Biomedical Engineering

The School of Electrical, Computer, and Biomedical Engineering offers programs of study and research leading to i) the Master of Engineering (M.E.) degree in Biomedical Engineering, and ii) the Master of Science (M.S.) degree (thesis/non-thesis) in Biomedical Engineering.

The School provides a rich environment for educational and professional advancement in the following areas:

- **Medical Engineering**: Medical devices, medical instrumentation, medical imaging, medical electronics and sensors, healthcare software, biomechanics, and biophotonics.
- **Bioengineering**: bio-MEMS, bioinformatics, electrophysiology, molecular and cellular mechanics, neural engineering, and tissue engineering.

The ECBE programs of study provide a balance between formal classroom instruction and research and are tailored to the individual student’s academic and professional goals. Graduates of the program enjoy excellent employment opportunities and are highly recruited worldwide in industry, government, and academia.

Safety glasses are required for some of the courses. Note that only 3 credit hours from each eligible 400-level course (listed in the graduate catalog) will be counted towards the graduate degree.

**Academic Objectives**

The program, consistent with the mission and priorities of the University, is designed to achieve the following academic objectives:

- To provide high quality education in the field of biomedical engineering and to prepare the graduates for successful and rewarding employment as engineers or for continuing their education through the doctoral level.
- To provide the students with the training necessary to successfully apply the fundamental concepts and methods of biomedical engineering to selected areas of employment or research and development.
- To enhance the research environment and productivity of the School for the benefit of the students.

**Master of Engineering (M.E.) in Biomedical Engineering**

**Admission Requirements**

Individuals holding a Bachelor’s degree or equivalent in engineering, science, or related field may apply. Qualified applicants with Bachelor’s degree in other areas may be able to enroll in the program with additional preparation (approved by the program Director on a case-by-case basis).

Admission to the M.E. in Biomedical Engineering program is based on the following factors: grade point average of 2.75 or higher on a scale of 4.0 on approximately the last 60 credit hours of undergraduate coursework, class ranking, and faculty recommendation letters.

GRE scores are not required for admission. However, out-of-state or international students whose GRE Verbal score or Quantitative score percentile is 80% or higher will have the advantage of paying in-state graduate tuition rates. Also, GRE scores, especially Quantitative, may be considered for fellowships,
assistantships, or scholarships. The minimum TOEFL score requirement for international applicants is 550 (paper based) or 80 (computer based). The application fee for all applicants, and any other documentation specifically required for international students will be in accordance to the requirements of the Graduate School.

**Curriculum**

The Master of Engineering (M.E.) in Biomedical Engineering program requires the completion of 30 credit hours of graduate level credit. The degree does not require a thesis. At least 18 credit hours must be selected from the core BME courses. BME 592 and ECE 580 (seminar) will not count towards the degree. A maximum of 6 credit hours of non-engineering courses offered by the University and approved by the School could be applied to the degree. Online/distance education credit hours offered by the University and approved by the School can be applied towards the degree. The degree can be completed in 3 semesters.

A student pursuing the M.E. in Biomedical Engineering degree could switch to the corresponding M.S. in Biomedical Engineering program upon the recommendation of ECBE faculty, provided all requirements of the M.S. in Biomedical Engineering degree are met.

**Biomedical Engineering Core**

BME 417: Neuroengineering (3 CH)
BME 418: Biomedical Electronics and Biosensors (3 CH)
BME 435: Computational Methods in Biomedical Engineering (3 CH)
BME 485: Cellular and Molecular Biomechanics (3 CH)
BME 521: Neuromodulation (3 CH)
BME 531: Biophotonics (3 CH)
BME 532: Introduction to Biomedical Imaging (3 CH)
BME 536: Biomedical Signal Analysis (3 CH)
BME 539: Biomechanics I (3 CH)
BME 540: Tissue Engineering (3 CH)
BME 592: Special Investigations in Biomedical Engineering (1-3 CH) (thesis option only; requires approval from the unit)

**Retention**

Any student whose cumulative grade point average falls below 3.0 on courses that count towards the degree will be placed on academic probation. Any graduate student on academic probation whose grade point average remains below 3.0 on courses that count towards the degree for two consecutive semesters in which they are enrolled, excluding summer sessions, will be permanently suspended from the program, unless the School grants an exception.

