Department of Mining Engineering

Degrees Offered
- Master’s of science in mining engineering
- Master’s of science in engineering with a major in mining engineering
- Doctor of philosophy with a major in mining engineering

Program Objectives
The objective of the master’s of science in mining engineering (M.S.Min.E.) program is that upon graduation, a student will have learned the procedures relative to investigating and developing solutions to advanced mining engineering problems. The graduate will also have accumulated sufficient knowledge in a chosen area of interest in an effort to become an expert in that field using the methods acquired through the course of thesis research.

The objective of the Ph.D. program in mining engineering is the education and training of individuals so that they are capable of attaining the highest level of technical and research performance in the mineral engineering profession and performing the professional roles of developing or improving the efficient extraction of solid mineral resources. The three principal areas of specialization are mine systems, rock mechanics and ground control, and mineral processing.

Faculty
Chair
- Christopher John Bise - Ph.D. (Pennsylvania State University)
  Robert E. Murray Chairman

Associate Professor
- Vladislav J Kecojevic - Ph.D. (University of Belgrade)
  Surface Mining, Aggregates Production, Mine Materials Handling Systems
- Yi Luo - Ph.D. (West Virginia University)
  Surface Subsidence, Ventilation
- Felicia F. Peng - Ph.D. (West Virginia University)
  Coal Preparation, Coal Utilization, Process Control, Plant Design

Assistant Professor
- Brijes Mishra - Ph.D. (West Virginia University)
  Theoretical and Experimental Rock Mechanics, Time Dependent Deformation of Rock and Salt, Mathematical Modeling in Rock Mechanics

Admission Requirements
The Masters of science in the mining engineering program admits students who have a GPA of 3.0/4.0 or above from an ABET-accredited B.S.Min.E. program or its equivalent. Additionally, all Ph.D. applicants must have earned an M.S. degree in mining engineering with a grade-point average (GPA) of 3.0 or higher. Transfer students must have at least a GPA of 3.0/4.0 for the graduate programs at similar institutions. For all M.S. and Ph.D. international applicants, submitting a GRE score is required. Also, for all M.S. and Ph.D. international applicants whose native language is not English, a TOEFL-pBT test score of 550 or better, or iBT score of 79, or IELTS score of 6.5, is required. Each applicant is required to submit at least three letters of recommendation, one of which must be from the applicant’s previous thesis advisor or an academic equivalent. All letters of recommendation should evaluate the student’s potential for performing independent, masters or doctoral-level research.

There are no differences between the M.S. and Ph.D. application review processes. In both cases, the completed application packets are circulated to the graduate faculty. Initial evaluations are as follows:

1. The applicant should or should not be accepted.
2. The reviewing faculty member is or is not willing to provide support.

If multiple positive responses are produced, then assignment of the potential graduate student is resolved at a meeting of the faculty according to specific needs and interests.
Masters of Science in Mining Engineering

Students desiring to take courses for graduate credit at the master’s level in the Statler College of Engineering and Mineral Resources must first apply for admission and state a major field.

Applicants with a baccalaureate degree from institutions other than WVU in Mining Engineering will be admitted on the same basis as graduates of WVU. Lacking these qualifications, the applicant must first fulfill the requirements of the Department of Mining Engineering.

Doctor of Philosophy

The doctor of philosophy degree is administered through the college’s interdisciplinary program; mining engineering may be the major. A candidate for the degree of doctor of philosophy must comply with the rules and regulations outlined in the general requirements of the Statler College of Engineering and Mineral Resources. The research work for the doctoral dissertation must show a high degree of originality on the part of the student and must constitute an original contribution to the art and science of mining engineering.

The principal objective of the doctor of philosophy program in mining engineering is the education and training of graduates so that they are capable of attaining the highest levels in the mineral engineering profession and performing the professional roles of developing and improving the efficient extraction of solid mineral resources. The three areas of specialization are as follows:

• Mine systems
• Rock mechanics and ground control
• Mineral/coal processing

The Ph.D. program in mining engineering consists of a minimum of eighteen hours of coursework and twenty-four hours of independent research beyond a master’s degree in mining engineering. The successful completion of a written qualifying examination, dissertation-proposal defense, and an approved dissertation are also required.