

# Plan of Study Requirements for Ph.D. in Electrical Engineering

*South Dakota State University*

*(Revised: Nov 2015)*

- 1.) First semester courses must be approved by the EE Graduate Coordinator before registration using the attached Departmental Plan of Study form.
  - a) The EE Graduate Coordinator (also serve as Academic Advisor and Major Advisor) is the primary point of contact for all graduate students in the EE program.
  - b) The graduate coordinator can help with the selection of a Research or Thesis Advisor.
- 2.) Before the end of the first semester, complete **Part 1** of the Departmental Plan of Study form with the assistance and approval of the Research Advisor and Graduate Coordinator for second semester courses. The Research Advisor *may or may not* become the student's dissertation advisor.
- 3.) Before the end of the second semester, select a dissertation advisor, and form a four-member Advisory Committee, and complete **Part 2** of the Departmental Plan of Study form.
  - a) The Dissertation Advisor is selected by mutual consent of the student and advisor.
  - b) The committee includes the Dissertation Advisor/Committee Chair and three other faculty members, at least 50% of whom must be from EE that has been student's instructor for two or more courses and/or provided significant input on student's research.
  - c) Advisory Committee should be approved by graduate coordinator. Any changes to the committee must be approved by the Graduate Coordinator. Graduate coordinator may or may not serve on the committee.
  - d) At this time the student should also complete and submit a plan of study to the graduate school using their form. After submitting plan of study to graduate school, the graduate school will assign the fifth committee member that is the graduate faculty representative.
  - e) All student Advisory Committee meetings need to include the graduate faculty representative.
- 4.) By the end of the second semester or early in the third semester, develop a project proposal and take proposal defense with the dissertation advisor/committee chair.
  - a) This should include a preliminary work plan and a timetable.
  - b) This proposal should be presented to the entire Advisory Committee including the graduate faculty representative.
  - c) The committee may recommend changes to the proposal plan.
- 5.) When completing all coursework or by the end of second year, take the comprehensive exam and must pass four out of five courses. Four of five selected courses should be from the core courses of the program requirement and the other one should be a key elective course. Decision on written exams results should be made through the Advisory Committee either face to face or by email communication. Oral exams will be scheduled with the Advisory Committee within one month of the written exams.
- 6.) Students must complete the coursework outlined in the Plan of Study. Any changes to the Plan of Study must be approved by the Advisory Committee and Graduate Coordinator, and resubmitted to the graduate school.
- 7.) **Students must have this form on file and work with graduate coordinator to update this form each semester to be eligible to work as a Graduate Assistant.**

**DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY IN ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING PLAN OF STUDY**

This form is for students governed by the SDSU Graduate Bulletin. (November 20, 2015)

**Before completing this form, read carefully the Ph.D. degree requirements in the Graduate Bulletin.**

Student name: \_\_\_\_\_ Email address \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Student ID \_\_\_\_\_ First semester enrolled \_\_\_\_\_ Planned Graduation Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Part 1.** First year

*Required core courses.*

Course number	Course name	Credits	Semester scheduled	Semester completed	Grade
EE 7		3			
EE 7		3			
EE 7		3			
EE 790	Seminar (f & sp)	3			
	Total	12			

**Elective supporting courses.** Total credits must equal or exceed 60, and must include 36 dissertation credits.

Course number	Course name	Credits	Semester scheduled	Semester completed	Grade
EE 890D	Ph.D. Dissertation (list by year- 36 credits required)				
	Year 1				
	Year 2				
	Year 3				
	Year 4				
	Total (with core)				

**Approvals:**

Graduate Coordinator (1st semester) \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Research Advisor (1<sup>st</sup> semester) \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Graduate Coordinator (2<sup>nd</sup> semester) \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Research Advisor (2<sup>nd</sup> semester) \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Part 2. 3<sup>rd</sup> semester:** The faculties below agree to serve as the Academic Advisory Committee for this student and approve this plan of study.

Dissertation Advisor/Committee Chair \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Committee member \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Committee member \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Committee member \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Graduate coordinator \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_