**Master of Science (M.S.) in Biomedical Engineering**

**Admission Requirements**

Individuals holding a Bachelor’s degree or equivalent in engineering, science, or related field may apply. Qualified applicants with Bachelor’s degree in other areas may be able to enroll in the program with additional preparation (approved by the Director on a case-by-case basis).

Admission to the M.S. in Biomedical Engineering program is based on the following factors: grade point average of 3.0 or higher on a scale of 4.0 on approximately the last 60 credit hours of undergraduate coursework, class ranking, and faculty recommendation letters.

GRE scores are not required for admission. However, out-of-state or international students whose GRE Verbal score or Quantitative score percentile is 80% or higher will have the advantage of paying in-state graduate tuition rates. Also, GRE scores, especially Quantitative, may be considered for fellowships, assistantships, or scholarships. The minimum TOEFL score requirement for international applicants is 550 (paper-based) or 80 (computer-based). The application fee for all applicants, and any other
documentation specifically required for international students will be in accordance with the requirements of the Graduate School.

Curriculum

The Master of Science (M.S.) in Biomedical Engineering program requires a total of 30 hours of graduate-level credit. For the non-thesis track, at least 6 credit hours must be in BME 500-level courses that do not have significant overlap/similarity with BME 400-level courses, as stated in their catalog description. At least 18 credit hours must be selected from the BME courses. BME 592 and ECE 580 (seminar) will not count towards the degree. The remaining courses can be selected from the BME or ECE 500-level courses. Six credit hours of thesis (BME 599) are required for the thesis track. At least 18 credit hours must be selected from the BME courses. The remaining courses can be selected from the BME or ECE 500-level courses. A maximum of three credit hours of BME 592 could be counted towards the degree requirements. ECE 580 (seminar) will not count towards the degree. Students in this track will develop a program of study in consultation with their thesis advisor/committee. For both non-thesis and thesis tracks, with the approval of the School, a maximum of 3 online/distance education credit hours offered by the School, and a maximum of 6 credit hours from academic units outside the school may be applied towards the degree.

Biomedical Engineering Core

BME 417: Neuroengineering (3 CH)
BME 418: Biomedical Electronics and Biosensors (3 CH)
BME 435: Computational Methods in Biomedical Engineering (3 CH)
BME 485: Cellular and Molecular Biomechanics (3 CH)
BME 521: Neuromodulation (3 CH)
BME 531: Biophotonics (3 CH)
BME 532: Introduction to Biomedical Imaging (3 CH)
BME 536: Biomedical Signal Analysis (3 CH)
BME 539: Biomechanics I (3 CH)
BME 540: Tissue Engineering (3 CH)
BME 592: Special Investigations in Biomedical Engineering (1-3 CH) (thesis option only; requires approval from the unit)

Retention

Any student whose cumulative grade point average falls below 3.0 on courses that count towards the degree will be placed on academic probation. Any graduate student on academic probation whose grade point average remains below 3.0 on courses that count towards the degree for two consecutive semesters in which they are enrolled, excluding summer sessions, will be permanently suspended from the program, unless the School grants an exception.

