

Master of Science in Engineering Technology



The Department of Engineering Technology offers a Master of Science in Engineering Technology degree. The program prepares professionals who are knowledgeable about theories and leadership practices for technological applications in engineering-related fields. The program provides advanced coursework in planning strategies, continuous improvement, quality, and leadership. In addition, the program addresses the principles required for leading production and process-related enterprises, which include, but are not limited to, mission, vision, strategic planning, leadership for production and process planning, lean thinking, decision-making, operations management, research and development, and intellectual property protection.

Admission Requirements

Applicants must meet the admission standards of the School of Graduate Studies. A bachelor's degree with a major in Construction Management, Graphic Communication, Manufacturing Engineering Technology, Engineering Technology, Industrial Technology, Engineering, or other similar field from an accredited institution is required. It is expected that the candidate will have completed basic technical courses.

The Engineering Technology (ET) degree program is also open to graduates from the fields of liberal arts, science, mathematics, education, and other fields. Students who have been awarded a bachelor's degree from an accredited institution and have had less than 15 semester hours (SH) of coursework in technical areas may enroll in a two-phase program. Phase One consists of obtaining a total of 15 SH of Engineering Technology courses as proposed by the student and advisor and approved by the Department Graduate Committee. Phase Two is the completion of the program as outlined in the degree requirements below.

Students who wish to be admitted to the Master of Science in Engineering Technology degree program must meet the following entrance requirements:

1. Submit a completed application packet. All documents listed below should be sent directly to the School of Graduate Studies. Files will not be forwarded to the department until all materials are received:
 - Online application to the School of Graduate Studies

- Two- to three-page essay addressing the topic "Why I want to be a leader in a technological world"
 - Three letters of reference
2. Graduated with a baccalaureate degree from an accredited university.
 3. Completed at least 15 SH of technology-related coursework.

Optional additional materials that would aid the Department Admissions Committee would be the submission of the results of the Graduate Records Examination (GRE). However, the GRE is not required for admission.

Degree Requirements

The degree requires completion of a minimum of 30 SH. All students must complete 21 SH of required core and 6 SH of directed elective courses **plus** the additional requirement of one of the following three exit options: (1) thesis plan, (2) professional internship plan, or (3) independent research plan. The capstone experience, which culminates each exit option, includes either a thesis or an independent study paper presented to the graduate faculty.

Career Opportunities

The ET degree program enables the University to assist individuals who wish to advance into positions of increased responsibility in business, industry, and government service. The program is designed to allow professionals to keep abreast of changes in technology and allows those with a technical background to gain leadership experience at the graduate level prior to, or while, being employed full-time.

Program Location:
Macomb

Contact Information

Questions about the program:

Department of Engineering
Technology
Dr. G. Dave Hunter,
Graduate Committee Chair
(309) 298-1091
engrtech@wiu.edu
wiu.edu/engrtech

General admission questions:

School of Graduate Studies
(309) 298-1806 or (877) WIU GRAD
Grad-Office@wiu.edu
wiu.edu/grad



**Western Illinois
University**

Distinctive Features

- Coursework includes problem-based, technology-centered leadership learning experiences.
- Experiences include designing experiments, preparing presentations and poster sessions, conducting studies that apply continuous improvement strategies and tools, preparing documentation of intellectual property, and working in a team building environment. These learning opportunities help students connect theories and principles with real-world professional practice.
- Opportunities are provided to participate in industrial work experiences (graduate internship), pursue independent studies, and perform independent research. Coupled with graduate coursework, the degree provides a balanced program of studies that may be designed to meet the individual needs of the student.
- Required in all coursework is technical writing that meets industry standards.

Faculty Expertise

The Graduate Faculty members in the ET degree program have received their academic preparation from ten noted universities. Their unique academic preparation—combined with their industry experience—provide them with the insight and competencies to develop and oversee a diverse, integrated graduate program of study.

Why the ET Degree Program?

Graduates of the ET degree program are beneficiaries of the following:

- Nearly 100% placement
- Small student-to-faculty ratio
- Small class sizes
- Collaborative learning environment
- Industry certification opportunities
- High salaries
- Ability to work in a team environment
- Internship opportunities

Professional Certifications

Professional certification is available through the Society of Manufacturing Engineers (SME) and/or the Association of Technology, Management, and Applied Science (ATMAE). SME has the Certified Manufacturing Engineer and Certified Manufacturing Technologist certifications.

ATMAE's certifications are the Certified Manufacturing Specialist (CMS), Certified Senior Manufacturing Specialist (CSMS), Certified Technology Manager (CTM), and the Certified Senior Technology Manager (CSTM). In addition, a student can pursue a certification that matches his or her career path from the American Society of Quality (ASQ), LEED GP, or other recognized certification organizations.



Assistantship Opportunities

A limited number of graduate assistantships are available on a competitive basis. Assistantships provide a full tuition waiver and monthly stipend. Undergraduate and graduate grade point averages, scholarship records, recommendations, and a personal statement provide the criteria for awarding assistantships. Contact the Department of Engineering Technology for Graduate Assistantship application materials.

Western Illinois University is an Affirmative Action and Equal Opportunity employer with a strong commitment to diversity. In that spirit, we are particularly interested in receiving applications from a broad spectrum of people, including, but not limited to, minorities, women, and individuals with disabilities. WIU has a non-discrimination policy that includes sex, race, color, sexual orientation, gender identity and gender expression, religion, age, marital status, national origin, disability, and veteran status.

Internship Opportunities

Graduate students are afforded the opportunity to participate in an internship at the graduate level. The majority of students select a company that provides them with the opportunity to work in an area of expertise plus as an integral part of a leadership team. The internships can be completed during any term of the academic year.

“My graduate experience helped build my leadership skills and deepened my technical understanding. My undergraduate business degree blended seamlessly with the technical and analytical training in the program. I developed my leadership vision, improved communication skills, evaluated decisions by understanding the impact on business, and integrated my business background and technical acumen to give me a broader vision of business. These are a great asset in my career.”

— Jeremy Thomas, Senior Group Leader, Facility Operations