has to pass the oral examination (see below) and submit their dissertation before their candidacy expires.

Additionally, to remain in good standing, and to remain eligible for funding, students must perform well in all assistantship positions.

Any special cases, for a student to remain in good standing based on extenuating circumstances, must be presented to and approved by the whole faculty.

Oral Examination
As administered in this department, the University oral examination is a defense of the dissertation; however, the candidate should be...
prepared to answer any question raised by any members of the Academic Council who choose to be present. The examining committee consists of the three members of the reading committee as well as a fourth faculty member and an orals chair. The chair must be an Academic Council member and may not be affiliated with either the Department of Management Science and Engineering nor any department in which the student’s advisor has a regular appointment; emeriti professors are eligible to serve as an orals chair. It is the responsibility of the student’s advisor to find an appropriate orals chair. The University oral examination may be scheduled after the dissertation reading committee has given tentative approval to the dissertation.

The student must be enrolled in the quarter of their oral examination. Students should schedule three hours for the oral examination, which usually consists of a 45-minute public presentation, followed by closed-session questioning of the examinee by the committee, and committee deliberation. The student needs to reserve a room, and meet with the student services manager to complete the oral examination schedule and pick up other paper work. This paperwork, along with an abstract, needs to be delivered to the orals chair at least one week prior to the oral examination.

Course Requirements
Computational Social Science
The Computational Social Science track teaches students how to apply rigorous statistical and computational methods to address problems in economics, sociology, political science and beyond. The core course work covers fundamental statistical concepts, large-scale computation, and network analysis. Through electives, students can explore topics such as experimental design, algorithmic economics, and machine learning.

Select at least one class from each of four different core areas.

Statistics core:
- MS&E 226 Fundamentals of Data Science: Prediction, Inference, Causality
- STATS 203 Introduction to Regression Models and Analysis of Variance
- STATS 305A Applied Statistics I

Computation core:
- MS&E 231 Introduction to Computational Social Science
- CS 246 Mining Massive Data Sets

Networks core:
- MS&E 334 Topics in Social Data
- CS 224W Machine Learning with Graphs

Social Science core:
- MS&E 241 Economic Analysis
- MS&E 270 Strategy in Technology-Based Companies
- MS&E 280 Organizational Behavior: Evidence in Action
- MS&E 274 Dynamic Entrepreneurial Strategy
- ECON 202N Microeconomics I For Non-Economics PhDs
- PSYCH 212 Classic and contemporary social psychology research
- PSYCH 265 Social Psychology and Social Change
- SOC 220 Interpersonal Relations
- SOC 224B Relational Sociology

Recommended:
- Causal Inference
- COMM 382 Big Data and Causal Inference
- POLISCI 355C Causal Inference for Social Science

Prerequisites:
- CS 106A Programming Methodology

Computing
- CS 147 Introduction to Human-Computer Interaction Design
- CS 229 Machine Learning
- CS 448B Data Visualization
- MS&E 234 Data Privacy and Ethics

Economics
- MS&E 241 Economic Analysis

Natural Language Processing
- CS 124 From Languages to Information
- CS 224N Natural Language Processing with Deep Learning
- CS 224S Spoken Language Processing
- LINGUIST 278 Programming for Linguists
- POLISCI 452 Machine Learning with Application to Text as Data

Networks
- SOC 369 Social Network Methods

Psychology
- PSYCH 216 Public Policy and Social Psychology: Implications and Applications
- PSYCH 238 Wise Interventions

Sociology
- SOC 214 Economic Sociology
- SOC 218 Social Movements and Collective Action
- SOC 262 The Social Regulation of Markets
- SOC 270 Classics of Modern Social Theory
- SOC 271

Statistics
- STATS 209 Statistical Methods for Group Comparisons and Causal Inference
- STATS 263 Design of Experiments
- STATS 315A Modern Applied Statistics: Learning
- STATS 315B Modern Applied Statistics: Data Mining

Students may substitute other classes (including those from other departments) from the same general area on a case-by-case basis, subject to approval by the student’s program/dissertation adviser. The students must obtain a GPA of 3.50 or better in the core courses to qualify. The core courses must be completed in or before the Spring Quarter of the student’s second year.