Biomedical Engineering Courses

**BME417 - Neuroengineering** Applying engineering techniques to study brain function. Topics include: cerebral cortex; sensory, motor, and association areas; neurons and glial cells; pathways and synapses; information processing in visual, auditory, and somatosensory cortices; analyses of brain recordings; brain-computer interfacing, multisensory integration models; context effect models; memory encoding and retrieval models. Restricted to Senior or Graduate Standing. Lab fee: $20 to help defray cost of equipment. Credit Hours: 3

**BME418 - Bioelectronics and Biosensors** The sources of electrical signals in biological systems. Methods and types of sensors for sensing bioelectrical signals, including amperometric, potentiometric, piezo-electric, impedance, and FET based biosensors. Microfluidics and Photometric biosensors. Interface between biosensors and electronics for sensor signal condition and data acquisition. Precision electronics for biosensor signal acquisition, including potentiostat, current, charge, capacitance and
impedance sensing circuit, lock-in amplifier. Prerequisite: BME 337 with a C or better or Graduate standing. Credit Hours: 3

**BME419 - Biomedical Microelectromechanical Systems** The course is designed to introduce students with fundamentals of MEMS and its applications. The emphasis will be on physical principle in sensors and corresponding fabrication techniques, with supplemental discussion of the state-of-art applications in industry and research. Students will learn to analyze and design systems by solving regular homework problems and active participation during lectures and in-class examples. Topics: Introduction of MEMS (Chapter 1), fundamentals of microfabrication and nanofabrication, fundamentals of physics in sensors, a case study of electrostatic sensing, microfluidics and biomedical applications, projects. Prerequisites: MATH 251; PHYS 205A, PHYS 205B; BME 336, each with a grade of C or better. Credit Hours: 3

**BME435 - Computational Methods in Biomedical Engineering** Algorithmic, statistical, and data mining concepts in biomedical engineering and bioinformatics. Programming in R: Vectors, Matrices, Lists, Data Frames, Factors, Tables. Classification techniques. ROC curves. Biomarker gene selection. DNA and protein sequence analysis, sequence alignment. Prerequisite: BME 351 or equivalent with a grade of C or better. Credit Hours: 3

**BME438 - Medical Instrumentation: Application and Design** (Same as ECE 438) This course introduces the students to the field of medical instrumentation. Medical instrumentation is the application of advanced engineering technology to problems in biology and medicine. The course will focus on fundamentals of instrumentation systems, sensors, amplifiers, and signal precondition. In addition, the course also includes design and applications of medical instrumentation, biopotential measurement, biomedical signal processing, and other related topics. Prerequisite: MATH 305 and ECE 355 with a grade of C or better, or consent of instructor. Restricted to enrollment in BME programs. Project-based fee: $45 to help defray cost of software licenses and equipment. Credit Hours: 3

**BME439 - Diagnostic Ultrasound** Diagnostic ultrasound is an ultrasound-based medical imaging technique used to visualize muscles, tissue, and many internal organs, to capture their size, structure and any pathological lesions. This course is an introduction to the principles and applications of biomedical ultrasound. This course will focus on fundamentals of acoustic theory, principles of ultrasonic detection and imaging, design and use of currently available tools for performance evaluation of diagnostic devices, and biological effects of ultrasound. Prerequisite: MATH 305 and ECE 355 with a grade of C or consent of instructor. Restricted to enrollment in BME programs. Project-based fee: $30 to help defray cost of software licenses and equipment. Credit Hours: 3

**BME470 - Fundamentals of Neural Networks in Data Science** Anatomy and physiology of the cerebral cortex, Feed-forward Networks, Multilayer Perceptrons, Recurrent Networks, Hopfield Networks, Self-organizing Networks, Convolutional Neural Network, Applications to pattern recognition, robotics, image processing, and speech processing. Prerequisite: MATH 305 or ECE 315 or BME 351 with a C or better or consent of instructor. Credit Hours: 3

**BME481 - Design and Implementation of Vision System** (Same as ME 481) This course provides an introduction to a vision system and instrumentation with engineering applications including optical microscopy. A vision system is an essential tool in most of the application, and optical microscopy is a powerful scientific tool to study microscale worlds. Topics covered in basic geometrical optics, Optoelectronic devices, basic electronics for illumination system, optical microscopy, actuators in the microscope, fundamentals of fluorescence microscopy, and advanced imaging techniques. Prerequisites: ENGR 296 or ME 222 or consent of instructor. Credit Hours: 3

