



Doctorate of Philosophy Plan of Study

This form is due before the end of the third term of enrollment in the PhD Program.

Please fill this form out digitally for credit course entry, signatures can be either digital or physical.

Name: _____ Student ID #: _____ Current GPA: _____

Area of Specialization: (Select one)

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aero-Hydrodynamics | <input type="checkbox"/> Ocean Engineering |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Applied Mathematics | <input type="checkbox"/> Space Engineering |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Applied Physics | <input type="checkbox"/> Structures & Structural Dynamics |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dynamics & Control | |

Graduate Advisory Committees

Committees for the Ph.D. must satisfy the following requirements:

- A. The Advisory Committee must consist of at least four members, two committee members must be AOE faculty, a third committee member can be either AOE faculty or AOE-affiliated faculty, a fourth committee member who could be; AOE faculty, 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. Approval of External Committee Members requires the PHD 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).
- C. The Faculty Advisor (Chair or Chairperson) must be an AOE faculty member or AOE-affiliate faculty member who is an employee of Virginia Tech. Any AOE-affiliated faculty member or any VT faculty member can serve as a co-advisor (Co-Chair).
- D. For Distance Learning/Virtual students, an External Committee Member may serve as a co-advisor (Co-Chair) if the student receives regular advice from the member.
- E. The PhD Advisory Committee must have some breadth in their technical background. This is achieved by choosing the PhD Advisory Committee such that all members of the committee do not have **primary** research interest in a single area of expertise as defined in [Appendix A of the AOE Graduate Policies and Procedures Manual](#).
- F. See the [Graduate School Policy on Graduate Advisory Committees](#) for more information.



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Research and Dissertation Credit Courses (AOE 7994): List separate research hours by term.

Year	Term	Subject	Course	Course Title	Grade	Hours
		AOE	7994	Research and Dissertation		
		AOE	7994	Research and Dissertation		
		AOE	7994	Research and Dissertation		
		AOE	7994	Research and Dissertation		
		AOE	7994	Research and Dissertation		
		AOE	7994	Research and Dissertation		
		AOE	7994	Research and Dissertation		
		AOE	7994	Research and Dissertation		
		AOE	7994	Research and Dissertation		
		AOE	7994	Research and Dissertation		
		AOE	7994	Research and Dissertation		
		AOE	7994	Research and Dissertation		
		AOE	7994	Research and Dissertation		
		AOE	7994	Research and Dissertation		
		AOE	7994	Research and Dissertation		
		AOE	7994	Research and Dissertation		
(Minimum of 30 hours) TOTAL						

5000 and 6000 Level Courses: (Excludes AOE 5944: Seminar)

Breadth Requirement: All PhD candidates are required to take at least one course each in three out of the four disciplinary areas as noted in the [Graduate School Catalog](#).

Year	Term	Subject	Course	Course Title	Grade	Hours
(Minimum of 30 hours including transfer hours) TOTAL						

4000 Level Courses: Only 6 credits of 4000 level courses are allowed as of Fall 2008.

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



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Transfer Courses: Transfer courses include VT UG/G courses.

Up to 15 credits of course work on the Plan of Study may be transferred from another university and is subject to the approval of the PHD Advisory Committee. Each transferred course must, have earned the equivalent to a grade of "B" or better, have been earned while in good standing in graduate status, and have been graduate courses at the institution where the student took the courses. Transfer coursework more than five years old, a [Course Justification Request Form](#) must be filed with the Plan of Study as part of the same PDF.

Name of Transfer University:				VIRGINIA TECH – Undergrad/Grad (UGG) Only		
Year	Term	Subject	Course	Course Title	Grade	Hours

Name of Transfer University:						
Year	Term	Subject	Course	Course Title	Grade	Hours
Substitute for:		AOE			-	
Substitute for:		AOE			-	
Substitute for:		AOE			-	
Substitute for:					-	
Substitute for:					-	
Substitute for:					-	
Substitute for:					-	

(Up to 15 credits of graded graduate level coursework) TOTAL

ADD ALL ABOVE SECTIONS CREDITS (Minimum of 90 hours) TOTAL PLAN OF STUDY HOURS:

Supporting Courses: Ethics & Integrity and Inclusion & Diversity Requirement

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

All students must take one instance of **ENGE 5304** 1 credit hour during their graduate program to fulfill the Ethics Diversity and Inclusion Requirement. If you can demonstrate that you have been trained in Ethics & Integrity and Inclusion & Diversity from other sources (example: Training certifications offered from employment outside of Virginia Tech) please send evidence of this to your AOE Graduate Program Coordinator. These documents will then be reviewed by the AOE Assistant Department Head for Graduate Studies for approval of fulfilling this requirement.

Year	Term	Subject	Course	Course Title	Grade	Hours
		ENGE	5304		P	1
	<input type="checkbox"/>	ENGE Waiver	5304	Substitutions approved by AOE	-	-



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Supporting Courses: AOE Seminar Requirement

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

Students must register for AOE 5944 Seminar 1 credit hour, for a total of 4 semesters minimum, unless you are a Distance Learning/Virtual student. Waivers for Virtual students can be found [here](#).

Year	FALL OR SPRING	Subject	Course	Course Title	Grade	Hours
	<input type="checkbox"/> AOE Seminar Waiver		5944	Waiver submitted to AOE	-	-
	<input type="checkbox"/> FALL <input type="checkbox"/> SPRING	AOE	5944	Graduate Seminar	P	1
	<input type="checkbox"/> FALL <input type="checkbox"/> SPRING	AOE	5944	Graduate Seminar	P	1
	<input type="checkbox"/> FALL <input type="checkbox"/> SPRING	AOE	5944	Graduate Seminar	P	1
	<input type="checkbox"/> FALL <input type="checkbox"/> SPRING	AOE	5944	Graduate Seminar	P	1

Graduate Advisory Committee Signatures

Committee Chairperson Signature	Printed Name	VT ID#	Date
Committee Co-Chairperson Signature	Printed Name	VT ID#	Date
Committee Member Signature	Printed Name	VT ID#	Date
Committee Member Signature	Printed Name	VT ID#	Date
Committee Member Signature	Printed Name	VT ID#	Date
Committee Member Signature	Printed Name	VT ID#	Date
Committee Member Signature	Printed Name	VT ID#	Date

Graduate Student and AOE Department Signatures

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