

GRADUATE

Civil Engineering

School of Engineering
Department of Civil Engineering

SIUE



siue.edu/grad/civil-engineering

Civil Engineering at SIUE

Our comprehensive program allows students to pursue a graduate degree in civil engineering while gaining expertise in the field. Students may choose one of our four concentrations:

- Environmental/water resources
- Geotechnical
- Structural
- Transportation

Whether students are working professionals or full-time students, this program introduces them to the skills and knowledge they need for professional advancement. Opportunities to conduct field and lab-based research are available, and students will learn from highly qualified faculty who are experts in their respective fields.

Degrees Available at SIUE

- Master of Science in Civil Engineering

A PhD in Engineering Science is offered in cooperation with SIUC.

Specialized Learning Opportunities

- Environmental/Water Resources Engineering Specialization
- Geotechnical Engineering Specialization
- Structural Engineering Specialization
- Transportation Engineering Specialization
- Water Engineering Post-Baccalaureate Certificate
- Transportation Engineering Post-Baccalaureate Certificate

Combined Degrees

- Accelerated Combined BS and MS in Civil Engineering
- Early Entry MS in Civil Engineering

Program Format

The program can be completed through a mix of evening and online courses, or a mix of traditional daytime/evening courses and online courses.

Why earn a master's in civil engineering?

Our program prepares students to meet engineering education requirements established by the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE). In addition, future professional engineering (PE) licenses might require a Master of Science.

Improve your ability to take and pass the Practices and Principles of Engineering exam.

- This program allows you to complete one year of experience toward your PE license, a benefit that does not apply to an MBA.
- Learn materials relevant to the PE exam
- Take advantage of courses to refine your study skills for preparing to take the PE exam
- Textbooks from your master's courses are useful references for the PE exam and to build your personal library

Find the job and the projects you want.

- Many civil engineering employers prefer those with a master's degree.
- Some employers require new hires to have a master's in civil engineering.
- Civil engineers with graduate degrees earn more annually compared to those with undergraduate degrees.
- Larger and more challenging projects are more commonly managed by those with master's degrees.
Funding may be provided by your employer or by SIUE.
- Many employers offer tuition reimbursement for relevant coursework.
- Graduate assistantships can provide a stipend and waive your tuition costs.

SOUTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY
EDWARDSVILLE
GRADUATE SCHOOL

Why earn your master's at SIUE?

- Class times are scheduled to accommodate working professionals, and our students never feel like a number in a large online class.
- The vast majority of our faculty are licensed professional engineers, bringing real-world experience into the classroom.
- Our modern facilities provide a world-class environment for students to learn and participate in research.
- Network with other civil engineers in St. Louis while taking courses at our suburban campus, located in the growing Metro East region.
- Expand your resume using resources available in our Career Development Center, Writing Center and other resources not readily available at branch campuses of other universities.

What can I do with a degree in civil engineering?

A graduate degree in civil engineering from SIUE opens doors for students in a variety of areas. Potential employers include consulting engineering companies, government agencies, industries, or academia. With the right experience and advanced education, students can become self-employed consultants.

An education from SIUE prepares students for advancement opportunities and places them in a better position to get the job they want in a competitive employment market.

Admission Requirements

- Graduate School application and \$40 fee
- Submission of all postsecondary academic transcripts
- Successful completion of a bachelor's degree prior to enrollment
- Cumulative GPA in all undergraduate engineering, mathematics, and science courses of at least 2.75 on a 4.0 scale, or 70% on other scales. For those not meeting this requirement but having at least four years of work experience, supporting evidence (such as a letter of explanation from the applicant, high GRE scores, letters of recommendation from employers, and PE licensure) will also be considered. International students are encouraged to submit GRE scores along with other required graduate admission documentation.
- International Applicants: Proof of English Proficiency, minimum requirements are TOEFL (79), IELTS (6.5) or equivalent
- Accelerated Combined Degrees: Current SIUE undergraduate students may apply for the accelerated option to earn six hours of graduate-level credit for courses taken their senior year. The accelerated option does not apply to post-baccalaureate certificates.

Program application materials may be uploaded during the application process, but official transcripts must be sent directly from the school attended, and test scores must be verifiable with the appropriate testing service. Please contact the Graduate Admissions office with questions regarding the application submission process at graduateadmissions@siue.edu.

If admitted, those who do not have a Bachelor of Science in civil engineering may be required to complete prerequisite courses that are not for graduate credit. Note that a Master of Science will not qualify a candidate to take the PE licensure examination in most states.

Graduation Requirements

Thesis Option

After all requirements for the Master of Science are met, per the approved program of study, an oral final examination directed on the coursework and related material on the thesis will be given by the advisory committee.

Non-Thesis Option

After all requirements for the Master of Science are met, per the approved program of study, a final examination comprised of written elements, as well as an oral examination directed on the research paper will be given.

Doctoral Degree

After all requirements for the doctoral degree are met, per the

approved program of study, an oral dissertation defense will be given by the dissertation committee.

Required Credit Hours/Tuition and Fees

- Thesis Option: 30
- Non-Thesis Option: 31
- Visit siue.edu/graduate-tuition for detailed tuition information

Program of Study

After admission and before enrolling in any courses, students are required to meet with the Graduate Program Director, who appoints, in consultation with the student, an advisory committee suited to the student's background and interests. The advisory committee assists the student in planning a program of study. This plan is to be completed by the end of the first semester.

Because of the importance of communication to the engineering profession and the need for excellent writing skills to complete degree requirements, all students are required to satisfactorily complete a technical writing course. Students with good writing skills may elect to submit an essay to be evaluated for conditional exemption from the English course requirement. If conditional exemption is granted, the student will substitute another approved course in the plan of study.

At least 20 semester hours must be in courses taught in civil engineering, and at least 15 semester hours must be at the 500-level.

Thesis Option

Students selecting the thesis option must complete a minimum of 30 semester hours. Students will be guided in thesis work by a thesis advisor, with the assistance and concurrence of the advisory committee. The number of hours to be awarded for thesis credit (CE 599-up to six credit hours) is to be specified by the advisory committee prior to approval of the thesis proposal. Thesis credit counts as part of the 30 credits required for the degree. Writing a thesis involves an intensive research effort and may require about six months to complete. The thesis must be formally accepted by the Graduate School.

Non-Thesis Option

Students selecting the non-thesis option must complete a minimum of 31 semester hours. Students prepare a research paper, the topic of which is mutually agreed upon by the student and the advisory committee. One credit hour is awarded for non-thesis credit (CE 593) and counts as part of the 31 credits required for the degree.

In developing a plan of study, students need to consider which courses will enable them to reach their goals as a civil engineer. Students may wish to choose from a variety of courses available to assist them in the completion of their thesis or final research paper. Note that not all courses may be offered at all times and that course offerings do not guarantee availability of a spot in that class. It is up to students to review published schedules and consult with their advisor to find out when the courses are offered and how they will fit into their course of study schedules. In addition, it is up to students to assure that they have met the prerequisites for courses prior to enrollment.

Doctoral Degree

A doctoral degree requires a minimum of 26 semester hours of coursework, a qualifying exam and 24 semester hours of dissertation research.

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Contact Information

Rohan Benjankar
Graduate Program Director
Phone: 618-650-2814 or 618-650-2553
Email: rbenjan@siue.edu