Program Learning Outcomes for the MCSE Degree

Upon completing the MCSE degree, students will be able to:

1. Acquire broad, advanced knowledge in modern computational techniques.
2. Possess skills to identify, formulate, and solve advance technical problems related to one of the focus areas.
3. Communicate technical ideas effectively.

Requirements for the MCSE Degree

The MCSE degree is a non-thesis master's degree. For general university requirements, please see Non-Thesis Master's Degrees (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 (ga.rice.edu/graduate-students/academic-policies-procedures/regulations-procedures-all-degrees). Students pursuing the MCSE degree must complete:

- A minimum of 30 credit hours to satisfy degree requirements.
- A minimum of 30 credit hours of graduate-level study (coursework at the 500-level or above).
- A minimum of 24 credit hours must be taken at Rice University.
- A minimum residency enrollment of one fall or spring semester of part-time graduate study at Rice University.
- A minimum overall GPA of 2.67 or higher in all Rice coursework.
- A minimum GPA of 2.67 or higher in all Rice coursework that satisfies requirements for the non-thesis master's degree.

The Master in Computational Science and Engineering (MCSE) degree in the School of Engineering is a non-thesis degree program designed to provide training and expertise in computational science and engineering and in data engineering and analytics. The MCSE degree program is intended for students interested in technical and managerial positions such as computational scientist, computational engineering, data engineering, and data analyst. The program offers students opportunities to specialize in areas such as high-performance computing, data analytics, data engineering, data science, machine learning, software engineering, and distributed systems.

The departments of Computational and Applied Mathematics, Computer Science, Electrical and Computer Engineering, and Statistics jointly offer the MCSE degree program. Based on preferences indicated in candidates' applications, MCSE students are admitted to one of the following four home departments:

- Computational and Applied Mathematics (CAAM),
- Computer Science (COMP),
- Electrical and Computer Engineering (ELEC), or
- Statistics (STAT).

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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credit Hours</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>30</td>
<td>Total Credit Hours Required for the MCSE Degree</td>
<td>30</td>
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Degree Requirements

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credit Hours</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Core Requirements</td>
<td>9-11</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Select 1 course from the following:</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Group 1 (CAAM)</td>
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<tr>
<td>CAAM 519</td>
<td>COMPUTATIONAL SCIENCE I</td>
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<tr>
<td>CAAM 520</td>
<td>COMPUTATIONAL SCIENCE II</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>CAAM 536 / CEVE 555</td>
<td>NUMERICAL METHODS FOR PARTIAL DIFFERENTIAL EQUATIONS</td>
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<tr>
<td>CAAM 550</td>
<td>NUMERICAL ANALYSIS I</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>CAAM 553</td>
<td>ADVANCED NUMERICAL ANALYSIS I</td>
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<tr>
<td>CAAM 554</td>
<td>NUMERICAL ANALYSIS II</td>
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<tr>
<td>CAAM 564</td>
<td>NUMERICAL OPTIMIZATION</td>
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<td>CAAM 571</td>
<td>LINEAR AND INTEGER PROGRAMMING</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Group 2 (COMP)</td>
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<tr>
<td>COMP 504</td>
<td>GRADUATE OBJECT-ORIENTED PROGRAMMING AND DESIGN</td>
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<tr>
<td>COMP 506</td>
<td>COMPILER CONSTRUCTION FOR GRADUATE STUDENTS</td>
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<tr>
<td>COMP 520 / ELEC 520</td>
<td>DISTRIBUTED SYSTEMS</td>
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<td>COMP 521 / ELEC 552</td>
<td>OPERATING SYSTEMS AND CONCURRENT PROGRAMMING</td>
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<td>COMP 522</td>
<td>MULTI-CORE COMPUTING</td>
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<tr>
<td>COMP 529 / ELEC 529</td>
<td>ADVANCED COMPUTER NETWORKS</td>
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<tr>
<td>COMP 530</td>
<td>DATABASE SYSTEM IMPLEMENTATION</td>
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<td>COMP 533</td>
<td>INTRODUCTION TO DATABASE SYSTEMS</td>
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<tr>
<td>COMP 540</td>
<td>STATISTICAL MACHINE LEARNING</td>
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<tr>
<td>COMP 541</td>
<td>INTRODUCTION TO COMPUTER SECURITY</td>
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<tr>
<td>COMP 542</td>
<td>LARGE-SCALE MACHINE LEARNING</td>
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<td>COMP 557 / ELEC 557</td>
<td>ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE</td>
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<tr>
<td>COMP 582 / ELEC 512</td>
<td>GRADUATE DESIGN AND ANALYSIS OF ALGORITHMS</td>
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</table>

Group 3 (ELEC)

Select up to 1 course from the following:
ELEC 513 / COMP 513
COMPLEXITY IN MODERN SYSTEMS

ELEC 525 / COMP 525
VIRTUALIZATION AND CLOUD RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

