

## **Combined Degree Program**

### **BS in Biosystems Engineering and MS in Environmental Engineering and Science**

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Biosystems Engineering (BE) majors at Clemson University may begin a Master of Science (MS) degree in Environmental Engineering and Science (EE&S) while completing a Bachelor of Science (BS) degree in BE. The BE undergraduate curriculum allows up to 8 credits of mutually acceptable graduate course credits to satisfy requirements of both degrees.

#### **A. Undergraduate/graduate transition**

1. Undergraduate students having a minimum overall GPR of 3.4 and a minimum of 90 credit hours may apply for acceptance by the Graduate School and to this joint program. If accepted, students must maintain an overall GPR of 3.4 in ME and a 3.0 average in the EE&S graduate courses to continue enrollment in this combined program.
2. In consultation with the student's undergraduate advisor in BE and the graduate coordinator for the EE&S program of the Environmental Engineering and Earth Sciences (EEES) Department, a BE student may choose up to 8 credit hours to satisfy the requirements of both degree programs. Examples for how this may be implemented include:
  - a. During their senior year, students in the BE Ecological Engineering emphasis area may use up to 8 hours of the Engineering, Ecological and Global Sustainability Requirements.
  - b. During their senior year, students in the BE Bioprocess Engineering emphasis area may use up to 6 hours of the Engineering or Global Sustainability Requirements.

To count toward the BS degree in Biosystems Engineering these courses must be approved as satisfying the requirements of the graduate curriculum in EE&S. The EEES Department encourages students in the BS/MS program to take at least one of the three core courses required of all MS students in EE&S. These courses (EES 8020, 8430, and 8510) are offered during the fall semester and are three credit hours each.

3. Students in the combined degree program are conditionally accepted to the graduate program until completion of the BS degree requirements.
4. Graduate assistantships cannot be accepted until full graduate status is attained and is contingent on availability of funds in alignment with EEES departmental policies.

#### **B. Graduate Program**

1. EE&S offers thesis and non-thesis options for the MS degree. The EE&S program has six focus areas: process engineering, sustainable systems and environmental assessment, fate and transport, environmental health physics {ABET-accredited}, environmental radiochemistry, and environmental chemistry. See the EE&S program in the EEES Graduate Handbook for details.
  - a. For the thesis option, a student must complete 24 credit of course work plus at least 6 hours of thesis research.
  - b. For the non-thesis option, a student must complete 30 credit hours, 3 hours of which must be a special project (EES 8810). Non-thesis students are not eligible for research or teaching assistantship appointments, but are eligible for graduate internships.

2. Complete information about the MS degree in EE&S may be found in the EEES Graduate Handbook:

[http://www.clemson.edu/cecas/departments/ees/documents/EEES\\_graduate\\_handbook.pdf](http://www.clemson.edu/cecas/departments/ees/documents/EEES_graduate_handbook.pdf)

Students interested in the combined BS/MS program should consult with their ME undergraduate advisor as early as possible. An application should be submitted by the end of the junior year, but can be made at any time as long as the program requirements are fulfilled. Application is made via the **GS6BS/MS** form available from the Graduate School web site.