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**Q: What is the BS/MS Program?**

A: The MSE BS/MS academic program is designed to attract highly motivated undergraduate students, especially those who demonstrate an interest in, and an ability for, additional education beyond the bachelor's degree.

**Q: Who is eligible to apply for the BS/MS?**

A: MSE undergraduate students with a cumulative GPA of 3.5 or higher may apply to the BS/MS program after completing at least 30 semester hours (no more than 75) at Georgia Tech. Applications from students with more than 75 earned hours are reviewed on a case-by-case basis.

**Q: Do BS/MS students have to take the GRE?**

A: No. The GRE is not required for students who participate in the BS/MS program. This is one of the major benefits of the program.

**Q: How do I apply to the BS/MS Program?**

A: All application materials for the BS/MS are online. Apply at the Graduate Studies website: <http://www.grad.gatech.edu/apply-now>. The start term should be the semester AFTER you plan to graduate with your BS (if you graduate in spring but do not plan on enrolling in summer, then it should be the fall semester).

**Q: How much is the application fee for the BS/MS?**

A: Nothing. There is no application fee for the BS/MS. This is one of the major benefits of the program.

**Q: How many letters of recommendation are required for the BS/MS, and how are they obtained?**

A: Only one letter of recommendation is required. The online application will ask for the Referee's name & email address, and the application system will automatically contact the referee for the letter.

**Q: What kind of financial aid can I get for my MS?**

A: Students admitted into the MS graduate program are not provided with financial aid. Exceptions are only possible where faculty have a specific requirement for a MS student on a research project.

**Q: Why does my DegreeWorks not show a BS/MS MSE Option for "What If Analysis?"**

A: DegreeWorks has no display option for the BS/MS. You will fill out a proposed program of study with the MSE Academic Offices that you will keep for your records and use as your guide.

**Q: If I join the BS/MS program, what will my status be?**

A: Students in the BS/MS program will remain undergraduates until they meet the requirements for the BS degree after which time their status will change to graduate. This process usually takes place sometime after the last set of undergraduate classes have been registered for and the Registrar's final degree audit done.

**Q: Will my MS be Thesis or Non-Thesis?**

A: Students participating in the BS/MS program will complete the Non-Thesis option, however, MS without thesis students can take a special problems (MSE8903 – P/F) course for research experience.

**Q: Can I double count hours between the BS and MS?**

A: Yes. Students completing both a BS and MS in the same discipline at Georgia Tech may use up to 6 credit hours of 4000-level coursework in the major discipline for both degrees.

**Q: Can I double count more than 6 hours between the BS and MS?**

A: No. Even if you decide to take coursework that would be eligible to count towards your MS degree, you are only allowed to double count up to 6 hours towards both your BS and MS degrees.

**Q: Can I double count MSE 4699 (Undergraduate Research)?**

A: Yes, you can double count MSE 4699 towards your BS and MS degrees. This is allowed for both the thesis and non-thesis MS options.

**Q: Can I take graduate-level classes as a BS and use them towards my MS?**

A: Yes. As an undergraduate, you are eligible to take graduate-level classes that are not counted towards your BS that can be used towards your MS. This is common for students who only need 1-2 classes during their final semester. These students can take up to 6 additional hours (2 classes) and have them count only towards their MS degree. To qualify for this option, students must complete the undergraduate degree with a cumulative GPA of 3.5 or higher and complete the master's degree within a two-year period from the award date of the BS degree.

[\(http://catalog.gatech.edu/academics/undergraduate/credit-tests-scores/undergraduate-students-taking-graduate-courses/\)](http://catalog.gatech.edu/academics/undergraduate/credit-tests-scores/undergraduate-students-taking-graduate-courses/).

**Q: What is the maximum number of hours I can take as a BS to count towards the MS?**

A: Up to 12 hours can be taken as an undergrad and applied toward the 30 hours required for an MS non-thesis. This includes the 6 hours of double counted classes, plus up to 6 additional hours of classes that did not count towards the BS.

**Q: Can I petition to use more than 12 hours from BS to MS?**

A: No. Under no circumstance will a student be allowed to bring more than 12 hours over from their BS degree. This includes the 6 hours of double counted classes, plus up to 6 additional hours of classes that did not count towards the BS.

**Q: Do the grades I receive in courses taken as an undergraduate factor into my graduate GPA?**

A: No. The grades you receive in courses taken as an undergraduate will only count towards your undergraduate GPA. This includes the up to 6 additional hours of graduate-level classes that did not count towards the BS.

**Q: How do I select my MSE electives as an undergraduate to ensure they count towards my MS?**

A: The MSE Graduate Handbook has a list of approved electives that you can choose from. Once you have identified the courses you would like to take you will need to work with your BS advisor to ensure that the courses are annotated in the notes section of DegreeWorks.

**Q: How many 4XXX level courses can I count towards my MS?**

A: You can count up to 9 hours of 4XXX level courses towards your MS. Students completing both a BS and MS in the same discipline at Georgia Tech may double count up to 6 credit hours of 4000-level coursework in the major discipline for both degrees.

**Q: Can I take courses from other majors to count towards my MS? If so, what majors?**

A: With prior approval from the MSE Academic Offices, 4XXX or above courses may be selected from almost any major at Georgia Tech. Management courses are also allowed with approval.

**Q: I have come up with my MS plan of study. When does this need to be approved/submitted?**

A: A proposed program of study must be submitted to the School office by the end of the BS degree coursework. The program of study can be modified as many times as necessary if there are conflicts or scheduling issues.

**Q: How do I register for MS courses while still a BS student?**

A: As an undergraduate student you need a registration permit to sign up for graduate coursework. You will talk to the undergraduate advising manager, currently Dr. Renita Washington, in MSE to submit an override request and then work with the Registrar to get permission to take 6000 (and above) level classes before graduating with your undergrad degree. The Registrar's permission can be obtained by emailing: [comments@registrar.gatech.edu](mailto:comments@registrar.gatech.edu).

**Q. Do I need to register for MSE 8903 – Special problems?**

A: No, however, MS without thesis students can take a special problems (MSE8903 – P/F) course for research experience.

**Q: Can I defer my MS program?**

A: Students are required to start the MS program immediately after completing their BS degree. The only exception to this is summer semester. Students who graduate in the spring are allowed to take the summer semester off and start in the fall semester. If you need to defer your admission outside of these rules, you will need to apply to the MS program through the regular admission process.