University of California, Davis

Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering

Graduate Student Orientation

September 24, 2019
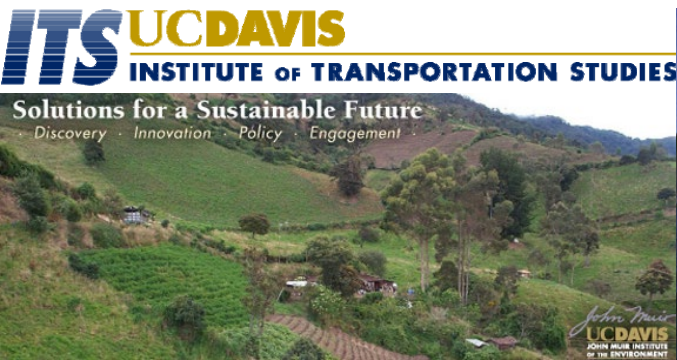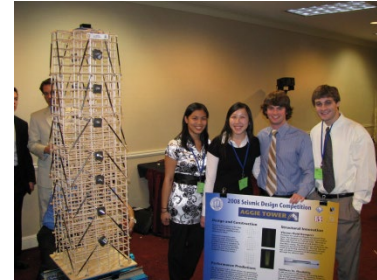
Civil & Environmental Engineering - Overview

- 41 faculty, 278 grads, 540 undergrads
- 31 Professional Engineers & Technical Staff, 24 Postdocs, 13 Administrative and Support Staff
- 5 specialty areas, 65+ grad classes
  - Environmental
  - Water Resources } EWR
  - Structural Engineering/Structural Mechanics (SESM)
  - Geotechnical
  - Transportation
- Graduate Students Groups: GSAC, GGSS, ASCE, AWWA, SWE, SWEGS, EERI, GSA…

Key CEE People

Lauren Worrell
Grad Coordinator

Miguel Jaller
Faculty Grad Advisor

Fabian Bombardelli
Water Resources

Graduate Program Committee (GPC) Area Advisors

Katerina Ziotopoulou
Geotech

Jeannie Darby
Environmental

Michael Zhang
Transportation

Michele Barbato
Structures & Mechanics

Types of Degrees Offered

- Master of Science (MS) Plan I (Thesis option)

- Master of Science (MS) Plan II (Project/exam option)

- Ph.D.

Each degree type has different requirements, which can be found in the **Guidance Manual for Graduate Students** on the CEE website. These will be discussed in more detail this afternoon.

Advising Overview

- **Area Adviser, GPC Rep**
  - Default major professor for all MS-II students
    - Advises on coursework
  - Point of contact for all routine academic matters
  - Major professor for all MS-I & PhD students who don't yet have someone specific

- **Major Professor, Faculty Adviser, PI**
  - Your mentor
  - *All* MS-I and PhD students must find a major professor
  - Advises you on research, coursework, academic issues in general

- **Graduate Staff Advisor, Graduate Program Coordinator (Lauren)**
  - Point of contact for all routine administrative issues

- **Graduate Adviser, Graduate Program Chair (Miguel Jaller)**
  - Point of contact for all non-routine matters, academic or otherwise

Advising Overview

- Depends on Degree Objective

- Always consult the Grad Student Handbook!

- MS-I/PhD students should:
  - meet regularly with their Major Professor
  - Develop an initial course plan (preliminary program of study) by end of Fall quarter

- MS-II students should:
  - Complete a MS Program of Study by end of Fall quarter
  - Meet with Area Advisor during Fall Advising Week (near end of quarter), prepared with proposed MS PoS, OR meet with Major Professor
  - Consult with Area Advisor, Grad Coordinator (Lauren) or Grad Advisor (Miguel) as necessary

Class Registration & Courses

- You must have <u>12 units minimum</u> each quarter

- Typically take <u>3 classes</u> (MS-II) or 2-3 (MS-I/PhD) of graded coursework per quarter
  - Undergraduates commonly take 4 courses per quarter...we *strongly* recommend against this

- Fill in additional units by:
  - ECI 296, TTP 281 (seminars) count towards 12 units for the quarter (not towards degree course unit requirement)
  - Research Units: Confirm with the appropriate faculty member (e.g. major professor) before signing up for ECI 299 or 290C
    - Obtain ECI 290C/299 CRNs from Rufa Pazyuk each quarter (2015 Ghausi; rnpazyuk@ucdavis.edu)
  - Other: PE Course? Seminar in a different program?

