2020 MSE Expo

Rajat Mittal
Director of Graduate Studies
Mechanical Engineering
November 10, 2020

Agenda
• 5:00 Rajat - Welcome and Overview
• 5:20 Mark Savage - Life Design Lab
• 5:30 Luke Thorstenson – Co-Op Essay Option for ME Students
• 5:40 Nathan Scott - Master’s Design options and Essay options offered by Industry
• 6:00 MSE Essay Presentations
• 6:25 Closing
MSE Degree Requirements

Section A - 8 advisor-approved courses

• 2 must be applied math, numerical analysis, or computational
• 4 (or 3 for Essay students) must be 530.xxx or 535.xxx Mechanical Engineering
• No more than 2 from Engineering for Professionals
• No more than 4 from upper-undergrad level (xxx.4xx only)
• No independent research, graduate research, or special studies.

Section B – choose one

• 2 more courses (530.820 MSE All-Course - Graduate Research can be one)
• Master’s Essay (530.821 MSE Essay - Research and Writing)
• Co-Op Essay
Master’s Essay
(530.602 / 530.821 MSE Essay - Research and Writing)

• Identify a research advisor

• Conduct research
  • 6 total credits of 530.602/821 (equivalent of 2 courses);
  • Prepare and submit an MS essay that summarizes your research (signed off by advisor + one other faculty “reader”)
  • There is no essay defense!

• Advantages of MSE Research Essay!
  • Become part of a research team.
  • Learn from a topic-area expert.
  • Conduct research that might lead to papers and/or conference presentations.
  • Improve your writing/presentation skills.
  • Impress potential employers with your expertise.
  • Improve chances of entering a PhD program (JHU or others).

• Disadvantages?
  • 2 fewer courses?
Frequently Asked Questions about MSE Essay

• How do I find an advisor?
  • Contact professors in your area of interest (see list on slide 5) and inquire about MS research opportunities — or —
  • Contact the Director of Graduate Studies (Rajat Mittal) and he will connect you with potential advisors

• What kinds of research projects do MSE student do?
  • There is significant flexibility on what constitutes an MSE project and something that is decided by you and your advisor
  • For example, MSE research may be a fundamental scientific investigation involving theory and/or experiments and/or computational modeling or it might involve experimental design and/or testing of a device.

• How long is the MS Essay?
  • There is no recommended length. The essay is a summary of your project and is approved by your advisor and one other reader. Your advisor will usually guide you in the writing of your essay.

• Research can sometimes be open-ended. What if I cannot achieve my research objectives even after 6 credits of research? Will that delay my graduation?
  • No! The MS essay is written, submitted and approved at the end of 6 credits of MSE research. As long as your advisor is satisfied that your research effort was appropriate and you prepare an essay that is approved, you are done.

• I am thinking of joining the 5-Yr MSE program. Can I include an essay and still finish in 1 year?
  • Yes! Talk to potential advisors early (in your Senior year) so that you can start planning your essay right away.

• Is there funding available for MSE students who conduct research?
  • Most MS research is unfunded, but some advisors might have funding available.
# MSE Essay Research Opportunities in 2020-2021

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<th>Name</th>
<th>Energy &amp; Environment</th>
<th>Fluid Mechanics &amp; Thermal Sci.</th>
<th>ME in Biology and Medicine</th>
<th>Mechanics and Materials</th>
<th>Micro/Nano Scale Science</th>
<th>Robotics, Systems, Control</th>
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Most robots use geometric maps to avoid obstacles but are poor at traversing them.

Animals use physical interaction to traverse obstacles robustly.

We study how robust locomotor transitions emerge from interaction with complex terrain, by integrating:

- animal experiments
- robotic experiments
- physics modeling

Othayoth, Thoms, Li (2020) *PNAS*

Hur lab: Space gravitational impact on cells
Defect Engineering of Structural Materials
Laszlo Kecskes’ Group

Focus: improving materials for engineering applications
Approach: study underlying physical mechanisms and understand processing-structure-property relationships
Projects: thermomechanical processing and characterization of Mg alloys, additive manufacturing of refractory alloys, and process modeling

Thermomechanical Processing of Lightweight Alloys
Additive Manufacturing of Refractory Alloys

Mg-Al Model Alloy System
SPD* Processing
Deformation Engineering

Equal Channel Angular Extrusion
Alloy System Design
Laser Powder Bed Fusion

Mechanical Properties
Property Characterization

Mechanism-Based Deformation Behavior

Contact Information: lkecske1@jhu.edu
Impact Safety of Materials, Structures and Systems

Feng Zhu @ Hopkins Extreme Materials Institute (HEMI) & Mechanical Engineering Dept
Contact: fzhu8@jhu.edu

• Damage behavior of Li-ion vehicle battery under abuse conditions

• Occupant protection for next generation self-driving vehicles

• Machine learning based design of lightweight cellular solids for energy absorption
Meneveau & Gayme project on wind farm modeling

Master’s Essay project starting Fall 2020:
“Modular coding implementation for the ALC wind farm model”

Research tasks and required skills:
• Incorporation and testing of the *Area Localized Coupled (ALC) Model*, a new wind farm model, with the wind plant optimization tool (FLORIS) from the National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL).
• Preparation of the python code and integration of the ALC wake model into the FLORIS framework.
• Validation of the code using wind farm field data for various configurations.
Dynamics of Cell Grown & Division

Sean X Sun and Noah J Cowan
ssun@jhu.edu and ncowan@jhu.edu

• Goal: understand cell-cycle dynamics using dynamical systems theory
• Approach:
  – Create simplified models to explain cell growth
  – Make model-based predictions for experiments
  – Analyze cell-cycle data from the Sun laboratory
• Who should consider this?
  – Required: hardworking, curious student with solid background in dynamical systems
  – Desired: skilled in dynamical system simulation in Matlab, Mathemica, or Python

![Graphs](image-url)
Nguyen Lab: Mechanics of Soft Adaptive Materials

- Develop experimental and modeling methods. Collaborative, multidisciplinary
- Focus on physical mechanisms and structure-properties relationship.
- **Available projects:** mechanical properties of tissues, hydrogel soft robots, viscoelastic dissipation of liquid crystal elastomers.

Experiments and FEA modeling

Biomechanics and Mechanobiology structure-properties-function of tissues

Active Polymers: Predictive modeling for material and device design
Transform multiphase flow research to drive energy savings and streamlined processes

http://me.jhu.edu/rui_ni
We study multiphase flows, such as flows with bubbles and drops, atomization, boiling, etc. by fully resolved numerical simulations.

Possible MSE projects include using already existing codes to examine various physical problems or writing codes to explore new ideas for data processing. Examples include:


Control of **MAGNUS effect** for the improved wind energy harvesting

- **Flettner rotor**
- Effect of particle size and shape on inertial focusing in microfluidics
- High performance wing for UAV/MAV
- CFD Modeling of food digestion in stomach
Best of luck to you this year!

Questions? Contact Prof. Mittal, mittal@jhu.edu