Computational Social Science Qualifying Procedure
The student does two quarter-length tutorials with CSS faculty. At the end of these tutorials, the student must make a 45-minute presentation of one of their tutorials to a committee of three CSS faculty members. The student can do both tutorials with the same faculty member, in which case the presentation can be of the two tutorials together, and another committee member must be kept informed of the student’s progress on a regular basis during the two quarters. The presentation should take place in the Spring Quarter of the student’s second year, or earlier. The presentation must include original research or promising directions towards original research. During this presentation, the student must also provide the name of their chosen focus area, and the list of courses that the student has completed and intends to complete in the core as well as in the chosen focus area. The committee then makes a recommendation to the CSS area and the MS&E department regarding qualification of the student for the Ph.D. program in CSS.

Decision Analysis and Risk Analysis
Prerequisites:
- CS 106A Programming Methodology
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<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Prerequisites</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CME 100</td>
<td>Vector Calculus for Engineers</td>
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<tr>
<td>CME 103</td>
<td>Introduction to Matrix Methods</td>
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<tr>
<td>MS&amp;E 201</td>
<td>Dynamic Systems</td>
<td>or EE 263</td>
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<td>MS&amp;E 211</td>
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<td>or MS&amp;E 211X</td>
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<td>MS&amp;E 220</td>
<td>Probabilistic Analysis</td>
<td>or MS&amp;E 311</td>
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<td>MS&amp;E 221</td>
<td>Stochastic Modeling</td>
<td>or STATS 217</td>
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<td>MS&amp;E 223</td>
<td>Simulation</td>
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<td>MS&amp;E 241</td>
<td>Economic Analysis</td>
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<tr>
<td>MS&amp;E 250A</td>
<td>Engineering Risk Analysis</td>
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<tr>
<td>MS&amp;E 251</td>
<td>Introduction to Stochastic Control with Applications</td>
<td>or MS&amp;E 351</td>
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<tr>
<td>MS&amp;E 252</td>
<td>Decision Analysis I: Foundations of Decision Analysis</td>
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<td>MS&amp;E 253</td>
<td>Decision Analysis II: Professional Decision Analysis</td>
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<tr>
<td>MS&amp;E 255</td>
<td>Decision Analysis III: Frontiers of Decision Analysis</td>
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<tr>
<td>MS&amp;E 255</td>
<td>Decision Analysis III: Frontiers of Decision Analysis</td>
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</table>

**Quantitative Finance**

The finance area focuses on the quantitative and statistical study of financial risks, institutions, markets, and technology. Students take courses in probability, statistics, optimization, finance, economics, and computational mathematics as well as a variety of other courses. Recent dissertation topics include studies of machine learning methods for risk management; systemic financial risk; algorithmic trading; optimal order execution; large-scale portfolio optimization; mortgage markets; and statistical testing of financial models. Ph.D. students in the area typically are affiliated with the Center for Financial and Risk Analytics (CFRA).

Prerequisites (may be waived based on prior coursework)

**Mathematics**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MATH 113</td>
<td>Linear Algebra and Matrix Theory</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MATH 115</td>
<td>Functions of a Real Variable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>or MATH 171</td>
<td>Fundamental Concepts of Analysis</td>
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</table>

**Probability**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MS&amp;E 220</td>
<td>Probabilistic Analysis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>or STATS 116</td>
<td>Theory of Probability</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MS&amp;E 221</td>
<td>Stochastic Modeling</td>
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**Statistics**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>STATS 110</td>
<td>Statistical Methods in Engineering and the Physical Sciences</td>
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</table>

**Programming**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CS 106A</td>
<td>Programming Methodology</td>
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</table>

**Economics**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MS&amp;E 241</td>
<td>Economic Analysis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>or ECON 50</td>
<td>Economic Analysis I</td>
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</table>

