MechSE
MS and PhD
Programs

Mechanical Engineering • Theoretical and Applied Mechanics
The Department of Mechanical Science and Engineering (MechSE) at Illinois offers world-class graduate education and research opportunities with internationally renowned faculty in Mechanical Engineering and Theoretical and Applied Mechanics. As part of the Grainger College of Engineering, MechSE offers unique and exceptional resources for students to conduct world-changing research.

Our innovation-rich environment and focus on the cutting-edge creates a graduate experience that enables students to push the boundaries of engineering, science, and creativity. Our graduates are leaders and innovators in research, industry, technology, higher education, and public service.

MechSE’s graduate programs are consistently ranked among the best in the world:

- **#4** graduate program in mechanical engineering (U.S. News and World Report)
- **#2** online master’s degree programs in mechanical engineering (U.S. News and World Report)
- **100%** of our incoming PhD track students are now funded through fellowships, research assistantships, and teaching assistantships, and receive full tuition waivers.
- **22%** of our incoming MS/PhD track students in Fall 2021 were women—well above the national average for women graduate engineering students.
Degree Programs

MS in Mechanical Engineering (ME)
PhD in Mechanical Engineering (ME)

MS in Theoretical and Applied Mechanics (TAM)
PhD in Theoretical and Applied Mechanics (TAM)

Unparalleled Research Opportunities

In MechSE, we have more than 60 full-time faculty who are engaged in groundbreaking, multidisciplinary research in a broad range of areas, many of them centering around:

Fluid mechanics and thermal sciences | Solid mechanics and materials
Nanomechanics and manufacturing | Dynamics, controls, robotics, and autonomy
Biomechanics and mechanobiology | Computational science and engineering

MechSE graduate students are key participants and contributors to world-class research enterprises. The Grainger College of Engineering offers unprecedented opportunities for diverse collaboration in research. MechSE is engaged in interdisciplinary research projects within the Materials Research Laboratory, Beckman Institute, Carl R. Woese Institute for Genomic Biology, Nick Holonyak Micro and Nanotechnology Laboratory, National Center for Supercomputing Applications, Carle Illinois College of Medicine, and others.

Opportunities to Engage

The Department of Mechanical Science and Engineering values the diversity of our student body and is committed to fostering a culture of inclusion. Students from backgrounds traditionally underrepresented in engineering disciplines are especially encouraged to apply.

MechSE graduate students are supported by strong academic advising throughout the entirety of their graduate program. Furthermore, students are supported through strong networks within their research environment, and will find many organizations that allow graduates to grow professionally, network, and serve the community, such as Graduate MechSE Society (GraMS), ENVISION (ENgineers Volunteering In STEM educatiON) GradSWE, SHPE, NSBE, and more.
Apply Now!

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Learn more: