



Master's Thesis Plan of Study

Please fill this form out digitally. This form is due before the end of the 2nd term of enrollment in the MS Program or by the end of the 1st semester of enrollment if you are an **Accelerated UG/GR Program** graduate student.

Name: _____ Last 4 of Student ID #: _____ Current GPA: _____

Major: Aerospace Engineering Ocean Engineering

Area of Specialization: (Select one)

- Aero-Hydrodynamics Dynamics & Control Space Engineering
 Applied Mathematics Ocean Engineering Structures & Structural Dynamics
 Applied Physics

Research and Thesis Credit Courses (AOE 5994): List separate research hours by term.						
Year	Term	Subject	Course	Course Title	Grade	Hours
		AOE	5994	Research & Thesis		
		AOE	5994	Research & Thesis		
		AOE	5994	Research & Thesis		
		AOE	5994	Research & Thesis		
		AOE	5994	Research & Thesis		
(Maximum of 9 hours counted toward degree) TOTAL						

Graded Coursework – (Non-UG/GR) 5000 and 6000 Level Courses (Excludes AOE 5944: Seminar)

DO NOT INCLUDE COURSES TAKEN WHILE IN UG/GR PROGRAM, RECORD THOSE ON PAGE 2.

Breadth Requirement: All MS students are required to take at least one course each in three out of the three (Ocean) or four (Aerospace) disciplinary areas as noted in the [Graduate School Catalog](#) and at least one Math requirement course. A maximum of 6 credit hours of AOE 5974 (Independent Study) and/or AOE 5984 (Special Study) is allowed.

Permission from the Graduate School is required before retaking a course. See your AOE Graduate Coordinator for more information. After approval, for any courses retaken for a higher grade, please list both instances of the course with the lower graded instance Hours section set to 0.

Year	Term	Subject	Course	Course Title	Breadth/Math Requirement	Grade	Hours

MS Thesis - Minimum of 15 hours including transfer hours **TOTAL**

(Non-UG/GR) 4000 Level Courses: Only 6 credits of 4000 level courses are allowed as of Fall 2008.

DO NOT INCLUDE COURSES TAKEN WHILE IN UG/GR PROGRAM, RECORD THOSE ON PAGE 2.

These are 4000 level courses taken by the student while enrolled in the AOE MS Graduate Program, that are not included as part of the student's Undergrad/Grad (UGG Form).

Year	Term	Subject	Course	Course Title	Grade	Hours
(Maximum of 6 hours) TOTAL						



Supporting Courses – Courses in this section do not count toward degree award total credit hours.

AOE Department Seminar Requirement – AOE 5944

Students must register for AOE 5944 Seminar 1 credit for two (2) semesters of their graduate program, unless you are a Distance Learning/Virtual student. Waivers for Virtual students can be found [here](#). Please send the completed waiver to the AOE Graduate Program Coordinators.

Year	Term	Subject	Course	Course Title	Grade	Hours
		AOE	5944	AOE Graduate Seminar	P	1
		AOE	5944	AOE Graduate Seminar	P	1

AOE Seminar Waiver - Waiver submitted to AOE Graduate Program Coordinator

Graduate Advisory Committees

Committees for the M.S. must satisfy the AOE [AE](#) or [OCE](#) Graduate degree requirements:

- A. The Advisory Committee must consist of at least three members with a Master's Degree, one committee member must be AOE faculty, a second committee member must be either AOE faculty or an AOE-affiliated faculty member and a third committee member can be either AOE faculty or AOE-affiliated faculty, other VT faculty, retired or Emeritus Virginia Tech faculty members, Virginia Tech employees (e.g., Research Scientists, Administrative/Professional Faculty, Instructors), and non-Virginia Tech-employed individuals (known as External Committee Members) including Adjunct Faculty, who are qualified by terminal degree/professional experience and scholarly productivity and who, by inclusion, can provide specific expertise to enrich the student's program.
- B. The Chair of the Advisory Committee (Committee Chair or Chairperson) must be a teaching/research faculty (full time, tenured or tenure track faculty at Virginia Tech), and ordinarily is a member of the AOE faculty, but could instead be an AOE-affiliated faculty member who is an employee of Virginia Tech.
- C. Any AOE-affiliated faculty member or any VT faculty member can serve as a Co-Advisor (Co-Chair). Distance-Learning/Virtual students may have an External Committee Member serve as a Co-Advisor (Co-Chair) if the student receives regular advice from that member.
- D. Approval of External Committee Members requires the MS student and their Committee Chair to work with the AOE Graduate Program Coordinator to submit an **External Committee Member Form** with a curriculum vitae (CV) **prior to the submission of the Plan of Study**. These External Committee Members may not constitute more than one- third of the total Advisory Committee membership and they may not serve as the Faculty Advisor (Chair or Chairperson).
- E. Post-doctoral scholars or other advanced degree holders who have earned their graduate degrees at Virginia Tech will not be approved for service on Advisory Committees of students with whom they overlapped as a student themselves.
- F. See the [Graduate School Policy on Graduate Advisory Committees](#) for more information.

Graduate Advisory Committee Signatures

1. Please send your Plan of Study to the AOE Graduate Program Coordinator(s) for review **prior to signature collection from committee members.** gradadvise-g@vt.edu
2. In the email, include the names and roles of your Advisory Committee members.

Committee Chairperson Signature	Printed Name	VT ID#	Date
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Committee Co-Chairperson Signature (Optional)	Printed Name	VT ID#	Date
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Committee Member Signature	Printed Name	VT ID#	Date
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Committee Member Signature	Printed Name	VT ID#	Date
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Committee Member Signature	Printed Name	VT ID#	Date
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Committee Member Signature	Printed Name	VT ID#	Date
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Graduate Student and AOE Department Signatures

Student Signature	Printed Name	Date
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Graduate Program Director or Department Head Signature	Printed Name	Date
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Department Contact (Graduate Program Coordinator)	Date
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