

# Master of Science in Civil Engineering

---

## Civil, Environmental, and Architectural Engineering

Civil engineering is the oldest engineering program at KU. The first graduating class in 1873 included a civil engineer. Civil engineers design roads, water systems, bridges, dams, and other structures, providing nearly all the infrastructure needed by modern society.

Civil engineers were the first engineers to address environmental issues and are the lead engineering discipline in treating water supplies to protect public health. In recognition of the significant issues concerning the environment, the department name was changed in 1992 to civil and environmental engineering.

Architectural engineering combines study in architecture with engineering science and design courses in electrical, mechanical, construction, and structures to prepare students for building design projects of all kinds. Architectural engineering dates to 1913 at KU, and the first female graduate of the School of Engineering was an architectural engineering major. Architectural engineering merged with civil and environmental engineering in 2001 to form the the Department of Civil, Environmental, and Architectural Engineering (CEAE).

### Mission

CEAE's mission is to provide students with an outstanding engineering education and be a leader in research and service. This mission is supported by the following 3 goals:

1. Prepare students for productive engineering careers.
2. Maintain and grow strong research programs.
3. Serve the profession.

### Graduate Admission

The department admits for all semesters. Students may pursue degrees full-time or part-time. An ABET-accredited baccalaureate degree in engineering is required for admission to the M.S. degree programs in civil engineering, environmental & water resources engineering, and architectural engineering; a baccalaureate degree in a closely related field is required for admission to the M.S. program in environmental & water resources science. Applicants are expected to have undergraduate grade-point average of 3.0 or higher on a 4.0 scale for admission to a master's program.

Graduate Record Examination (GRE) scores are required and are used in the evaluation process, but minimum scores for admission have not been established. The GRE engineering and other subject examinations are not required. The Test of English as a Foreign Language is required for international applicants. Applicants should take the GRE and TOEFL examinations as early as possible to expedite the admission process.

Graduate applications should be submitted online (<http://www.graduate.ku.edu/>).

### APPLICATION DEADLINES

**Fall Admission:** December 1 (priority deadline). Applications received past the priority deadline are considered on the basis of rolling review, until two business days before the start of classes.

**Spring Admission:** September 1 (priority deadline). Applications received past the priority deadline are considered on the basis of rolling review, until two business days before the start of classes.

**Summer Admission:** December 1

The priority deadlines are for full consideration for fellowships, scholarships and research/teaching assistantships. Applications submitted after these deadlines will be considered for funding on a case-by-case basis.

### MINIMUM ENGLISH PROFICIENCY REQUIREMENTS

Visit the full English Proficiency Requirements for Admission to Graduate study at: <http://policy.ku.edu/graduate-studies/english-proficiency-international-students> (<http://policy.ku.edu/graduate-studies/english-proficiency-international-students/>).

International students and students who indicated English as a second language are required to show proof of English proficiency for admission purposes and must check-in at the Applied English Center (<https://aec.ku.edu/>) (AEC) upon arrival on campus for orientation. This process serves to confirm each student's level of English proficiency and determine whether English courses will be included as a requirement of the student's academic program. Note: Students who demonstrate English proficiency **at the waiver level** are not required to check in at the AEC (see eligibility requirements on the Graduate Studies website (<https://graduate.ku.edu/english-proficiency-requirements/>)).

### APPLICATION FEES

Domestic: \$65

International: \$85

### VISITING US

The graduate program staff is happy to work with all prospective students in determining the fit between the student and the program. We feel that visiting our campus in Lawrence is a very important step. In order to facilitate your visit to KU, there are two main options:

The first, and most preferred, option entails simply applying for admission to the program. All prospective students are welcome to attend our Graduate Open House in mid-October or mid-March. Eligible admitted students may be invited to participate in Campus Visit Days in February (prior to the fall semester of your intended matriculation). These organized visitation opportunities will allow you to gather a great deal of first-hand information which we hope will help you in making a final decision about whether to attend KU.

The second option is making arrangements to visit us on your own, outside of organized events. With early notification, we will do our best to work with you to provide information and schedule appointments with faculty when possible. Please contact us if you feel that this is the best option for you.

## CONTACT INFORMATION

Please contact the CEAE Graduate Program Coordinator at [gradceae@ku.edu](mailto:gradceae@ku.edu) or (785) 864-3826, to schedule a visit or with questions about the application process.

**The University of Kansas**  
**Department of Civil, Environmental, and Architectural Engineering**  
**Graduate Administrative Assistant**  
**Learned Hall**  
**1530 W. 15th St., Room 2150**  
**Lawrence, KS 66045**

## M.S. Degree Requirements

### Civil Engineering

Candidates for the Master of Science degrees have 3 options. **Option A** requires 30 credit hours including a thesis of 6 hours (6 to 10 hours for the environmental degrees) and a final oral examination including defense of the thesis. **Option B** requires 30 hours including a 3- or 4-hour special problem investigation in the specialization and a final oral examination. It does not require a thesis. **Option C** requires 30 credit hours of coursework. It does not require a thesis, special problem investigation, or final oral examination.

The M.S. degree in **civil engineering** requires a minimum of 9 hours of graduate-level courses in one of the following seven areas: structural engineering, environmental engineering, water resources engineering, geotechnical engineering, transportation engineering, construction engineering/management, and engineering mechanics.

In addition, a minimum of 6 hours of graduate-level work is required in any of the other above departmental areas.

Courses for any of the M.S. degrees must be listed on a Plan of Study and approved by the student's major professor, graduate committee, and the department director of graduate studies. All graduate students must have an approved Plan of Study (<https://gradplan.engr.ku.edu/accounts/login/?next=/>) by the beginning of their second semester of study. No more than 9 hours of courses from other departments or more than 6 hours of courses numbered below 700 (of which only 3 hours may be within the department) may be applied toward any of the M.S. degrees without approval of the departmental graduate studies committee. No more than 4 hours of special-problem credit may be applied toward any of the master's degrees without approval of the department's graduate advisor.