How do I know what courses are offered?

- Use the Registrar [Course Search Tool](#) to know exactly what will be offered in the upcoming quarter

  - Typically has information only one to two quarters in advance (e.g. W20 is available now, but S20 is not yet)

- A full list of CEE courses is [available](#) in the General Catalog

- A spreadsheet of past, current and projected CEE course offerings for the entire current academic year by quarter is [available](#) on the Graduate Courses page (CEE Course Matrix)

- ECI 289 courses and descriptions (special topics courses) are also [available](#) on our Graduate Courses page

- Which non-CEE departments might I want to look to for courses?

  - Math, TTP, Computer Science, Atmospheric Science, Hydrologic Science, Soil Science, BioAg Engineering, Economics, Statistics

The quarter system & graduate courses

- The quarter system (10 weeks + finals) moves *a lot* faster than a semester system

- Important to stay on top of coursework from day one

- Pay attention to time management

  - Especially important for those who are also TA'ing or involved in research

- Many graduate courses do not have final exams, but instead final projects

  - Plan ahead and expect that things will pile up

Public Speaking Requirement

- Requirement designed to improve your public speaking and technical presentation skills in research environments

- Required for all M.S. and Ph.D. students

- Requirement may be satisfied in various ways:
  - Area-approved courses (list of courses will be maintained on the degree requirements page)
  - Completing the Public Speaking Requirement Verification
    - Presenting in a seminar series
    - Presentation at a conference, etc. *with feedback*

Area-Specific Seminars

- All areas have a research seminar series (e.g. ECI 296)
- Frequency and focus varies by quarter
- Great opportunity to expand your knowledge base
- We strongly encourage you to attend and enroll!

CEE Distinguished Speaker Seminars

- Five per year, one from each research Area
- Cross-departmental…don't just go to the one in your area
- Typically a reception afterwards!

Staff Office Hours & More

Lauren Worrell, 2007 Ghausi Hall

- Generally Monday – Friday: 9-12, 1-5
- If the door is open, feel free to come in!
- Daily schedule will be posted on the door when Lauren is away

Department Office, 2001 Ghausi Hall

- Monday – Friday 9-12, 1-4

"Mailbox" – Graduate Student folders (3rd floor, by the elevators)

- For university related mail only

Desk Space

- Availability of individual desks is limited (mostly PhD students).
- Check with your major professor, then request online
- Some areas (e.g. Geotech) manage space independently

Funding Opportunities and Resources

- All US Citizens should fill out the FAFSA
- Fellowships
  - External (e.g. NSF, DOE, Hertz, many others)
  - Campus wide (apply in the fall)
  - Departmental (GPFA)
- Academic Appointments
  - **TA and Reader:** application on CEE website
    - apply for each quarter you are interested
    - apply to other departments too!
  - **Graduate Student Researcher (GSR)**
    - appointed by individual faculty
  - All academic appointments come with in-state tuition remission + salary (GSR's include NRST remission)
  - Also be sure to check out handshake for postings

Teaching Assistantships

- You can request/reserve specific rooms to hold office hours with Sabrina or our student assistants in 2001 Ghausi (cee-office@Ucdavis.edu)

- Scheduling is on a first-come basis

- If you have major scheduling challenges, talk with Lauren

- If you have an office, generally do not hold office hours in your office as this is distracting for everyone else

- Be sure to communicate with the instructor to clearly understand expectations and timelines

- [Center for Educational Effectiveness](#) can provide additional support
  - [TA Handbook](#)