**BME485 - Cellular and Molecular Biomechanics** (Same as ME 485) Mechanics of living cells at the micron/nanoscale level. Molecular forces, bond dynamics, force-induced protein conformational changes. Structural basis of living cells, contractile forces, mechanics of bi membranes, nucleus, cytoskeletal filaments- actin, microtubule, intermediate filaments. Active and passive rheology, microrheological properties of cytoskeleton. Active cellular processes such as cell adhesion, cell spreading, control of cell shape, and cell migration. Discussion on experimental techniques including single-molecule approaches to understanding key cellular processes. Discussion of theoretical models that predict cellular processes and limitations. Introduction to mechanobiology. Restricted to senior or graduate standing. Credit Hours: 3
BME501 - Statistics for Biomedical Engineers  Theoretical introduction to the basic principles of statistical modeling and estimation focusing on biomedical engineering applications such as genetics and genetic-related disorders. Prerequisite: PHSL 410A or consent of instructor. Credit Hours: 3

BME519 - Microfabrication of Biomedical Devices  The course is designed to introduce students to principles of microfabrication techniques and the contributions of microfabrication in medical devices. This course emphasizes the understanding of microfabrication techniques and hands-on experience, where students will observe interesting physical phenomena in devices they fabricate. Moreover, students will use these devices for practical biomedical tests from which they will understand and appreciate the benefits of microfabricated architectures in medical devices. Topics: Introduction of micro/nanofabrication, scaling analysis in physics, Micro-Total-Analysis Systems (?TAS), ?TAS for medical diagnostics & treatment, development of medical devices enabled by microfabrication. Prerequisite: BME 419 or equivalent with a C or better, or consent of instructor. Credit Hours: 3

BME521 - Neuromodulation Principles and practice of neuromodulation. Topics include: introduction to electrophysiology; cellular and neuronal patch-clamp techniques; spinal cord stimulation; deep brain stimulation; neuromodulation for pain. Restricted to Graduate standing. Lab fee: $45 to help defray cost of equipment, supplies, and software licenses. Credit Hours: 3

BME531 - Biophotonics Fundamental principles of optics and photonics, biology, and medicine; imaging, spectroscopy, and optical biosensors. This course is designed for graduate students as well as senior-level undergraduate students in related disciplines who are interested in the interdisciplinary field of biophotonics. This course provides the fundamentals of light and its interaction with matter, optical imaging, lasers, and tissue optical properties. This course also provides the diagnostic applications of biophotonics, which includes biomedical imaging, microscopy techniques, and optical biosensors. Prerequisites: ECE 375, PHYS 320 or 328, with grades of C or better, or consent of instructor. Lab fee: $30 to help defray cost of equipment. Credit Hours: 3

BME532 - Modern Biomedical Imaging Diagnostic x-ray projection imaging. Tomographic imaging. Ultrasound imaging and therapy. Magnetic resonance imaging (MRI). Signal and noise characteristics. Image quality evaluation. Three-dimensional image reconstruction algorithms. Students who have taken BME 432 cannot receive credit for this course. Prerequisite: MATH 305 and ECE 355 with a grade of C- or better, or consent of instructor. Restricted to enrollment in BME program. Project-based fee: $30 to help defray cost of software licenses and equipment. Credit Hours: 3

BME533 - Speech Processing (Same as ECE 533) Fundamentals of speech production system, signal analysis of speech, speech coding, linear prediction analysis, speech synthesizing, and speech recognition algorithms. Prerequisite: MATH 250, ECE 355 with grades of C or better, or consent of instructor. Credit Hours: 3

BME534 - Biomedical Sensors & Measurements Design and evaluation of sensors with application in biomedical engineering. Instrumentation and Techniques for measurements related to biomedical applications. Prerequisite: PHSL 410A, CHEM 444, or consent of instructor. Credit Hours: 3

BME535 - Information Processing in Biomedical Engineering Methods for evaluating different approaches in signal processing systems for biomedical applications; provides familiarity with the variety of exciting software and hardware systems. Prerequisite: PHSL 410A, CHEM 444, or consent of instructor. Credit Hours: 3

