

# Materials and Nanotechnology

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## Department Information

- **Program Director:**  
Erik K. Hobbie, Ph.D.
- **Email:**  
Erik.Hobbie@ndsu.edu
- **Department Phone:**  
(701) 231-6103
- **Department Web Site:**  
[www.ndsu.edu/materials\\_nanotechnology/](http://www.ndsu.edu/materials_nanotechnology/) ([http://www.ndsu.edu/materials\\_nanotechnology/](http://www.ndsu.edu/materials_nanotechnology/))
- **Application Deadline:**  
April 1 for fall semester.
- **Credential Offered:**  
Ph.D.
- **Test Requirement:**  
GRE
- **English Proficiency Requirements:**  
TOEFL iBT 71, IELTS 6; Duolingo 105

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North Dakota State University (NDSU) offers an interdisciplinary program leading to the Master of Science (M.S.) and Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) degree in Materials and Nanotechnology (MNT). The program includes a series of required MNT core courses; additional elective courses; written and oral preliminary examinations; a doctoral dissertation based on independent, original research in materials and nanotechnology; and a final oral examination on the dissertation.

## Admission Requirements

The program in Materials and Nanotechnology is open to qualified graduates of universities and colleges of recognized standing. Applicants with a degree in the disciplines of chemistry, engineering, material science and engineering, physics, polymer science, polymer engineering, or related fields will be considered for admission. Applicants must meet the Graduate College requirements (<https://catalog.ndsu.edu/graduate/admission-information/>).

## Financial Assistance

Students are routinely supported through research assistantships. Applicants are considered based on scholarship, potential to undertake advanced study and research, and financial need. All students who submit complete applications by the appropriate deadlines are considered for assistantships.

In addition to the stipend, graduate assistants receive a graduate tuition waiver. Tuition waivers cover base tuition for NDSU graduate credits only. Students are responsible for differential tuition, student fees, and tuition for non-graduate level credits taken or Cooperative Education credits.

By the end of the first academic year, the student will select an academic adviser from among the MNT faculty and arrange for the appointment of a supervisory committee. This committee will consist of at least four members of the graduate faculty. This includes the student's major adviser, at least one additional MNT faculty member, and a graduate school representative.

The plan of study will be prepared by the student, in consultation with the major adviser and supervisory committee, by the end of the first year in residence. The plan must be approved by the student's graduate supervisory committee, the MNT Program Director, and the Graduate College dean. Master's students must complete the plan of study by the end of the second semester of study. Doctoral students should complete the plan of study at the end of the first year of study and at least one month prior to the comprehensive oral examination.

## Master of Science

Materials and Nanotechnology students are able pursue a master's degree under either the Plan A - Master's Thesis or the Plan C - Culminating Experience option. Each option requires a minimum of 30 graduate credits with a cumulative grade point average of 3.0 or better.

The Plan A thesis option represents a more traditional Master of Science degree, with an independent research component in the form of an original thesis that can serve as a foundation for future doctoral work in science or engineering. For the thesis option, of the required minimum 30 graduate credits, at least 16 credits must be from approved graduate courses numbered from 601-689, 691, 700-789, and 791 while the research credits (798) must be not fewer than 6 nor more than 10.

The Plan C option is appropriate for working professional students or students who are certain that they do not wish to pursue a doctorate in any field of science or engineering. . In the context of the MNT program, this option requires a 6-10 credit culminating experience (794) which replaces the research credits (798).

Ph.D.

The doctorate requires a minimum of 90 graduate credits. A minimum of 27 credits of didactic coursework are required; no more than 15 didactic credits may be transferred as part of the Plan of Study. The MNT Ph.D. program requires students to complete a series of 7 core courses totaling 17 semester credits. The student will complete additional elective courses to fulfill the Graduate School requirement of 27 semester credits in academic courses. An overall GPA of 3.0 or better must be maintained.