ELEC 526 / COMP 526
HIGH PERFORMANCE COMPUTER ARCHITECTURE

ELEC 531
STATISTICAL SIGNAL PROCESSING

ELEC 533 / CAAM 583 / STAT 583
INTRODUCTION TO RANDOM PROCESSES AND APPLICATIONS

ELEC 546 / COMP 546
INTRODUCTION TO COMPUTER VISION

ELEC 547
COMPUTER VISION

ELEC 549
COMPUTATIONAL PHOTOGRAPHY

ELEC 553
MOBILE AND EMBEDDED SYSTEM DESIGN AND APPLICATION

ELEC 554 / COMP 554
COMPUTER SYSTEMS ARCHITECTURE

ELEC 558
DIGITAL SIGNAL PROCESSING

ELEC 575
LEARNING FROM SENSOR DATA

ELEC 576 / COMP 576
A PRACTICAL INTRODUCTION TO DEEP MACHINE LEARNING

Group 4 (STAT)
Select up to 1 course from the following:

STAT 502 / COMP 502 / ELEC 502
NEURAL MACHINE LEARNING I

STAT 518
PROBABILITY

STAT 519
STATISTICAL INFERENCE

STAT 541
MULTIVARIATE ANALYSIS

STAT 602 / COMP 602 / ELEC 602
NEURAL MACHINE LEARNING AND DATA MINING II

STAT 605
R FOR DATA SCIENCE

STAT 613
STATISTICAL MACHINE LEARNING

STAT 615
REGRESSION AND LINEAR MODELS

STAT 616
ADVANCED STATISTICAL METHODS

STAT 648
GRAPHICAL MODELS AND NETWORKS

Elective Requirements
Select additional courses from departmental (CAAM, COMP, ELEC, or STAT) course offerings at the 500-level or above to reach a minimum of 30 total credit hours

Communication, Leadership, Management and Ethics

Select up to 6 credit hours as Electives 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 528 / CEVE 528
ENGINEERING ECONOMICS

ENGI 529 / CEVE 529
ETHICS AND ENGINEERING LEADERSHIP

ENGI 542
PROFESSIONAL COMMUNICATION FOR ENGINEERING LEADERS

ENGI 610 / NSCI 610
MANAGEMENT FOR SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING

ENGI 614
LEARNING HOW TO INNOVATE?

ENGI 615
LEADERSHIP COACHING FOR ENGINEERS

Total Credit Hours
30

Footnotes and Additional Information

1 Other courses may satisfy the Communication, Leadership, Management, and Ethics group requirement. See advisor for more details.

2 Credit hours earned for ENGI 530 Engineering Practicum, thesis, seminar, project based courses, independent study courses, or similar variable credit hour courses may not be applied toward MCSE degree requirements.

Policies for the MCSE Degree
Departments of Computational and Applied Mathematics, Computer Science, Electrical and Computer Engineering, and Statistics Graduate Program Handbook

The General Announcements (GA) is the official Rice curriculum. As an additional resource for students, the departments of Computational and Applied Mathematics, Computer Science, Electrical and Computer Engineering, and Statistics, which jointly offer the MCSE degree program, publish graduate program handbooks, which can be found here:


Application Information

Students must have completed a BA or BS degree in an engineering or science discipline, with training in engineering mathematics, statistical foundations, and programming methodology to be admitted to the program.

- Fall semester admission application deadline —February 1
- To apply to the program go to MSCE application (https://mcsegradapps.rice.edu)
- For additional information about the program contact mcse@rice.edu
- Enrollments and degrees awarded for degree programs in the Engineering School are available at: https://engineering.rice.edu/about/enrollment-degrees-awarded.

Transfer Credit

For Rice University’s policy regarding transfer credit, see Transfer Credit (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.

**Additional Information**

For additional information, please see the Computational Science and Engineering website: [https://engrprofmasters.rice.edu/](https://engrprofmasters.rice.edu/)

**Opportunities for the MCSE Degree**

**Fifth-Year Master's Degree Option for Rice Undergraduate Students**

Rice students have an option to pursue the Master of Computational Science and Engineering (MCSE) degree by adding an additional fifth year to their four undergraduate years of science and engineering studies.

Advanced Rice undergraduate students in good academic standing may apply to the MCSE degree program during their junior or senior year. Upon acceptance, depending on course load, financial aid status, and other variables, they may then start taking some required courses of the master’s degree program. A plan of study will need to be approved by the student's undergraduate advisor and the MCSE program director.

As part of this option and opportunity, Rice undergraduate students:

- must complete the requirements for a bachelor's degree and the master's degree independently of each other (i.e. no course may be counted toward the fulfillment of both degrees).
- should be aware there could be financial aid implications if the conversion of undergraduate coursework to that of graduate level reduces their earned undergraduate credit for any semester below that of full-time status (12 credit hours).
- more information on this Undergraduate - Graduate Concurrent Enrollment opportunity, including specific information on the registration process can be found here ([ga.rice.edu/undergraduate-students/academic-opportunities/undergraduate-graduate-concurrent-enrollment](ga.rice.edu/undergraduate-students/academic-opportunities/undergraduate-graduate-concurrent-enrollment)).

**Additional Information**

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