The Master of Software Engineering program prepares computer professionals to develop software products and services for industry and government through software analysis, design and architecture; system verification; data storage and retrieval; and managing globally-distributed development.

Admission Requirements

Applicants apply for admission to the program via the Graduate School application for admission (http://gradschool.psu.edu/prospective-students/how-to-apply). Requirements listed here are in addition to Graduate Council policies listed under GCAC-300 Admissions Policies (http://gradschool.psu.edu/graduate-education-policies).

Admission to the Master of Software Engineering program will be based on baccalaureate academic records, applicable work experience, and one letter of recommendation from a previous professor or supervisor who can attest to the applicant's academic potential. Applicants with an undergraduate degree in software engineering, computer science, information systems, or similar quantitative disciplines such as science or engineering may apply. Students from other disciplines will be considered based on prior course work and/or standardized test scores.

Normal admission requirements include background in operating systems, programming languages, data structures and algorithm analysis. Applications must include a statement of professional goals and a curriculum vitae or resume. Test scores from the GMAT or GRE exams are not required. An undergraduate cumulative grade-point average of 3.0 or better on a 4.0 scale in the final two years of undergraduate studies is required.

The language of instruction at Penn State is English. English proficiency test scores (TOEFL/IELTS) may be required for international applicants. See GCAC-305 Admission Requirements for International Students (http://gradschool.psu.edu/graduate-education-policies/gcac/gcac-300/gcac-305-admission-requirements-international-students) for more information.

Student Aid

Graduate assistantships available to students in this program and other forms of student aid are described in the Tuition & Funding (http://gradschool.psu.edu/graduate-funding) section of The Graduate School's website. Students on graduate assistantships must adhere to the course load limits (http://gradschool.psu.edu/graduate-education-policies/gsad/gsad-900/gsad-901-graduate-assistants) set by The Graduate School.

World Campus students in graduate degree programs may be eligible for financial aid. Refer to the Tuition and Financial Aid section (http://www.worldcampus.psu.edu/tuition-and-financial-aid) of the World Campus website for more information.

Courses

Graduate courses carry numbers from 500 to 699 and 800 to 899. Advanced undergraduate courses numbered between 400 and 499 may be used to meet some graduate degree requirements when taken by graduate students. Courses below the 400 level may not. A graduate student may register for or audit these courses in order to make up deficiencies or to fill in gaps in previous education but not to meet requirements for an advanced degree.

Software Engineering (SWENG) Course List (https://bulletins.psu.edu/university-course-descriptions/graduate/sweng)

Learning Outcomes

1. KNOW. Graduates will be able to demonstrate mastery of concepts and methods for modeling, designing, developing and testing software solutions using legacy and contemporary environments.

2. CRITICAL THINKING. Graduates will be able to critically and creatively plan and manage development of software intensive systems using project management methods and tools.
3. PROBLEM SOLVING. Graduates will be able to demonstrate proficiency in exploring the trade space within a given set of internal and external constraints for a system under development.

4. COMMUNICATE. Graduates will be able to effectively communicate their ideas within their organization, to other practicing professionals and the general public.

5. TEAMWORK. Graduates will be able to work collaboratively within and with project teams including those that are geographically distributed.

Contact

Campus Great Valley
Graduate Program Head Colin Neill
Director of Graduate Studies (DGS) or Professor-in-Charge (PIC) Raghu Sangwan
Program Contact Ursula Mary Thompson
Penn State Great Valley
30 East Swedesford Road
Malvern PA 19355
umt1@psu.edu
(610) 648-3208

Program Website View (http://greatvalley-psu.edu/academics/masters-degrees/software-engineering)

Campus World Campus
Graduate Program Head Colin Neill
Director of Graduate Studies (DGS) or Professor-in-Charge (PIC) Raghu Sangwan
Program Contact Ursula Mary Thompson
Penn State Great Valley
30 East Swedesford Road
Malvern PA 19355
umt1@psu.edu
(610) 648-3208

Program Website View (http://www.worldcampus.psu.edu/degrees-and-certificates/software-engineering-masters/overview)