

Master's Plan of Study

Department of Robotics Engineering (RBE), Worcester Polytechnic Institute

General Instructions:

- 1) Fill out this form and review it with your advisor ¹.
- 2) Email the executed form to the RBE Administrative Office (rbe@wpi.edu).
- 3) To update a previously submitted plan of study, simply fill out a new form and repeat steps 1-2.

Student Name: _____

WPI ID Number: _____ US Citizen, National or LPR ²? Yes ☐ No ☐

Email Address: _____

Highest Degree Received: _____

Entry Date (MM/YY): _____

Expected Graduation (MM/YY): _____

Academic Advisor: _____

Courses

List the courses you intend to take in the table below. Leave unused rows blank.

Were you granted a waiver for RBE 500 – Foundations of Robotics (this is not common ³)? Yes ☐ No ☐

If you were granted a waiver, enter the number and title of the substitute RBE course in the first row of the "Foundations" bin below. Otherwise, enter "RBE 500" and "Foundation of Robotics."

Bin	Course Number	Course Title	Semester/Term & Year	Grade	Credits
Foundations ⁴ (9 credits)	RBE				3
	RBE 501	Robot Dynamics			3
	RBE 502	Robot Control			3
Core RBE Electives ⁵ (6 credits)	RBE				
	RBE				
	RBE				
	RBE				
Eng. Context ⁶					3
Free Electives ⁷ (3 credits for thesis track students - 9 credits for non-thesis track)					

Master's Track

Tick whether you are pursuing the non-thesis track or the thesis track, then fill out the table below with the chosen activities. Leave unused rows blank.

☐ **Non-Thesis Track:** Requires completion of a 3-credit capstone experience ⁸ selected from the following:

- Directed Research for Capstone (RBE 593)
- Capstone Project Experience in Robotics Engineering (RBE 594)
- Robotics Engineering Practicum (RBE 596)

☐ **Thesis Track:** Requires a total of 9 credits of thesis research (RBE 599), typically spread over at least two semesters.

Activity Number	Activity Title	Semester & Year	Grade	Credits
RBE				
RBE				
RBE				
RBE				

If you are pursuing the thesis track, enter the following additional information:

Thesis topic or title, if known: _____

BS/MS Double Counting Options

Students not pursuing the BS/MS program may skip this section.

Fill out the table below to indicate which of the courses listed in this plan of study should be counted towards both your BS and MS degrees ⁹.

Course Number	Course Title	Semester/Term & Year	Grade	Credits

Do you plan to double count your MQP towards 3 credits of thesis (RBE 599) ⁹?

Yes ☐ No ☐

Student Signature

Date

Advisor Signature

Date

Notes

(This page is for reference only – not to be submitted to the RBE Administrative Office)

¹ To find out who your assigned academic advisor is, follow the instructions at <https://www.wpi.edu/faq/Where-do-I-find-my-Academic-Advisors-contact-information> ↗.

² Lawful Permanent Resident of the United States, also colloquially known as green card holder.

³ Students may apply to substitute RBE 500 with a more advanced RBE graduate courses other than RBE 594, RBE 596, RBE 597, RBE 598, RBE 599 and RBE 699. This requires taking an equivalent course prior to starting to the graduate program at WPI, and the students are required to submit a petition to the RBE Graduate Program Committee for approval (rbe-gpc@wpi.edu). Such approvals must be filed with the Registrar's office within one year of the date of matriculation in the program.

⁴ Unless waived, RBE 500 is a pre-requisite for both RBE 501 and RBE 502. Plan accordingly.

⁵ Core RBE Electives may include any RBE 510+ "lecture" courses, including Special Topics (RBE 595). Directed Research (RBE 593/598) and Independent Study (RBE 597) are **not** allowed in this bin.

⁶ Courses allowed in the Engineering Context bin: ETR 500, WR 513, ETR 593, MIS 576, OBC 506, BUS 546, or any SYS 500+.

⁷ Courses allowed in the Free Electives bin include courses at the 500 level or above in Science, Engineering, or Business to total 30 credit hours, with the approval of the student's advisor on the Plan of Study. Courses at the 4000 level may also be taken as electives in exceptional circumstances with the additional prior approval of the RBE Graduate Program Committee (submit a petition to rbe-gpc@wpi.edu). The RBE 5900 (internship) course can be taken for maximum of 1 credit per semester and a maximum of 3 credits per degree.

⁸ Students must complete a total of 15 credits, including all the courses in the Foundations bin (RBE 500, 501, 502), before enrolling in any of the capstone activities of the non-thesis track.

⁹ WPI allows the double counting of up to 12 credits for students pursuing a 5-year Bachelors-Masters (BS/MS) program. Double counting rules can be found in the Graduate Catalog: <https://wpi-grad.cleancatalog.net/robotics-engineering/bsms-in-robotics-engineering> ↗.

**In case of any discrepancy between this document and other resources,
the official WPI Graduate Catalog takes precedence:**

<https://wpi-grad.cleancatalog.net/robotics-engineering/ms-in-robotics-engineering> ↗