BME536 - Biomedical Signal Analysis (Same as ECE 534) The nature of biomedical signals. Electricity in living tissue. Biomedical signal processing and modeling. Modeling and simulation of biomedical systems. Prerequisite: MATH 250, ECE 355, with grades of C or better, or consent of instructor. Project-based fee: $20 to help defray cost of software licenses. Credit Hours: 3

BME537 - Embedded Microprocessor System Design Design, analysis, and evaluation of microprocessor-based systems for biomedical implementation. Prerequisite: ECE 424 or consent of instructor. Credit Hours: 3

BME539 - Biomechanics I Introduction to mechanical behavior of biological tissues and systems, influence of material properties on the structure and function of organisms, methods for the analysis of
both rigid body and deformational mechanics with application to include biological tissues such as bone, muscle, and connective tissues. Prerequisite: ME 470 or consent of instructor. Credit Hours: 3

**BME540 - Tissue Engineering** (Same as ME 540) Fundamentals of tissue engineering will be discussed. Developing biomaterials for artificial scaffolds and cell populations within the scaffolds will be discussed. Stem cells for cell-based therapy will be highlighted. Design of various organ-on-chips will be covered. Other topics include recent advances in 3D bioprinting for organ engineering/regenerative medicine. Advances in in-vitro tumor models will be discussed. Ethical considerations will be emphasized. Credit Hours: 3

**BME542 - Biomaterials** This course addresses the bulk and surface properties of biomaterials used for medical applications. Artificial Organs and Tissues and Tissue Engineering are included. Analytical techniques pertinent to biomaterial evaluation, and testing. Prerequisite: ME 410 or consent of instructor. Credit Hours: 3

**BME577 - Bioprocess Engineering** (Same as ME 577) The course objective is to introduce bioprocessing concepts to ME and BME students. This will introduce the idea of designing a system to achieve a biological reaction objective. It will have content in pharmaceutical production, production of enzymes and other bioproducts, research involving cell culture reactors, pharmacokinetics and other bioprocessing. Special approval needed from the instructor. Credit Hours: 3

**BME592 - Special Investigations in Biomedical Engineering** Individual advanced projects and problems selected by student or instructor. Restricted to graduate standing. Restricted to enrollment in BME program. Special approval needed from the instructor. Credit Hours: 1-3

**BME593C - Advanced Topics in Biomedical Engineering - Biotechnology** This course covers advanced scientific and engineering topics behind a rapidly evolving, multi-disciplinary biotechnology. Special approval needed from the instructor. Credit Hours: 1-3

**BME593H - Advanced Topics in Biomedical Engineering - Bioelectronics** Lectures on advanced topics of special interest to students in various areas of bioelectronics. This course is designed to offer and test new experimental courses in biomedical engineering. Special approval needed from the instructor. Credit Hours: 1-3

**BME593K - Advanced Topics in Biomedical Engineering - Control Applications** Lectures on advanced topics of special interest to students in various areas of control applications in biomedical engineering. This course is designed to offer and test new experimental courses in biomedical engineering. Special approval needed from the instructor. Credit Hours: 1-3

**BME596 - Principles of Biomedical Engineering** (Same as ECE 596) Principles of biomechanics, biomaterials, electrophysiology, modeling, instrumentation, biosignal processing, medical imaging, and biomedical optics. Professional moral and ethical issues in biomedical research and development. Prerequisite: MATH 250 with a C or better or consent of instructor. Credit Hours: 3

**BME599 - Thesis** Students are eligible to register for thesis when they have approval of the instructor who will act as thesis advisor. Prerequisite: Consent of thesis advisor. Credit Hours: 1-6

**BME601 - Continuing Enrollment** For those graduate students who have not finished their degree programs and who are in the process of their thesis or capstone design course. The student must have completed all other course requirements to be eligible to register in this course. Concurrent enrollment in any other course is not permitted. Graded S/U or DEF only. Prerequisites: Completion of course work except BME 592 or 599. Credit Hours: 1

---

**Biomedical Engineering Faculty**

**Electrical, Computer, and Biomedical Engineering Faculty:**

Anagnostopoulos, Iraklis, Associate Professor, Ph.D., National Technical University of Athens, 2014; 2015. Many-core architectures, run-time resource management, embedded systems.

