MASTER OF BIOENGINEERING (MBE) DEGREE / DOCTOR OF MEDICINE (MD) DEGREE WITH UT HEALTH SCIENCE CENTER

Program Learning Outcomes for the MBE/MD Dual Degrees Program

Program Learning Outcomes for the Applied Bioengineering Area of Specialization

Upon completing the MBE degree, students pursuing the Applied Bioengineering area of specialization requirements will be able to:

1. Apply and integrate advanced knowledge of Bioengineering topics in at least one of the following areas: Biomaterials, Tissue Engineering, Mechanobiology and Biophysics; Biomedical Imaging, Optics and Diagnostics; Microfabrication, Microfluidics and Design; Synthetic Biology and Genome Engineering; Quantitative, Computational and Theoretical Bioengineering.

2. Apply knowledge from engineering and other disciplines to identify, formulate, and solve novel and complex problems that require advanced knowledge in bioengineering.

3. Select and apply quantitative analytic techniques to analyze bioengineering data.

Additionally, upon completing the MBE degree, students pursuing the Applied Bioengineering area of specialization requirements and the research option, will be able to:

1. Develop practical experience of designing and performing laboratory research, including the ability to summarize and assess research results in a written format, and present research results.

Program Learning Outcomes for the Global Medical Innovation Area of Specialization

Upon completing the MBE degree, students pursuing the Global Medical Innovation area of specialization requirements will be able to:

1. Apply knowledge of Bioengineering topics in at least one of the following areas: Biomaterials, Tissue Engineering, Mechanobiology and Biophysics; Biomedical Imaging, Optics and Diagnostics; Microfabrication, Microfluidics and Design; Synthetic Biology and Genome Engineering; Quantitative, Computational and Theoretical Bioengineering.

2. Develop effective medical products, from concept to commercialization, within a team environment.

3. Comprehend and navigate the global medical technology industry by leveraging an internship experience.

Requirements for the MBE/MD Dual Degrees Program

The MBE degree is a non-thesis master’s degree. For general university requirements, please see Non-Thesis Master’s Degrees (https://ga.rice.edu/graduate-students/academic-policies-procedures/regulations-procedures-non-thesis-masters-degrees/). For additional requirements, regulations, and procedures for all graduate programs, please see All Graduate Students (https://ga.rice.edu/graduate-students/academic-policies-procedures/regulations-procedures-all-degrees/).

Students pursuing the MBE degree must complete:

- A minimum of 30-31 credit hours, depending on area of specialization, to satisfy degree requirements.
- A minimum of 30 credit hours of graduate-level study (graduate semester credit hours, coursework at the 500-level or above).
- A minimum of 24 graduate semester credit hours must be taken at Rice University.
- A minimum of 24 graduate semester credit hours must be taken in standard or traditional courses (with a course type of lecture, seminar, laboratory, lecture/laboratory).
- A minimum residency enrollment of one fall or spring semester of part-time graduate study at Rice University.
- A maximum of 2 courses (6 graduate semester credit hours) from transfer credit. For additional departmental guidelines regarding transfer credit, see the Policies tab.
- The requirements for one area of specialization (see below for areas of specialization). The MBE degree program offers two areas of specialization:
  - Applied Bioengineering (class-only) or Applied Bioengineering (research option): designed as a flexible degree for students who will pursue careers in research, medicine, or related fields. This area of specialization of the MBE degree is designed for students to transition to medical school or a PhD program, or to advance their professional career in the biomedical industry or
  - Global Medical Innovation: designed specifically for students who will pursue a career in the global medical technology industry. This area of specialization of the MBE degree is designed to prepare engineers for careers in medical technology through education in innovation, emerging-market design projects and internships.

- A minimum overall GPA of 2.67 or higher in all Rice coursework.
- A minimum program GPA of 3.00 or higher in all Rice coursework that satisfies requirements for the non-thesis master’s degree with a minimum grade of a B- (2.67 grade points) in each course (for the Applied Bioengineering area of specialization), or a minimum program GPA of 3.20 or higher in all Rice coursework that satisfies requirements for the non-thesis master’s degree with a minimum grade of a B- (2.67 grade points) in each course (for the Global Medical Innovation area of specialization).

Both areas of specialization have the same prerequisites, though applicants will be evaluated considering the different purposes of each. More information about each of these areas of specialization can be found below. Curriculum must be approved by the Graduate Academic Affairs Committee and the Bioengineering Department. This is done on a case-by-case basis.

The Master of Bioengineering (MBE) degree is a professional non-thesis master’s degree. Students who have a BS or BA degree in an engineering or science discipline may apply. Depending on their background, some students may need to take remedial engineering courses to earn the MBE degree. For more information, see the department website.

The courses listed below satisfy the requirements for this degree program. In certain instances, courses not on this official list may be substituted upon approval of the program’s academic advisor, or where applicable, the department or program’s Director of Graduate
Studies. Course substitutions must be formally applied and entered into Degree Works by the department or program’s Official Certifier (https://registrar.rice.edu/facstaff/degreeworks/officialcertifier/). Additionally, these must be approved by the Office of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies. Students and their academic advisors should identify and clearly document the courses to be taken.

