

*Charles L. Brown Department of  
Electrical and Computer Engineering*

Fall 2007 Graduate Orientation

# **Program Overview**

by Gang Tao

**Welcome!**

## Where to get help?

- Katherine Harlow: administrative support
- Gary Li and David Durocher: computer support
- Susan Malone: forms for paychecks etc.
- advisor/advisory committee: study/research plan
- graduate office/committee: program requirements
- department Chair, graduate dean, Dean
- ITC, ISO, UVa/SEAS/ECE web pages, ...
- UVa police, ...

## Where to start?

- Your visit to the graduate office for
  - office space and keys
  - GTA/GRA/fellowship paper work
- computer accounts: blue.unix and local systems
- ECE graduate handbook/UVa graduate record
- course registration
  - ◇ ECE 696: ECE Seminars (required for MS and Ph.D.)
- GTA/GRA duties
- advisor and advisory committee
- study and research plans

## Graduate degrees

- Master of Engineering in EE
- Master of Science in EE
- Doctor of Philosophy in EE
- Master of Engineering in CompE
- Master of Science in CompE
- Doctor of Philosophy in CompE

## MS degree requirements

- 24 credits of graduate courses
- 6 credits of Thesis Research: ECE 898  
outcome: a thesis (to pass a defense exam)
- 1 credit of ECE 696: ECE Seminars (Fall)
- special requirements:
  - $\geq$  4 courses from ECE
  - 3 courses each from a different subject area
  - 3 credits of mathematics
  - $\leq$  9 credits of 500 level courses
  - $\leq$  6 credits of 500 level ECE courses
  - $\leq$  3 credits of Independent Study: ECE 693/793
- SPEAK test (for non-native speakers of English)

## ME degree requirements

- 30 graduate credits
  - may include 3–6 credits of ECE 695/895: Project Research (graded)
  - demonstration of written and oral presentation skills: by a project either in research or through course work
- special requirements (same as that for an MS degree)
- SPEAK test (for non-native speakers of English)

## Ph.D. degree requirements

- 72 graduate course/research credits including
  - ME/MS degree or 24 credits of equivalent courses
  - 12 additional credits of graduate courses
  - 24 credits of Dissertation Research
- 1 credit of ECE 696: ECE Seminars (Fall)
- SPEAK test (for non-native speakers of English)
- qualifying examination
- dissertation proposal presentation
- ECE 996: Graduate Teaching Experience
- dissertation and defense
- one journal paper submission (minimum)

## Your committees

- ME advisor
- MS thesis defense exam committee (3 members)
- Ph.D. advisory committee ( $\geq 4$  members)
- Ph.D. qualifying exam committee (3 members)  
assigned by Department (advisor as observer only)
- Ph.D. proposal exam committee ( $\geq 4$  members)
- Ph.D. dissertation exam committee ( $\geq 5$  members)
- forms for exams and committees  
e.g., G101, G104, G105, G113, G110  
they are due **two weeks** before exams

## Regulations and rules

- residency requirement
  - Ph.D.: at least 2 regular semesters in full time
  - MS: at least 1 regular semester in full time
- time limits:
  - Ph.D.: 2–7 years (with MS/ME), 3–7 yrs (without)
  - MS: 0–5 years; ME: 0–7 years
- $\geq 12$  credit hours per semester (ECE999: Research)
- transfer of credits (matching UVa courses)
  - $\leq 6/12$  credits for MS/ME degrees
- no course grade lower than C
- no GPA lower than 3.0 for two semesters
- petitions for special cases

**Good Luck!**