Important Fall Quarter Dates and Deadlines

- Quarter begins – Sept 23

- Instruction begins – Sept 25

- 10th day of instruction: Oct. 8
  - Last day to submit a part-time application
  - Last day to drop 10-day-drop courses (most UG courses)

- Last day to add courses via SISWEB (without a PTA) – Oct 11

- Last day to drop 20-day-drop courses – Oct 22

http://registrar.ucdavis.edu/calendar/quarter.cfm

- Graduate Student Final Fee Payment Deadline – Nov 14

https://registrar.ucdavis.edu/calendar/fees.cfm

Finding More Information

- Guidance Manual for Graduate Students and Their Advisers
  - Available on the CEE Website

- Degree Requirements (in Guidance Manual)
  - Updated soon!
  - Available on the CEE Website
  - Will be discussed this afternoon

- **Forms**
  - Available online on the [CEE Website](#) and [Graduate Studies Website](#)
  - See Graduate Staff Coordinator (Lauren) for more information on appropriate forms for your program
  - The Graduate Adviser has primary signature authority for all graduate student forms. Submit forms to Lauren to obtain the Graduate Adviser's signature.

Communication

Department Emails
- "Announcement" emails from CEEGHELP
- Fellowships and Scholarships; Employment Opportunities; Professional Development Opportunities; Events; Trainings and Workshops; Happenings in other Departments

Emails from Lauren (Grad Coordinator)
- Key dates, deadlines, important information

Emails from Miguel (Grad Advisor)
- Information for the entire program

Emails from the Grad Student Advisory Committee (GSAC)
- "ceegdept@ucdavis.edu" listserv (more later today)
- Subscribe to other listservs too!

Mentoring and Wellness

- Mentoring is a two-way street…the key is communication
- Guidelines for mentorship ([Grad Studies](#))
- [Grad Pathways](#): professional development program
- Maintaining a balance between educational pursuits and [wellness](#) is important to success
- Be sure to [manage your stress](#)
- Don't be afraid to [seek help](#)

GET A **[FREE](#)** BIKE HELMET!!!

Helmet Hair Don't Care!

"Your brain is your most valuable posession."

- Kaylee Brummelen, UC Davis undergraduate

Todays Agenda

9:15-9:45 MS Program Requirements

9:45-10:15 PhD Program Requirements

10:15-10:50 Student Panel

10:50-11:00 Computers/Building Room Access

11:00-11:20 Safety

11:30-12:00 Area Breakout Sessions (various locations)

12:00-1:00 Lunch around Ghausi Hall

1:00-1:30 Student Groups

1:30-3:00 Ensuring your success (Prof. Bronner)

3:15-5:00 CEE Community Building

5:00 Social Hour @ City Hall Tavern

Questions?

White Access Cards

http://tiny.cc/ghausi-access

Computer Support

Reuben Castelino, CEE IT
Room: 3031 Ghausi Hall
Contact Info:
coeithelp@ucdavis.edu

Computer Support

- For software:
  - e5.onthehub.com - COE specific general
  - ucdavis.onthehub.com - UC Davis campus-wide general
  - software.engr.ucdavis.edu - COE specific research
  - software.ucdavis.edu - UC Davis campus-wide research
  - cloud.ucdavis.edu - campus-provided solutions
  - If you're not sure, ask! UC Davis often provides discounted pricing for software
- Lab Info
  - 3030, 3032, 3034 Ghausi
  - 100 free prints per quarter (please be mindful)
    - coe-it-pcprint.engr.ucdavis.edu
  - labs.engr.ucdavis.edu
- kb.ucdavis.edu

Computer Support

- **Don't download illegal content**
  - Simply keeping illegal content to a computer connected to the UCD network is a violation of the UCD acceptable use policy
  - This includes screen scraping journal articles
  - We are required to notify SJA and potentially suspend network access. More serious legal consequences are possible depending on the violation. Please don't.
- **Don't mix research and personal**
  - Computing resources are available, please ask if you're not sure
  - Your advisor can provide resources and I can help when necessary
  - Licensing is complicated and you can be held liable for violations, please ask for advices to be safe!