MATERIALS SCIENCE & ENGINEERING

MATERIALS SCIENTISTS AND ENGINEERS MAKE ALL ENGINEERING APPLICATIONS POSSIBLE.



QUICK FACTS

All students complete both an industry-linked capstone design project and an undergraduate research project in an MSE faculty lab.

MSE offers a degree option in Nanoscience and Molecular Engineering (NME) as well as undergraduate concentration areas in Materials and Manufacturing; Electronic, Optical and Magnetic Materials; Energy/ Environmental Materials; Materials in Medicine and Biomimetics; Structural Materials; and Materials Computation and Data Science

WHAT DO MATERIALS SCIENTISTS AND ENGINEERS DO?

Materials Science and Engineering combines engineering, chemistry and physics principles to solve real-world problems in industry and research environments. MSE practitioners modify existing materials or develop new materials that are harder, softer, more/less flexible, cheaper to produce, conduct electricity more efficiently, are less prone to failure, are more sustainable or biocompatible, or achieve other desirable characteristics Materials are in all industries, so MSE is an excellent interdisciplinary major choice.

WHAT PROBLEMS ARE MATERIALS SCIENTISTS AND ENGINEERS TRYING TO SOLVE?

Materials scientists and engineers explore how materials perform and invent ways to improve their functional properties. Materials scientists and engineers ask questions such as:

- How do we develop advanced materials to make structures such as aircrafts and automobiles stronger, cheaper and more fuel efficient?
- How can we create novel energy storage nanostructures to improve fuel cells, batteries, super-capacitors and power grids?
- Can we develop computational tools to predict and control complex materials synthesis and structures?
- What organic, renewable materials can create bioplastics strong and stable enough to replace petroleum-based products?
- Can we engineer better materials for medical devices, medicines and disease detection?

WHERE DO MSE ALUMNI WORK?

Air and space	Materials testing, manufacturing, processes, physics, coatings and finishes Aerojet Rocketdyne, Boeing, Blue Origin, Crane Aerospace, Honeywell, LMI Aerospace, Janicki Industries, NASA, Space X, U.S. Air Force
Computing, data and digital technologies	Data science, data analytics, e-beam and optical lithography, manufacturing, materials simulation modeling, semiconductor and fiber lasers, software and hardware development development Apple, AT&T, Facebook, GeniSys GmbH, HCL Technologies, Infosys, Intel, Micron, Microsoft, nLight, Shin-Etsu America
Environment, sustainability and energy	Clean energy development, waste management Cupertino Electric, Group14 Technologies, nLIGHT, PNNL, Sedron Technologies, Washington Clean Energy Testbeds
Health and medicine	Medical devices, tissue engineering, health research and development Cardiac Dimensions, GT Medical Technologies, NanoString Technologies, Neoleukin Therapeutics, Rocket Science Health, Siemens Healthineers, UW School of Medicine
Infrastructure, transportation and society	Cars, submarines, trucks, sporting goods and fabrics \Crane Currency, PACCAR, PNNL, Promethean, Samsung Electronics, Tesla, Uphill Designs, W.L. Gore
Robotics and manufacturing	Product development, materials manufacturing and processes, failure analysis, 3D printing Boeing, Boston Scientific, Fluke Corporation, Honeywell, General Dynamics, Intel, Toray Composite Materials America

RECENT CAPSTONE PROJECTS

- Protein crystallization image classification using machine learning for AstraZeneca
- Modified thermally conductive resin for Formlabs' SLA 3D printer
- Elastic electronics: optimizing electrical and mechanical properties of conjugated polymers

WHAT MAKES MSE SPECIAL?

MSE is a small, close-knit department with many opportunities for handson team-based learning. Students complete both a senior research project and a senior capstone design project solving real-world problems with industry mentorship.



HOW CAN I LEARN MORE?

If you think MSE might be for you, we encourage you to join one of the MSE- affiliated registered student organizations. You can conduct research in an MSE lab or take an MSE class open to non-majors such as MSE 170: Fundamentals of Materials Science, or our 1-credit major exploration courses. For information, schedule an advising appointment: https://calendly.com/mseadvising-josh

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