DOCTORAL PROGRAM
(may apply to Ph.D. students in the program prior to Summer 2007)
Electrical and Computer Engineering
University of Oklahoma

I. COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND RESTRICTIONS
- At least 90 hours beyond the Bachelor’s degree are required (including any approved M.S. degree work, post-M.S. work, and/or transfer course work prior to Ph.D. admission, all of which may not exceed 44 hours).
- All course work must be 4000-level with graduate credit and higher.
- At least 9 hours course work in the major area of concentration
- 9 hours course work in math and/or physics
- At least 9 hours ECE technical electives (cross listed ECE/TCOM courses are allowed)
- At least half the course work (not including dissertation credits) must be ECE, Computer Science, or TCOM courses
- At least 30 credit hours dissertation research
- After initial enrollment in Dissertation Research (ECE 6980), continuous enrollment is required (excluding summers, except when graduating) until completion of the degree.
- Maximum 16 hours of 4xxx-level course work, out of which no more than 12 hours may be ECE
- ECE daggered (+G) course work is not allowed for degree requirements.
- Any cross-listed course must be taken as and counted as ECE course work.
- 9 hours maximum credit for special studies (total of all 5990’s taken)
- 12 hours maximum credit separately for each category: ECE 5973’s, ECE 6973’s, ECE 5283’s, 6283’s

II. MINIMUM STANDARDS OF PERFORMANCE
- At least 3.00 overall GPA
- At least 3.00 GPA in graduate course work
- Nine (9) hours or more of C, D, F in any combination, will cause dismissal from a doctoral program, and enrollment in another doctoral program will not be allowed by the Graduate College.

III. PUBLICATION REQUIREMENTS
1. Present a paper at a regional or national conference with proceedings.
2. Submit a full paper to a major journal using the peer review process.

IV. RESIDENCY REQUIREMENT
Must be in residence at the University at least two full semesters excluding summer sessions and be engaged in course work or research

V. TIME LIMITS
- 18 months, after full admission, allowed for first taking the ECE Qualifying Examination
- 4 years allowed for completing the General Examination, if holding a Master’s degree
- 9 years to complete the program

REQUIRED PROCEDURES (brief form)

► Choose advisor immediately after beginning PhD studies: The Graduate Liaison may serve as general advisor for initial enrollment and planning. Choose own advisor before next enrollment.

► Take ECE PhD Qualifying Examination (within 18 months): Any student who entered prior to Summer 2007 has now completed this requirement.

► Form Advisory Committee: The major professor (ECE Graduate Faculty advisor) plus four other members, one of whom must be out-of-department faculty, will form the student’s advisory (doctoral) committee. All members must be appointed members of Graduate Faculty (which includes HSC). Graduate Faculty from other campuses may serve as members but may not serve as the designated out-of-department member. There may be only one Special Graduate Faculty member unless the total number of committee members is increased accordingly. (Tulsa campus is considered to be the same as Norman campus for these purposes.)
Hold Advisory Conference within the first year of study: The student’s Advisory (Doctoral) Committee will approve a plan of study. The student must prepare the plan on an Advisory Conference Report form and meet with the Advisory Committee. The Advisory Conference Report must be signed by the Advisory Committee and Graduate Liaison, after which it is submitted to the Graduate College.

Changes in Advisory Conference Report: Any change(s) in the program approved on the Advisory Conference Report must be made by way of a Request for Change in Advisory Conference Report form. Consult the Graduate College Bulletin at http://gradweb.ou.edu/Current/gcBulletin/index.asp for the different policies regarding the necessary signatures, depending upon the change(s). When the appropriate committee members have approved changes, the Graduate Liaison must sign, after which it is submitted to the Graduate College.

Initiate dissertation research (when the major professor advises): This must be discussed with the major professor (advisor) to determine a topic and appropriate time to commence official enrollment in research credit hours. The continuous enrollment rule then goes into effect.

Take the General Examination (within 4 years for students with Master’s degrees or within 5 years if no Master’s degree): ECE follows Graduate College guidelines for the exam. The student must prepare for the General Examination (Exam) when nearing completion of course work. The General Exam must be completed within four calendar years of the first enrollment in any post-Master’s course used toward the doctoral degree (which may not correspond to the admission semester), if the student holds a Master’s degree. The Application for the General Examination form must be signed by the student’s Doctoral Committee and the Graduate Liaison, after which it is submitted to the Graduate College (ten days prior to commencing the exam) to receive official authorization. Written and oral parts of the exam are required and must be taken during the semester that has been authorized. All Doctoral Committee members must be present for the oral portion of the exam. The committee will indicate the outcome of the entire exam on the Report of General Examination form, which the candidate must then submit to the Graduate College. (Refer to pages 62-63 of the Graduate College Bulletin, http://gradweb.ou.edu/Current/gcBulletin/GCBulletin.pdf, for complete information.)

Proceed with and complete dissertation research (as approved by major professor and Doctoral Committee): When the dissertation is completed, the major professor must approve the reading copy (not the final copy) of the document before it is given to the Doctoral Committee. A Graduate College degree check must be officially requested at least two weeks prior to submission of the reading copy to that office. The reading copy with abstract must be submitted to the Graduate College, accompanied by a Request for Authority for Defense of Dissertation form that has been approved by the advisor and the Graduate Liaison. If the reading copy and the degree check are satisfactory, Graduate College will give authority for the Final Oral Examination (defense) of the dissertation. The student must notify the ECE Graduate Office of the date at least one week in advance for the office to announce the defense to faculty and students. A reading copy should also be submitted to be available for interested parties. After satisfactory completion of the defense, the Doctoral Committee must report the results to the Graduate College by signing the Authority for Final Examination form. After the defense, the final copy of the dissertation must also be prepared for deposit in the main library. To assure graduation, the academic calendar deadlines, published online in the semester schedules at http://www.ou.edu/enrollment/home/classes_offered/schedules.html, must be heeded.

Check all Graduate College Ph.D. policies at http://gradweb.ou.edu/Current/gcBulletin/index.asp and the Graduate Bulletin for other university requirements and more helpful information. Some ECE requirements and restrictions are in addition to those of the Graduate College.

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