**Required Core Courses**

**Optimization**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MS&amp;E 211</td>
<td>Introduction to Optimization</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>or MS&amp;E 211X</td>
<td>Introduction to Optimization (Accelerated)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>or MS&amp;E 213</td>
<td>Introduction to Optimization Theory</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>or MS&amp;E 310</td>
<td>Linear Programming</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>or MS&amp;E 311</td>
<td>Optimization</td>
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**Stochastics**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MS&amp;E 321</td>
<td>Stochastic Systems</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>or MS&amp;E 322</td>
<td>Stochastic Calculus and Control</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Statistics**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>STATS 200</td>
<td>Introduction to Statistical Inference</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>or STATS 305A</td>
<td>Applied Statistics I</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>or STATS 315A</td>
<td>Modern Applied Statistics: Learning</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Numerical Methods**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MS&amp;E 223</td>
<td>Simulation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>or CME 200</td>
<td>Linear Algebra with Application to Engineering Computations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>or CME 206</td>
<td>Introduction to Numerical Methods for Engineering</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Strongly Recommended**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>STATS 300A</td>
<td>Theory of Statistics I</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STATS 310A</td>
<td>Theory of Probability I</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Elective Courses (select at least 4)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MS&amp;E 245A</td>
<td>Investment Science</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MS&amp;E 245B</td>
<td>Advanced Investment Science</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MS&amp;E 246</td>
<td>Financial Risk Analytics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MS&amp;E 347</td>
<td>Credit Risk: Modeling and Management</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MS&amp;E 348</td>
<td>Optimization of Uncertainty and Applications in Finance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MS&amp;E 349</td>
<td>Financial Statistics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ECON 236</td>
<td>Financial Economics I</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ECON 237</td>
<td>Financial Economics II</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ECON 273</td>
<td>Advanced Econometrics I</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ECON 274</td>
<td>Advanced Econometrics II</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ECON 276</td>
<td>Computational Econometrics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FINANCE 625</td>
<td>Empirical Asset Pricing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MATH 238</td>
<td>Mathematical Finance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STATS 231</td>
<td>Statistical Learning Theory</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STATS 240</td>
<td>Statistical Methods in Finance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STATS 243</td>
<td>Risk Analytics and Management in Finance and Insurance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STATS 315B</td>
<td>Modern Applied Statistics: Data Mining</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Students should discuss their course schedule with their dissertation advisers. Other courses in MS&E, Economics, Finance, Scientific Computing, or Statistics at the MS&E 300-level (or comparable in other departments) may be chosen after consulting with the dissertation adviser.

Quantitative Finance Qualifying Procedure

In addition to beginning an appropriate course program, students must pass two quarters of tutorial and an oral examination to obtain qualification. The tutorials emphasize basic research skills. The oral examination emphasizes command of basic concepts as represented in the required courses as well as the modeling of practical situations.

Energy and Environment Policy (see Policy and Strategy)
Health Policy (see Policy and Strategy)
National Security Policy (see Decision Analysis and Risk Analysis)
Operations Management

Foundation courses (may be waived based on prior coursework):
- MS&E 211 or MS&E 211X: Introduction to Optimization
- MS&E 241 or ECON 202N: Economic Analysis
- MS&E 210: Operations Management

Methodology courses (all):
- MS&E 221: Stochastic Modeling
- MS&E 223: Simulation
- MS&E 251: Introduction to Stochastic Control with Applications
- MS&E 311: Optimization
- MS&E 321: Stochastic Systems

OM research courses (any four):
- MS&E 231: Mechanism and Market Design
- Faculty-approved GSB DIT Ph.D. courses (about six are offered every two years).

Optimization and Stochastics

Prerequisites:
- MS&E 220 or STATS 116: Probability Analysis
- MS&E 221 or STATS 217: Introduction to Stochastic Processes I
- MS&E 241 or ECON 50: Economic Analysis I
- CS 106A or CS 106X: Programming Abstractions
- MATH 113 or MATH 171: Linear Algebra and Matrix Theory

Strongly Recommended:
- CME 108: Introduction to Scientific Computing
- STATS 200: Introduction to Statistical Inference
- STATC 203: Introduction to Regression Models and Analysis of Variance

Core (four courses):
- MS&E 310: Linear Programming

In addition to the four core courses, students should take at least four 3-4 unit courses in some coherent area of specialization. The area of specialization may be methodological; examples include (but are not limited to) optimization, stochastic systems, stochastic control, algorithms, economic analysis, statistical inference, scientific computing, etc. The area of specialization could also have a significant modeling and application component, such as (but not limited to) information services, telecommunications, financial engineering, supply chains, health care, energy, etc. Independent of the choice of specialization, students are encouraged to take a range of courses covering methodology, modeling, and applications. Any MS&E courses satisfying this requirement must be at the 300-level, while courses outside MS&E must be at a comparable level. Students are expected to earn a letter grade of A- or better in all courses counted for the requirements. A student's plan for completing these requirements must be discussed with and approved by their faculty adviser by the beginning of Autumn Quarter of their second year.

