

Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering

Guidelines for MASc Program

Approved at the Department Council Meeting on April 12, 2024

Courses in MASc Program:

For graduation with an MASc degree in Electrical and Computer Engineering, the student should successfully complete 16 credits of courses and the MASc thesis oral defense. Students are required to take at least two (2) courses from within the ECE Department, unless approved by the GPD based on the supervisor's request.

MASc Thesis Defense:

The membership of the Examination Committee for the defense should be approved by the Graduate Program Director (GPD).

Defense Committee Membership:

The examination committee for MASc defense should have at least one member as supervisor from the department, one member as internal examiner from the department and one examiner as external-to-the-program. The external-to-the-program examiner may be from other departments in the University, or industry, or government organizations. The external-to-the-program may be replaced by a second internal examiner from the department. Membership of the committee is to be approved by the GPD.

Chair of the Committee:

The supervisor is responsible to select a chair for the final thesis defense and introduce him/her to the GPD for approval. The chair may be an internal examiner (other than the supervisor), or another faculty member of ECE Department.

Conflict of Interest:

Any perceived conflict of interest between (i) student and examiners and/or (ii) supervisor and examiners should be disclosed to the GPD prior to scheduling of the MASc defense. Co-author(s) of work included in the thesis cannot serve as an examiner for that thesis except for the supervisor(s).

Thesis Preparation:

Refer to the Graduate Calendar for full regulations of the thesis preparation and defense.

Affiliate Faculty Members:

Affiliate faculty members of the department may co-supervise a MASc student or may be an examiner external to the program but may not serve as an internal examiner.

Cross Appointed and Associate Faculty Members:

Cross appointed and associate faculty members of the department may solely supervise a MASc student or may be an examiner external to the program but may not serve as an internal examiner.

Time Limit:

The nominal period for MASc studies is 2 years. Students are supposed to defend their thesis before being 3 years in the program. Students who cannot finish their MASc program within 3 years of fulltime study from the time of original registration in the program, have to submit a request for time-limit extension. The request should include the progress of the student and detailed milestone for graduation which is approved by the supervisor. The students could ask for a 2-term extension for the 1st request, and a 1-term extension for the 2nd request.

Supervision of students:

As per the Graduate Calendar regulation, MASc students who do not have a supervisor will be withdrawn from their program. The Electrical and Computer Engineering Department allows MASc students to stay registered in the MASc program for 4 months in order to secure a new supervisor. In exceptional cases, an additional period of 4 months may be granted upon approval by the GPD if the student provides a valid justification.