

Department of Construction Management and Engineering
M.S. in Construction Management

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ's) related to the on-line graduate program

Where can I find more information related to the on-line graduate program?

An overall description of the program (both on-campus and on-line) can be found at:

http://www.ndsu.edu/gradschool/bulletin/d_constmngmt.htm

Additional information is provided at:

<http://www.ndsu.nodak.edu/dce/html/distDegreePrograms.htm>

How do I get into the on-line graduate program?

In order to take the on-line classes, you need to be accepted by the NDSU Graduate School.

For information on application to the Graduate School at NDSU, use the following link:

<http://www.ndsu.edu/gradschool/apply/index.shtml>

How much does it cost?

Overall estimated costs can be found at:

<http://www.ndsu.edu/gradschool/financial/index.shtml>

Since we use an on-line delivery for all of the courses, the program is coordinated through Distance and Continuing Education (DCE). For the 2008 Fall Semester, the actual costs of the on-line courses can be found at:

<http://www.ndsu.nodak.edu/dce/html/fees.htm>

Tuition for DCE courses is set at the North Dakota in-state resident rate.

What courses will be offered on-line for the 2008 Fall Semester?

The following courses are being offered on-line for the 2008 Fall Semester:

(Class # 18543) CM&E 603 - Scheduling & Project Control (4 credits)

(Class # 23935) CM&E 609 - Highway Construction (3 credits)

(Class # 18544) CM&E 611 - Construction Estimating/Quant. & Costs (4 credits)

(Class # 23930) CM&E 715 - Construction Specifications and Contracts (3 credits)

(Class # 23932) CM&E 720 - Geotechnical Construction (3 credits)

(Class # 23934) CM&E 725 - Underground Construction (3 credits)

(Class # 18550) CM&E 790 - Graduate Seminar (1 credit)

What are the required courses for the on-line M.S. in Construction Management?

The core required courses for the M.S. in Construction Management include:

CM&E 601 - Construction Technology and Equipment (4 credits)

CM&E 603 - Scheduling & Project Control (4 credits)

CM&E 611 - Construction Estimating/Quant. & Costs (4 credits)
CM&E 612 - Construction Management (3 credits)
CM&E 790 - Graduate Seminar (1 credit)

What courses are offered on-line for the 2009 Spring Semester?

The anticipated course offerings for the 2009 Spring Semester include:

CM&E 612 - Construction Management (3 credits)
CM&E 653 - Concrete Design and Construction (3 credits)
CM&E 660 - Infrastructure Management (3 credits)
CM&E 665 - Bridge Engineering and Management (3 credits)
CM&E 701 - Construction Technology and Equipment (4 credits)
CM&E 705 - Building Construction (3 credits)
CM&E 710 - Managing Quality for Construction Organizations (3 credits)
CM&E 740 - Financial Cost Concepts for Construction Managers (3 credits)
CM&E 780 - Construction Systems / Temporary Construction Facilities (3 credits)
CM&E 790 - Graduate Seminar (1 credits.)

How long will it take me to finish the M.S. degree program?

It is possible to complete the on-line M.S. degree in Construction Management in nine (9) months, as outlined below:

Sample plan of study for a 9-month program (31 credits):

Fall Semester (15 credits):

CM&E 603 - Scheduling and Project Control 4 cr
CM&E 611 - Construction Cost Estimating 4 cr
CM&E 790 - Graduate Seminar 1 cr
CM&E 600 or 700 Level Elective 3 cr
CM&E 600 or 700 Level Elective 3 cr

Spring Semester (16 credits):

CM&E 701 - Construction Technology and Equipment 4 cr
CM&E 612 - Construction Management Capstone 3 cr
CM&E 797 - Master's Paper 3 cr
CM&E 600 or 700 Level Elective 3 cr
CM&E 600 or 700 Level Elective 3 cr

I plan on completing the on-line degree in two years. Can you provide me a suggested plan of study?

A suggested plan of study for four (4) semesters is provided below:

Fall Semester 2008:

CM&E 611 – Construction Cost Estimating 4 cr
CM&E 790 – Graduate Seminar 1 cr
CM&E 600 or 700 Level Elective 3 cr

Spring Semester 2009

CM&E 701 – Construction Technology and Equipment 4 cr
CM&E 600 or 700 Level Elective 3 cr

Fall Semester 2009:

CM&E 603 – Scheduling and Project Control 4 cr

CM&E 600 or 700 Level Elective 3 cr

Spring Semester 2009:

CM&E 612 – Construction Management Capstone 3 cr

CM&E 797 – Master’s Paper 3 cr

CM&E 600 or 700 Level Elective 3 cr

Total credits 31 cr

Do I have to write a thesis to complete the M.S. degree?

No, but you will have to write a paper. The on-line M.S. degree in Construction Management is offered as a comprehensive study (paper) option which emphasizes applied study and research within the construction industry. The student in conjunction with an assigned advisor will develop a specific topic for the paper

Can I transfer approved classes into the on-line graduate program?

Yes, you can transfer up to nine (9) credits of graduate course credit. All transfer graduate credits used to meet the requirements of a master's degree must be approved by the Department of Construction Management and Engineering; Dean of the College of Engineering and Architecture; and Dean of the Graduate School. Transfer credits must have been earned from an accredited U.S. or Canadian institution. Credits from international institutions can be transferred: 1) if approved by the Department of Construction Management, the Dean of the College of Engineering and Architecture, and the Dean of the Graduate School, 2) must have earned a grade of B or higher, 3) must have been earned within a 7-year period at the time of completion of the degree, 4) must be graduate-level credit, 5) must not be a continuing education, correspondence, extension, or workshop course, 6) must not be internship, individual study, special problem, or research (disquisition) courses, or courses graded Pass/Fail or Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory, 7) must not have been used to fulfill the requirements of a baccalaureate degree, 8) must be verified by an official transcript, and 9) will not be used in calculation of the grade point average (GPA). It is the responsibility of the student to provide official transcripts of graduate courses taken elsewhere to The Graduate School.

Can work experience be transferred into the program and be used for a course substitution?

No - work experience is not a substitute for academic course work.

I have an engineering degree and a couple of years of construction management experience. Will I be prepared for the on-line graduate program?

Yes.

How do I register for the on-line courses?

Once you are accepted into the program, contact the Department to begin the process of “granting

permission” which actually allows you to register for the courses. You need “permission” to register for the on-line courses.

Do I have to come to campus for any classes?

All courses will be offered on-line. You do not have to come to campus for classes.

When should I take the CM&E 790 - Graduate Seminar course?

You should take CM&E 790 - Graduate Seminar your first semester.

What elective courses should I take?

You have some flexibility with the Electives (which courses to take and when to take them). Of course, your plan of study is completely up to you (based on your schedule and workload). But your advisor can assist you in the selection of courses.

How much of my time should I allocate for each on-line course?

You should dedicate 5 to 7 hours per week per course (for a 3-credit course). This is just an anticipated average - some students require more time and some less. Of course, at certain points of the semester you may put in more hours - and there will be time when you have to put in less time. Your objective for each course is to complete the required work within the prescribed deadlines (each course has different deadlines).

How would I attend the lectures?

Some classes may have synchronous lectures - meaning that there are required times to log-in to either listen or view a lecture or visit a chat room. However, most of the lectures will be either pre-recorded (and you can listen at your own convenience) or they may be text-based in which case you will read at your own pace.

What grades do I need to get the on-line degree?

You must earn a cumulative grade point average (CGPA) of 3.0 or greater.

What prerequisites are needed for the on-line courses?

There are no prerequisites for the courses. Each one is a stand-alone course.