Optimization and Stochastics Qualifying Procedure

Students take the area qualifying exam at the beginning of their second year of study. The qualifying exam consists of two written exams: one in Optimization and one in Stochastic Systems. The first exam covers the material in MS&E 310 and related prerequisites. The second exam covers the material in MS&E 321 and related prerequisites.

The student does two quarter-length tutorials with Optimization and Stochastics faculty (or affiliated faculty). A written report approved by the supervising faculty member is required on each tutorial. In addition, at the end of the second year, students are expected to make a 30-minute presentation to the broader Optimization and Stochastics faculty. The presentation must include original research or promising directions towards original research. The student can do both tutorials with the same faculty member; in this case a single written report is sufficient, and the presentation can be of the two tutorials together.

Organizations, Strategy, Innovation, and Entrepreneurship

Foundation in Organizational Behavior (five courses):
- MS&E 389: Seminar on Entrepreneurship

Statistics and Research Methods (examples; three courses required):
- STATC 310A: Theory of Probability I
- MS&E 311: Optimization
- MS&E 316: Discrete Mathematics and Algorithms
- STATS 310A: Theory of Probability I

Three to four courses in some coherent area of specialization.
In their first two years in the Ph.D. program, all students are expected to work with faculty on research. To ensure an early start, all students must work at least 25% of their time in their first year as a research assistant with a faculty member. Students on fellowships can earn course credit for the work. With approval from the students' adviser, one quarter of the requirement may be fulfilled by working as a Course Assistant (CA).

Ph.D. students in organizational behavior must take 3 courses in statistics and research methods. Two of these courses must be statistics courses.

Ph.D. students are required to take a minimum of 2 advanced-content courses chosen with input from their adviser.

Students are expected to complete a yearly plan, of no more than two typed pages in length, detailing the student's plans for the next year in terms of education (e.g., courses and seminars), research (e.g., RAships), and teaching (e.g., TAships). This plan should be provided to the students' academic adviser for review no later than May 15 each calendar year.

Policy and Strategy
The Policy and Strategy (P&S) Area addresses policy and strategy questions in a variety of organizational and societal settings. In order to approach interdisciplinary research questions in application domains as diverse as energy, environment, health, information technology, innovation, and government regulation, P&S faculty members rely on a broad range of analytical and empirical tools, such as decision analysis, optimization and operations research methods, formal economic modeling, econometrics, case studies, and simulation. After having been exposed to foundational knowledge of economics, strategy, and organizational theory, doctoral students in the P&S Area can select from a variety of courses to deepen their understanding of the specific application domains. The P&S Area's mission is to provide a first-class learning and research environment preparing doctoral students for careers at research universities, government institutions, and in the private sector.

Foundation in Policy and Strategy (three):

MS&E 241 Economic Analysis
MS&E 376 Strategy Doctoral Research Seminar
or MS&E 390 Doctoral Research Seminar in Health Systems Modeling
or MS&E 391 Doctoral Research Seminar in Energy-Environmental Systems Modeling and Analysis

Statistics and Research Methods (three):

MS&E 201 Dynamic Systems
MS&E 211 Introduction to Optimization
or MS&E 211X Introduction to Optimization (Accelerated)
or MS&E 213 Introduction to Optimization Theory
MS&E 212 Mathematical Programming and Combinatorial Optimization
MS&E 221 Stochastic Modeling
MS&E 223 Simulation
MS&E 352 Decision Analysis II: Professional Decision Analysis
PSYCH 252 Statistical Methods for Behavioral and Social Sciences
SOC 383 Sociological Methodology III: Models for Discrete Outcomes
SOC 384 New Models and Methods in the Social Sciences

The student must select a program of four or more electives including disciplinary depth courses that reflects his or her interests and this approved by the Policy and Strategy faculty. The following are a number of sample programs:

Sample Program: Modeling Emphasis
Research Methods
MS&E 201 Dynamic Systems
MS&E 252 Decision Analysis I: Foundations of Decision Analysis
MS&E 311 Optimization
MS&E 321 Stochastic Systems
Domain Depth
MS&E 292 Health Policy Modeling
HRP 392 Analysis of Costs, Risks, and Benefits of Health Care

