

MS/MSE Policies and Procedures on or after January 2003

MS/MSE Graduate students must complete the four Core courses (IEE 505, 545, 572 or 578, and 574 or 575) by the end of the 18th semester hour applied to the Program of Study (four of your first six POS classes, deficiency courses are not counted).

For MSE Graduate students (non-thesis), a written comprehensive examination must be taken immediately following the completion of your Program of Study courses. You must achieve a 70% or higher score on the Comprehensive Exam to graduate. A student with a 3.75 or higher GPA in the Core courses is exempt from the Comprehensive Exam. Core examinations are held in Fall and Spring. A student must have a cumulative graduate grade-point-average (GPA) of 3.0 over all coursework, and 3.0 over all POS courses, to sit for the Comprehensive Exam.

MSE Comprehensive Exam FAQs

Q: What is the exam format?

A: The exam consists of three tests. When you register you will choose three of the four Core courses for testing. Each test is graded on a 10-point basis, or 30 points for the exam. The exam is open book and open note. You will be given 2.5 hours to complete the exam (all three tests).

Q: Do I need to achieve a 70% on each of the three tests over the Core courses that I selected?

A: No, you must achieve 70% (21 of 30 points) on the entire exam.

Q: I can take the exam a second time? When?

A: An MSE student who fails the comprehensive examination is allowed to retake the examination, one time only, in the test period immediately following the period in which the examination was failed. If you fail the exam for the second time then you must petition the Graduate Affairs Committee in the Industrial Engineering Department for another opportunity. The decision of the Committee will be final.

Q: Can I review my exam after it has been graded?

A: Review of comprehensive examination grading is allowed for a two-week period following the posting of results. This will be done along with the student's advisor in the Department Office. No review will be allowed after two weeks.

Q: I thought there was an area exam?

A: No, area examinations were discontinued in 2002.

Q: Can I take the exam before completing my Program of Study?

A: Yes, providing you have finished taking the entire Core.