Master of Sustainable Energy and Environmental Management (MSEEM)

The Master of Sustainable Energy and Environmental Management (MSEEM) offered by the School of Public Policy at the Georgia Institute of Technology is a practitioner-oriented, interdisciplinary degree program developed to meet the growing demand for trained professionals in sustainability.

Students learn how to evaluate energy and environmental problems and are trained in tools and methods to develop real-world solutions.

About the College

The Ivan Allen College of Liberal Arts, established in 1990, consists of six schools, three ROTC units and several research centers, and exemplifies strengths in humanities and social sciences.

The six schools are: Economics; History and Sociology; Literature, Media, and Communication; Modern Languages; Public Policy; and the Sam Nunn School of International Affairs.

Ivan Allen College provides innovative, human-centered perspectives at the intersections of humanities, social sciences, arts and STEM, developing leaders who advance technology and improve the human condition. Nearly 350 tenured, tenure-track, non-tenure track and permanent research faculty, prepare students to be leaders capable of balancing a richly defined base of expertise with a well-grounded sense of responsibility.

Our programs encompass traditional fields as well as unique and professional disciplines. Many of our faculty members engage in ground-breaking, interdisciplinary research to solve complex issues of the world.

Frequently Asked Questions

What kind of background do students in the program have?

MSEEM students come from a variety of educational backgrounds. It is suited for both students with work experience seeking professional advancement and students coming straight from an undergraduate degree.

What kind of opportunities are available for graduates of the MSEEM?

There is a growing demand of students to dedicate their professional careers to tackling local and global sustainability challenges. The public and private sectors in Georgia and beyond have demonstrated increasing interest in implementing sustainable practices.

The shift toward corporate social responsibility and the expansion of public programs targeting clean energy and environmental protection, along with an expansion of funding and activity by environmental nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) has led to a surge in demand for professionals with training in sustainability.

The MSEEM will lead the next generation of experts who understand the value of energy and ecological services and can contribute to policy trajectories consistent with a sustainable future. The program offers a mix of courses and in-class lectures with sustainability practitioners designed to prepare students to work in government or the public or private sector, including NGOs, consulting firms, or business in a position as an analyst or manager.

Can I take the program part-time while working?

Yes, the program features a flexible 30 credit format, with a part time option where students can take courses at their own pace. Coursework must be completed within 7 years in order to qualify for graduation.

What kind of financial aid is available?

MSEEM offers full graduate fellowships for up to 5 students. Only Campus Full Time MSEEM students are eligible. Beyond this, there is financial aid available through federal programs, for State of Georgia Employees through the TAP program. In addition, periodically students may be eligible for research and teaching assistantships, though these options are highly limited for MSEEM / CSEEM students.

What courses do I need to take to complete the degree program?

The MSEEM can be completed either full time (4-4-2 courses in a single year) or part time (2-2-1 courses each year for 2 years).

The MSEEM is a 30 credit degree program. It involves 6 credit hours (2 courses) of required core courses, 6 credits (2 courses) of quantitative methods, 12 credit hours (3 courses) drawn from a menu of Sustainable Energy & Environmental Management Electives, and 3 credit hours (1 course) from the Policy & Management Electives. A project paper equivalent of 6 credit hours will be delivered at the end of the term.

The curriculum is described in full on the following website:
https://cepl.gatech.edu/degrees/curriculum

How many students are likely to be in each class?

It really depends on the class. For example, PUBP 6000s-8000s will range between 10 and 30 students.

Can MSEEM students get credit for an elective course that is not currently on our approved list?

Not at this time. The School has the opportunity to update our list of approved courses only an annual basis. Full-time students can audit those classes, or they can take them in addition to their regular load, but that they cannot take them towards graduation. For those students who are part time - they may be able to take these classes in the future and get them to count towards graduation.

Can the student enroll part-time in both the MSEEM and MS programs?

There are no rules against it, but the student needs to bear in mind that if the student is receiving any kind of financial support, there might be an issue of who's paying for what. Also, in a case where there is differential tuition, the student will always have to pay the higher rate. Finally, only 2 courses can be double counted across the programs.

If the student can finish the BS in summer, can she/he enroll in the MSEEM in Fall?

Yes, but they have to apply and work with Graduate Admissions to meet the deadline. International students have to also work with OIE to make sure all the details were handled to go directly into the MS program.

Can a student enroll in the MSEEM and then switch to the CSEEM?

Yes.

Are there any prerequisite courses for the degree?

An introductory statistics course is a prerequisite for coursework in the MSEEM.

What would be the minimum GPA/GRE score a prospective student would need in order to apply for the MSEEM graduate program?

We do not use a pre-fixed cutoff GRE/GPA score for admission and the GRE is not even required. However, your application looks better the more information you provide and the higher your score. We look at the entire file and judge the application holistically.

What do I need to submit to apply?

The application package requires:

1. Application fee $75
2. Official transcripts from all schools attended
3. Test scores
   a. GRE General Exam (Recommended but not <u>required for all applicants</u>)
   b. TOEFL (Required for international applicants who do not hold a degree from an English-speaking institution) – More info available here: https://gradadmiss.gatech.edu/english-proficiency
4. Two letters of recommendation

When do I need to apply?

Deadline: Feb 15

Application process is online at: http://grad.gatech.edu/apply-now.

Contact: mseem@pubpolicy.gatech.edu