Two of the following:
MS&E 263 Healthcare Operations Management
MS&E 463 Healthcare Systems Design
HRP 256 Economics of Health and Medical Care
HRP 263 Advanced Decision Science Methods and Modeling in Health

Sample Program: Strategy Emphasis
Research Methods
ECON 282 Contracts, Information, and Incentives
ECON 286 Game Theory and Economic Applications
Domain Depth
ECON 257 Industrial Organization 1
ECON 285 Matching and Market Design

Sample Program: Economics Emphasis
Research Methods
MS&E 408 Directed Reading and Research (Methods Apprenticeship)
SOC 369 Social Network Methods
Domain Depth
MS&E 371 Innovation and Strategic Change
MS&E 376 Strategy Doctoral Research Seminar
SOC 314 Economic Sociology

Sample Program: Risk Analysis Emphasis
Research Methods
MS&E 250A Engineering Risk Analysis
MS&E 251 Introduction to Stochastic Control with Applications
MS&E 252 Decision Analysis I: Foundations of Decision Analysis
MS&E 355 Influence Diagrams and Probabilistics Networks
Domain Depth
MS&E 250B Project Course in Engineering Risk Analysis
MS&E 353 Decision Analysis III: Frontiers of Decision Analysis

Students are expected to complete a yearly plan, of no more than two typed pages in length, detailing the student's plans for the next year in terms of education (e.g., courses and seminars), research (e.g., RAships), and teaching (e.g., TAships). This plan should be provided to the students' academic adviser for review no later than May 15 each calendar year.
Policy and Strategy Qualifying Procedure
Advancement to Ph.D. candidacy is determined at the end of the student’s second year of studies, based on the following three components:

1. the student's overall grade point average in the program (a GPA of 3.5 or higher is required);
2. a second-year research paper that is written by the student under the supervision of a faculty member, and that is presented to examining faculty members in the second year;
3. a written and oral qualifying examination taken by the student in the spring quarter of the second year.

Ph.D. Minor in Management Science and Engineering
Students pursuing a Ph.D. in another department who wish to receive a Ph.D. minor in Management Science and Engineering should consult the MS&E student services office. A minor in MS&E may be obtained by completing 20 units of approved graduate-level MS&E courses, of which at least 6 units must be at the 300-level. Courses approved for the minor must form a coherent program, and include a breadth of courses from across the department. The program must include a minimum of 16 letter-graded units, and a minimum grade point average of 3.3 must be achieved in these courses.

COVID-19 Policy Changes to Degree Requirements
On this page: Winter Quarter (p. 16) • Spring Quarter (p. 16) • Doctoral Programs (p. 17) (if applicable)

For a complete overview of academic policy changes related to the COVID-19 pandemic, see the "COVID-19 and Academic Continuity (http://exploredegrees.stanford.edu/covid-19-policy-changes)" section of this bulletin.

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020, Stanford University made a number of emergency changes to policies and procedures that impacted Winter and Spring quarters 2019-20. Those changes, as they relate to degree programs, are compiled on this page. These changes reflect the disruption that students and instructors experienced when the University transitioned to online learning on March 9, 2020, in addition to the disruption to the Stanford community caused by the pandemic itself.

Winter Quarter 2019-20
• University-wide Winter Quarter Academic Changes (http://exploredegrees.stanford.edu/covid-19-policy-changes/#winterquarteracademicchangestext)

The Committee on Undergraduate Standards and Policy (C-USP) and the Committee on Graduate Studies (C-GS) approved an exception for Winter Quarter 2019-20 to permit students to request late class withdrawals and/or changes to class grading basis to CR/NC (for those classes that had CR/NC as an option).

Undergraduate Degree Requirements
Grading Requirements
The Department of Management Science and Engineering did not make any changes to undergraduate degree grade requirements for classes taken in Winter Quarter 2019-20.

Students may petition for one course taken ‘CR/NC’ in Winter Quarter 2019-20 to be accepted toward a letter grade requirement.

Other Requirements
If a student has difficulty completing an undergraduate degree requirement due to the COVID-19 pandemic, (e.g., a study abroad requirement, a laboratory research requirement), the student should consult with the Student Services Officer to identify academic options to fulfill degree requirements.