### Degree Requirements

#### Core Requirements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credit Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BIOE 627</td>
<td>MEDICAL INNOVATION INDUSTRY SEMINAR</td>
<td>1.5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Select 1 course from the following:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credit Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BIOE 628</td>
<td>MEDICAL TECHNOLOGY DESIGN SEMINAR</td>
<td>1.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BIOE 633</td>
<td>ROLES OF PHYSICIANS, SCIENTISTS, ENGINES AND MBA’S IN HIGH-TECH STARTUPS</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Area of Specialization

Select 1 from the following Areas of Specialization (see below for Areas of Specialization):

- Applied Bioengineering (class-only or research option)
- Global Medical Innovation

Total Credit Hours 30-31

### Areas of Specialization

#### Area of Specialization: Applied Bioengineering (class-only)

Students pursuing the Applied Bioengineering (class-only) area of specialization must complete:

- A minimum of 2 courses (3 credit hours) from the core requirements.
- A minimum of 9 courses (27 credit hours) taken at the 500-level or above from selected course offerings.
  - A minimum of 6 courses (18 credit hours) from approved departmental (BIOE) course offerings.
  - A minimum of 1 course (3 credit hours) as a quantitative elective course.
  - A minimum of 1 course (3 credit hours) as a professional development elective course.
  - A minimum of 1 course (3 credit hours) from approved departmental (BIOE) course offerings or another department.
  - A minimum program GPA of 3.00 or higher in all Rice coursework that satisfies requirements for the non-thesis master’s degree with a minimum grade of a B- (2.67 grade points) in each course.

#### Elective Requirements

Elective Category: BIOE Departmental Electives

Select 6 courses from approved departmental (BIOE) course offerings at the 500-level or above

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credit Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BIOE 539</td>
<td>APPLIED STATISTICS FOR BIOENGINEERING AND BIOTECHNOLOGY</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Elective Category: Quantitative Requirement

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credit Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ENGI 501</td>
<td>WORKPLACE COMMUNICATION FOR PROFESSIONAL MASTER’S STUDENTS IN ENGINEERING</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENGI 510</td>
<td>TECHNICAL AND MANAGERIAL COMMUNICATIONS</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENGI 515</td>
<td>LEADING TEAMS AND INNOVATION</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENGI 529 / CEVE 529</td>
<td>ETHICS AND ENGINEERING LEADERSHIP</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENGI 542</td>
<td>PROFESSIONAL COMMUNICATION FOR ENGINEERING LEADERS</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENGI 555</td>
<td>ENGINEERING PERSUASION: HOW TO DRIVE DECISIONS AND CHANGE</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENGI 610</td>
<td>MANAGEMENT FOR SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENGI 615</td>
<td>LEADERSHIP COACHING FOR ENGINEERS</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNIV 594</td>
<td>RESPONSIBLE CONDUCT OF RESEARCH</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Select a minimum of 3 credit hours from the following:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credit Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ENGI 501</td>
<td>WORKPLACE COMMUNICATION FOR PROFESSIONAL MASTER’S STUDENTS IN ENGINEERING</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Elective Category: Professional Development

Select 1 additional course from approved departmental (BIOE)

course offerings (or another department) at the 500-level or above

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credit Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ENGI 501</td>
<td>WORKPLACE COMMUNICATION FOR PROFESSIONAL MASTER’S STUDENTS IN ENGINEERING</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total Credit Hours 30-31

### Footnotes and Additional Information

1. Students may include up to 6 credit hours of BIOE 506 (Graduate Independent Research) within these 18 credit hours. Students choosing to complete the Applied Bioengineering area of specialization with the research option will take up to 9 credit hours of BIOE 507 and BIOE 607, which are more structured MBE research courses. For students taking BIOE 507 or BIOE 607, BIOE 506 may also be taken for additional research experience, but it will not be counted toward the 30 credit hours required for the MBE degree.

2. For students formally admitted into and specifically pursuing the MBE/MD dual degrees program, up to 2 courses (6 credit hours) from the McGovern Medical School at the UT Health Science Center can fulfill MBE requirements: BIOE 695 Transfer - Foundations of Medical Science and BIOE 696 Transfer - Doctoring 1: History and Physical Exam.

3. BIOE 539 or an alternative quantitative-based BIOE course, taken at the 500-level or above, with the advisor/MBE Program Director’s approval.

### Area of Specialization: Applied Bioengineering (research option)

Students pursuing the Applied Bioengineering (research option) area of specialization must complete:

- A minimum of 2 courses (3 credit hours) from the core requirements.
- A minimum of 7 courses (19 credit hours) taken at the 500-level or above from selected course offerings.
  - A minimum of 4 courses (12 credit hours) from approved departmental (BIOE) course offerings.
  - A minimum of 1 course (3 credit hours) as a quantitative elective course.
- A minimum of 1 course (3 credit hours) as a technical writing course.
- A minimum of 1 course (1 credit hour) as an ethics course.
- A minimum of 2 courses (9 credit hours) from the research requirement.
- A minimum program GPA of 3.00 or higher in all Rice coursework that satisfies requirements for the non-thesis master's degree with a minimum grade of a B- (2.67 grade points) in each course.

