Ph.D. in Electrical Engineering

Ph.D. students earn at least 60 post-baccalaureate credits, including at least 18 credits of dissertation work. In progressing toward this degree, the student must pass the following examinations:

1. A written departmental Graduate Study Qualifying Examination administered to all M.S. and Ph.D. students in their first year of work.
2. A comprehensive examination to be taken within two years of the qualifying examination and after completing two-thirds of their total coursework.
3. A final oral examination and defense of a dissertation based on the student’s research.

There is no foreign language requirement for the degree.

Degree requirements--60 credits total:
• \( \leq 28 \) credits Doctoral Thesis (EELE 690), with a minimum 18 credits.
• \( \geq 32 \) course credits that include:
  • 2 credits Scientific Communication and Proposal Development (ENGR 650), taken just before the comprehensive examination
  • \( \geq 3 \) credits Advanced Math, Numerical Methods, or Statistics (committee approved)
  • \( \geq 27 \) advisor-approved credits with all graded credits having earned a B or better.
  • \( \leq 9 \) credits at 4xx level

Notes:
• All credits must also meet the following conditions:
  • Regardless of how many credits are applied from a previously earned master's degree, the Ph.D. program of study must include at least 9 credits of major courses taken
  • at Montana State University (ECE-specific exception granted by Grad School).
  • All Ph.D. credits no more than ten (10) years old at time of graduation (this limit does not apply to courses counted from a previously earned master's degree).
  • \( \leq 6 \) credits Independent Study (EELE 592).
  • \( \leq 3 \) credits pass/fail, excluding dissertation.
  • \( \leq 9 \) credits challenged.
  • No credits of 488, 489, 490, 492, 494, 498, or 589 are allowed.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ENGR 650</th>
<th>Scientific Communication and Proposal Development</th>
<th>2</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Advanced Math, Numerical Methods or Statistics Course (committee approved)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Doctoral Thesis (EELE 690)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Graded Coursework (27 credits)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other Graduate Courses or additional Doctoral Thesis credits</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Credits</strong></td>
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