

Biomedical Engineering, PhD (BME)

Mentored Experience Implementation Plan

As part of their degree requirements, PhD students must complete a program-defined Mentored Experience Requirement (MER) as per these guidelines. The Mentored Experience Implementation Plan (MEIP) is the written articulation of a program-defined degree requirement for PhD students to engage in mentored teaching activities and/or mentored professional activities, collectively referred to as *MERs*.

Mentored Experience Requirements (MERs)

Philosophy of Teaching

We are educating students for careers in industry, in government, and in academia with a concentration on research. Therefore, it is important that our graduates know how to convey technical knowledge in both lecture and interactive settings to a wide audience (from peers in the field to trainees with a limited understanding of the nuances of the topic). At present, our program requires the mentored teaching experience, not the mentored professional experience.

Preparatory Engagement

Preparatory Engagement activities are those that represent an introduction to the foundational skills associated with teaching or communication. Pedagogical preparation engagement activities are normally completed before students are permitted to engage in assisting or teaching in a classroom.

Two preparatory workshops that have been approved by the Biomedical Engineering graduate committee are required.

Mentored Teaching Experiences (MTEs)

Assistant in Instruction (AI)

An Assistant in Instruction (AI) is a PhD student who is directly engaged in the organization, instruction, and/or support of a semester-long course *primarily taught by a faculty member*. An AI receives mentorship from a faculty member related to best practices in classroom engagement, instruction in the field, interpersonal engagement, and other relevant skills. Students and mentors complete a mentorship plan prior to the start of each AI experience. To complete each AI assignment

and to ensure that it applies toward their degree requirements, students must register for the appropriate course number for each semester of engagement. Refer to the "Required Pathways for Completion" section below for course numbers and details.

Each student will be the AI for one course at 10 MER units by registering for EGS 8010 for the semester of engagement. Students are eligible for an AI assignment after they pass the qualifying exam and typically when they are beginning the second year of the program. Students work with their department coordinator or graduate program advisor on the timing of their AI assignments.

Required Pathways for Completion

Students work with their faculty mentor and their Director of Graduate Studies to plan how and when they will complete their MERs. Students register during the normal registration period for courses in accordance with one of these approved pathways.

- Preparatory Engagement

Pathway #1

EGS 8010	Students register one time for the semester of the AI assignment
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