

DOCTORAL PROGRAMS IN COMPUTATIONAL SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING

Computational Science and Engineering (<https://catalog.mit.edu/interdisciplinary/graduate-programs/computational-science-engineering>)

Doctor of Philosophy in Computational Science and Engineering

Program Requirements

Core Subjects

18.335[J]	Introduction to Numerical Methods	12
CSE.900	Doctoral Seminar in Computational Science and Engineering	3

Core Area of Study

Choose four 12-unit subjects from these six core CSE areas:¹ 48

Discretization and numerical methods for partial differential equations

Optimization methods

Statistics and data-driven modeling

High-performance computing and/or algorithms

Mathematical foundations (e.g., functional analysis, probability)

Modeling (i.e., a subject that treats mathematical modeling in any science or engineering discipline)

Computational Concentration¹ 24

Unrestricted Electives 24

Choose 24 units of additional graduate-level subjects in any field.

Thesis Research 168-288

Total Units 279-399

¹ A program of study comprising subjects in the selected core areas and the computational concentration must be developed in consultation with the student's doctoral thesis committee and approved by the CCSE graduate officer.

Programs Offered by CCSE in Conjunction with Select Departments in the Schools of Engineering and Science

Computational Science and Engineering (<https://catalog.mit.edu/interdisciplinary/graduate-programs/computational-science-engineering>)

The interdisciplinary doctoral program in Computational Science and Engineering (PhD in CSE + Engineering or Science (p. 3)) offers students the opportunity to specialize at the doctoral level in a computation-related field of their choice via computationally-

oriented coursework and a doctoral thesis with a disciplinary focus related to one of eight participating host departments, namely, Aeronautics and Astronautics; Chemical Engineering; Civil and Environmental Engineering; Earth, Atmospheric and Planetary Sciences; Materials Science and Engineering; Mathematics; Mechanical Engineering; or Nuclear Science and Engineering.

Doctoral thesis fields associated with each department are as follows:

- **Aeronautics and Astronautics**
 - Aerospace Engineering and Computational Science
 - Computational Science and Engineering (available only to students who matriculate in 2023–2024 or earlier)
- **Chemical Engineering**
 - Chemical Engineering and Computation
- **Civil and Environmental Engineering**
 - Civil Engineering and Computation
 - Environmental Engineering and Computation
- **Materials Science and Engineering**
 - Computational Materials Science and Engineering
- **Mechanical Engineering**
 - Mechanical Engineering and Computation
- **Nuclear Science and Engineering**
 - Computational Nuclear Science and Engineering
 - Nuclear Engineering and Computation
- **Earth, Atmospheric and Planetary Sciences**
 - Computational Earth, Science and Planetary Sciences
- **Mathematics**
 - Mathematics and Computational Science

As with the standalone CSE PhD program, the emphasis of thesis research activities is the development of new computational methods and/or the innovative application of state-of-the-art computational techniques to important problems in engineering and science. In contrast to the standalone PhD program, however, this research is expected to have a strong disciplinary component of interest to the host department.

The interdisciplinary CSE PhD program is administered jointly by CCSE and the host departments. Students must submit an application to the CSE PhD program, indicating the department in which they wish to be hosted. To gain admission, CSE program applicants must receive approval from both the host department graduate admission committee and the CSE graduate admission committee. See the website for more information about the application process, requirements, and relevant deadlines (<https://cse.mit.edu/admissions>).

Once admitted, doctoral degree candidates are expected to complete the host department's degree requirements (including qualifying exam) with some deviations relating to coursework, thesis committee composition, and thesis submission that are specific to the CSE program and are discussed in more detail on the CSE

website (<https://cse.mit.edu/programs/phd>). The most notable coursework requirement associated with this CSE degree is a course of study comprising five graduate subjects in CSE (below).

Computational Concentration Subjects

1.125	Architecting and Engineering Software Systems	12	12.620[J]	Classical Mechanics: A Computational Approach	12
1.545	Atomistic Modeling and Simulation of Materials and Structures	12	12.714	Computational Data Analysis	12
1.583[J]	Topology Optimization of Structures	12	12.805	Data Analysis in Physical Oceanography	12
1.723	Computational Methods for Flow in Porous Media	12	12.850	Computational Ocean Modeling	12
2.098	Introduction to Finite Element Methods	12	15.070[J]	Discrete Probability and Stochastic Processes	12
2.156	Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning for Engineering Design	12	15.077[J]	Statistical Machine Learning and Data Science ¹	12
2.168	Learning Machines	12	15.083	Integer Optimization	12
2.29	Numerical Fluid Mechanics	12	15.764[J]	The Theory of Operations Management	12
3.320	Atomistic Computer Modeling of Materials	12	15.C57[J]	Optimization Methods	12
4.450[J]	Computational Structural Design and Optimization		16.110	Flight Vehicle Aerodynamics	12
6.7210[J]	Introduction to Mathematical Programming	12	16.225[J]	Computational Mechanics of Materials	12
6.7220[J]	Nonlinear Optimization	12	16.413[J]	Principles of Autonomy and Decision Making	12
6.7230[J]	Algebraic Techniques and Semidefinite Optimization	12	16.888[J]	Multidisciplinary Design Optimization	12
6.7300[J]	Introduction to Modeling and Simulation	12	16.920[J]	Numerical Methods for Partial Differential Equations	12
6.7810	Algorithms for Inference	12	16.930	Advanced Topics in Numerical Methods for Partial Differential Equations	12
6.7830	Bayesian Modeling and Inference	12	16.940	Numerical Methods for Stochastic Modeling and Inference	12
6.7900	Machine Learning ¹	12	18.335[J]	Introduction to Numerical Methods	12
6.7940	Dynamic Programming and Reinforcement Learning	12	18.336[J]	Fast Methods for Partial Differential and Integral Equations	12
6.8300	Advances in Computer Vision	12	18.337[J]	Parallel Computing and Scientific Machine Learning	12
6.8410	Shape Analysis	12	18.338	Eigenvalues of Random Matrices	12
6.C51	Modeling with Machine Learning: from Algorithms to Applications ²	6	18.369[J]	Mathematical Methods in Nanophotonics	12
9.520[J]	Statistical Learning Theory and Applications	12	18.435[J]	Quantum Computation	12
9.660	Computational Cognitive Science	12	22.15	Essential Numerical Methods	6
10.551	Systems Engineering ³	9	22.212	Nuclear Reactor Analysis II	12
10.552	Modern Control Design ³	9	22.213	Nuclear Reactor Physics III	12
10.554[J]	Process Data Analytics	12	22.315	Applied Computational Fluid Dynamics and Heat Transfer	12
10.557	Mixed-integer and Nonconvex Optimization	12	CSE.999	Experiential Learning in Computational Science and Engineering	
10.637[J]	Computational Chemistry	12	IDS.131[J]	Statistics, Computation and Applications	12
12.515	Data and Models	12			
12.521	Computational Geophysical Modeling	12			

Note: Students may not use more than 12 units of credit from a "meets with undergraduate" subject to fulfill the CSE curriculum requirements

- ¹ *Credit can only be given for one of 6.7900, 15.077[], or IDS.147[].*
- ² *Students cannot receive credit without simultaneous completion of a 6-unit Common Ground disciplinary module. The two subjects together count as one 12-unit subject. See 6.C51 for more information.*
- ³ *Students can receive credit for either 10.551 or 10.552 as a CSE concentration subject, but not both.*
- ⁴ *Subject to Sloan bidding process.*