Graduate Degree Requirements
Grading Requirements
The Department of Management Science and Engineering did not make any changes to graduate degree grade requirements for classes taken in Winter Quarter 2019-20.

Other Requirements
If a student has difficulty completing a graduate degree requirement due to the COVID-19 pandemic, (e.g., a study abroad requirement, a laboratory research requirement), the student should consult with the Student Services Officer to identify academic options to fulfill degree requirements.

Spring Quarter 2019-20
• University-wide Spring Quarter Academic Changes (http://exploredegrees.stanford.edu/covid-19-policy-changes/#winterquarteracademicchangestext)

The Faculty Senate approved a policy requiring that all undergraduate and graduate classes in Spring Quarter 2019-20 be offered only on the 'S/NC' (Satisfactory/No Credit) grading basis.

The School of Engineering lifted its grading basis requirements for Spring Quarter 2019-20 and allows individual departments to determine whether courses with an ‘S’ grade may count towards its degrees.

Undergraduate Degree Requirements
Grading Requirements
The Department of Management Science and Engineering counts any Spring Quarter 2019-20 class in which the student received a final grade of ‘S’ towards undergraduate degree requirements that otherwise require a letter grade.

Other Requirements
If a student has difficulty completing an undergraduate degree requirement due to the COVID-19 pandemic, (e.g., a study abroad requirement, a laboratory research requirement), the student should consult with the Student Services Officer to identify academic options to fulfill degree requirements.

Graduate Degree Requirements
Grading Requirements
The Department of Management Science and Engineering counts any Spring Quarter 2019-20 class in which the student received a final grade of ‘S’ towards graduate degree requirements that otherwise require a letter grade.

The course must typically be offered for a letter grade for the ‘S’ grade to apply towards a letter grade requirement.

Other Requirements
If a student has difficulty completing a graduate degree requirement due to the COVID-19 pandemic, (e.g., a study abroad requirement, a laboratory research requirement), the student should consult with the Student Services Officer to identify academic options to fulfill degree requirements.
**Graduate Advising Expectations**

The Department of Management Science and Engineering is committed to providing academic advising in support of graduate student scholarly and professional development. When most effective, this advising relationship entails collaborative and sustained engagement by both the adviser and the advisee. As a best practice, advising expectations should be periodically discussed and reviewed to ensure mutual understanding. Both the adviser and the advisee are expected to maintain professionalism and integrity.

Every student is assigned a faculty program adviser based on their stated area within the department. Faculty program advisers guide all students in key areas such as selecting courses, navigating policies and degree requirements, and exploring academic opportunities and professional pathways. Faculty program advisers additionally guide doctoral students in designing and conducting research, and development of teaching pedagogy. Faculty program advisers and students meet regularly, and the faculty program adviser may initiate a meeting with any student deemed to be in academic or research distress.

Doctoral students are encouraged to explore research activities in several research groups/labs during their first academic year, and to declare candidacy with a faculty dissertation adviser by the end of their second year in the program. Students may align with faculty across the department. This faculty dissertation adviser supersedes the faculty program adviser in assuming primary responsibility for advising and mentoring the student. When the faculty dissertation adviser is from outside our department, the student must also identify a faculty research adviser from MS&E to provide guidance on departmental requirements, core coursework, and opportunities. We encourage students to decide on their thesis committee within one year after start of candidacy in order to avail themselves of advice from multiple faculty members on the reading committee. MS&E conducts an annual review of all doctoral students’ progress on degree progress milestones and research. Research input is solicited and an individual progress report spelling out the forthcoming milestones and any remedial action needed to maintain status is sent to the student via email.

Master students are encouraged to explore courses from across the department, and with multiple MS&E faculty members. Students may request a new adviser from MS&E Student Services staff as their interests clarify. Master’s students are encouraged to meet with their adviser on a regular basis, to discuss their program goals and objectives, course selection, career goals, and academic and industry opportunities.

The MS&E student services staff are also an important part of the advising team. They inform students and advisers about University and department requirements, procedures, opportunities, and maintain the official records of adviser assignments and course approvals. Students are encouraged to talk with both the faculty program adviser and the student services office as they consider courses.

For a statement of University policy on graduate advising, see the "Graduate Advising (http://exploredegrees.stanford.edu/graduatedegrees/#advisingandcredentialstext)” section of this bulletin.

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