Aruma Baduge, Gayan, Associate Professor, University of Alberta, 2013; 2016. Communications theory, wireless communications, massive MIMO systems, millimeter-wave communications, cooperative relay networks, wireless energy harvesting for IoTs, physical-layer security.

Asrari, Arash, Assistant Professor, Ph.D., University of Central Florida, 2015; 2017. Power systems operation and planning, power systems optimization, smart grid.

Chen, Kang, Associate Professor, Ph.D., Clemson University, 2014; 2015. Software-defined networking (SDN), network function virtualization (NFV), vehicular networks, mobile opportunistic/ad hoc networks.

Chen, Ying (Ada), Associate Professor, Ph.D., Duke, 2007; 2007. Biomedical imaging, image reconstruction, digital tomosynthesis, image quality analysis, signal and image processing, simulation and computing.

Chilman, Bae, Assistant Professor, Ph.D., Pennsylvania State University, 2009; 2019. Bioelectrical engineering, neuroscience, mechanobiology.

Haniotakis, Themistoklis, Associate Professor, Ph.D., University of Athens, 2008; 2013. Digital VLSI design and test, RF IC design and test, low power VLSI design, and fault-tolerant systems.

Harackiewicz, Frances J., Professor, Ph.D., University of Massachusetts-Amherst, 1990; 1989. Electromagnetics, antenna theory and design, microwaves, microstrip phased arrays and anisotropic materials.

Kagaris, Dimitrios, Professor, Ph.D., Dartmouth College, 1994; 1995. VLSI design automation, digital circuit testing, communications networks, biostatistics, bioinformatics.

Komaee, Arash, Associate Professor, Ph.D., University of Maryland, College Park, 2008; 2015. Control systems, microelectronics, signal processing, estimation theory.

Lu, Chao, Associate Professor, Ph.D., Purdue University, 2012; 2015. VLSI system design, device-circuit co-design, 3D IC.

Qin, Jun, Associate Professor, Ph.D., Duke University, 2008; 2012. Sensors and instrumentation, data acquisition, medical devices, therapeutic ultrasound, haptics.

Sayeh, Mohammad R., Professor, Ph.D., Oklahoma State University, 1985; 1986. Neural networks, optical computing, image processing, stochastic modeling, quantum electronics.

Tragoudas, Spyros, Professor and Director, Ph.D., University of Texas at Dallas, 1991; 1999. Design and test automation for VLSI, embedded systems, computer networks.

Wang, Haibo, Professor, Ph.D., University of Arizona, 2002; 2002. Bioelectronics, biosensors.

Mechanical, Aerospace, and Materials Engineering Processes (MAME) Faculty:

Chowdhury, Farhan, Assistant Professor, Ph.D., University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, 2011; 2015. Mechanobiology, single-molecule cell mechanics, biomaterials.

Emeriti Faculty

Botros, Nazeih M., Professor, Emeritus, Ph.D., University of Oklahoma, 1985; 1985.

Daneshdoost, Morteza, Professor, Emeritus, Ph.D., Drexel University, 1984; 1984.


Gupta, Lalit, Professor, Emeritus, Ph.D., Southern Methodist University, 1986; 1986.

Hatziadoniu, Konstantine, Professor, Emeritus, Ph.D., West Virginia University, 1987; 1987.

Osborne, William, Professor, Emeritus, Ph.D., New Mexico State University, 1970; 2005.

Pourboghrat, Farzad, Professor, Emeritus, Ph.D., University of Iowa, 1984; 1984.

Viswanathan, Ramanarayanan, Professor, Emeritus, Ph.D., Southern Methodist University, 1983; 1983.