### Elective Requirements

**Elective Category: BIOE Departmental Electives**

Select 4 courses from approved departmental (BIOE) course offerings at the 500-level or above

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credit Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BIOE 527</td>
<td>HEALTHCARE INNOVATION AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BIOE 529</td>
<td>HEALTHCARE INNOVATION AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP LAB</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Medical Technology Implementation**

BIOE 528 Medical Engineering and Design Lab 3

BIOE 530 Medical Engineering & Design Lab 2 3

**Internship or Independent Study**

Select 1 from the following:

- BIOE 506 Graduate Independent Study (2 semesters required)
- BIOE 600 Graduate Bioengineering Industry Internship 6

**Elective Requirements**

**Elective Category: Quantitative Requirement**

BIOE 539 APPLIED STATISTICS FOR BIOENGINEERING AND BIOTECHNOLOGY 3

**Elective Category: Professional Development**

Select a minimum of 3 credit hours from the following:

- ENGI 501 Workplace Communication for Professional Master's Students in Engineering
- ENGI 510 Technical and Managerial Communications
- ENGI 515 Leading Teams and Innovation
- ENGI 529 / CEVE 529 Ethics and Engineering Leadership
- ENG 610 / NSCI 610 Engineering
- ENG 615 Leadership Coaching for Engineers

**Elective Category: BIOE General Elective**

Select 1 additional course from approved departmental (BIOE) course offerings (or another department) at the 500-level or above 3

**Total Credit Hours** 28

### Footnotes and Additional Information

1. For students formally admitted into and specifically pursuing the MBE/MD dual degrees program, up to 2 courses (6 credit hours) from the McGovern Medical School at the UT Health Science Center can fulfill MBE requirements: BIOE 695 Transfer - Foundations of Medical Science and BIOE 696 Transfer - Doctoring 1: History and Physical Exam.

2. BIOE 539 or an alternative quantitative-based BIOE course, taken at the 500-level or above, with the advisor/MBE Program Director's approval.

### Area of Specialization: Global Medical Innovation

Students pursuing the Global Medical Innovation area of specialization must complete:

- A minimum of 6 courses (15 credit hours) from the core requirements.
- An internship or independent study (6 credit hours).
- A minimum of 3 courses (9 credit hours) taken at the 500-level or above from selected course offerings.
  - A minimum of 1 course (3 credit hours) as a quantitative elective course.
  - A minimum of 1 course (3 credit hours) as a professional development elective course.

**Research Requirement**

BIOE 507 GRADUATE RESEARCH COMPONENTS I 3

BIOE 607 RESEARCH CONCENTRATION – COMPONENT II 6

**Total Credit Hours** 27

### Footnotes and Additional Information

1. This will be considered on a case-by-case basis, and the student is responsible for obtaining and selecting an internship that best aligns with their career goals.
For students formally admitted into and specifically pursuing the MBE/MD dual degrees program, up to 2 courses (6 credit hours) from the McGovern Medical School at the UT Health Science Center can fulfill MBE requirements: BIOE 695 Transfer - Foundations of Medical Science and BIOE 696 Transfer - Doctoring 1: History and Physical Exam.

3 BIOE 539 or an alternative quantitative-based BIOE course, taken at the 500-level or above, with the advisor/MBE Program Director's approval.

4 With advisor/MBE Program Director approval, students may complete a course offered by another department, outside of BIOE, but it must be relevant to the MBE degree.

Policies for the MBE/MD Dual Degrees Program

Department of Bioengineering Graduate Program Handbook

The General Announcements (GA) is the official Rice curriculum. As an additional resource for students, the department of Bioengineering publishes a graduate program handbook, which can be found here: https://gradhandbooks.rice.edu/2021_22/Bioengineering_Graduate_Handbook.pdf

Enrollment Status Requirements

Students may enroll for the Applied Bioengineering area of specialization on a full-time or part-time basis. For the Global Medical Innovation area of specialization, students may only enroll on a full-time basis. University graduation requirements (including the minimum residency requirement for students in graduate degree programs) all still apply.

Transfer Credit

For Rice University's policy regarding transfer credit, see Transfer Credit (https://ga.rice.edu/graduate-students/academic-policies-procedures/regulations-procedures-all-degrees/#transfer). Some departments and programs have additional restrictions on transfer credit. Students are encouraged to meet with their academic program's advisor when considering transfer credit possibilities.

Departmental Transfer Credit Guidelines

Students pursuing the MBE degree should be aware of the following departmental transfer credit guidelines:

• No more than 2 courses (6 credit hours) of transfer credit from U.S. or international universities of similar standing as Rice may apply towards the degree.

• Requests for transfer credit will be considered by the program director on an individual case-by-case basis.

Additional Information

For additional information, please see the Bioengineering website: https://bioengineering.rice.edu/

Opportunities for the MBE/MD Dual Degrees Program

Additional Information

For additional information, please see the Bioengineering website: https://bioengineering.rice.edu/