## Core Curriculum

Code	Title	Credits
MNT 729	Materials Characterization	3
MNT 730	Nanotechnology and Nanomaterials	3
MNT 732	Physical Properties of Materials	3
MNT 745	Preparing Future Researchers	1
MNT 756	Molecular Modeling	3
MNT 760	Materials Synthesis Processing	3
MNT 790	Graduate Seminar	1

Students must complete at least an additional 12 credits of graduate level coursework. The courses should be chosen by the students in consultation and with the approval of the student's supervisory committee.

Suggested courses include the following:

Code	Title	Credits
<b>Microelectronics Focus</b>		
ABEN 682	Instrumentation & Measurements	3
CPM 796	Special Topics	2
CHEM 766	Quantum Chemistry I	4
CHEM 767	Quantum Chemistry II	2
ENGR 780	Electromagnetic Theory	3
ECE 751	Electromagnetic Theory and Applications	3
IME 627	Packaging for Electronics	3
IME 720	Surface Engineering	3
IME 635	Plastics and Injection Molding Manufacturing	3
MNT 735	Optoelectronics Materials and Processing	3
PHYS 771	Quantum Physics I	3
<b>Biomaterials Focus</b>		
ABEN 758	Applied Computer Imaging and Sensing for Biosystems	3
BIOC 716	Protein and Enzyme Biochemistry	3
BIOC 673	Methods of Biochemical Research	3
CE 725	Biomaterials-Materials in Biomedical Engineering	3
CPM 771	Modern Methods of Polymer Characterization	3
ME 668	Introduction to Biomechanics	3
ME 731	Mechanical Behavior of Materials	3
ME 743	Biomechanics Of Impact	3
ECE 685	Biomedical Engineering	3
ECE 687	Cardiovascular Engineering	3
PSCI 611	Principles of Pharmacokinetics and Pharmacodynamics	3
PSCI 701	Quantative Drug Design	2
<b>Nanomaterials Focus</b>		
CE 641	Finite Element Analysis	3
CE 793	Individual Study/Tutorial	3
CPM 673	Polymer Synthesis	3

CHEM 766	Quantum Chemistry I	4
CHEM 767	Quantum Chemistry II	2
CPM 686	Corrosion and Materials	3
CPM 773	Organic Chemistry Of Coatings	3
CPM 782	Physical Chemistry Of Coatings	3
CPM 796	Special Topics	3
IME 720	Surface Engineering	3
ME 682	Fuel Cell Science and Engineering	3
ME 712	Advanced Finite Element Analysis	3
ME 733	Polymer Nanocomposites	3
ME 734	Smart Materials and Structures	3
PHYS 758	Statistical Physics	3
PHYS 781	Solid State Physics	3
<b>General Materials Science and Engineering Focus</b>		
ABEN 658	Process Engineering for Food, Biofuels and Bioproducts	3
ABEN 644	Transport Processes	3
ME 673	Engineering with Polymeric Materials	3
CE 641	Finite Element Analysis	3
CE 720	Continuum Mechanics	3
CHEM 732	Advanced Survey of Analytical Chemistry	4
CHEM 736	Mass Spectrometry	2
CPM 673	Polymer Synthesis	3
ME 633	Composite Materials Science and Engineering	3
ME 751	Advanced Thermodynamics	3
PHYS 611	Optics for Scientists & Engineers	3
PHYS 781	Solid State Physics	3

## Affiliated Faculty

### Achintya N. Bezbaruah, Ph.D.

University of Nebraska-Lincoln, 2002

Research Interests: Environmental sensors, Recalcitrant and micro pollutants, Contaminant fate and transport, Small community water and wastewater treatment, Environmental management

### Eugene B. Caldona, Ph.D.

Mississippi State University, 2020

Research Interests: Advanced coatings and materials, Corrosion, Electrochemistry, Surface chemistry, Nanocomposites

### Yongki Choi, Ph.D.

City University of New York, 2010

Research Interests: Nano-bio-electronics, Carbon nanotube circuits, Single-molecule electronics, Biomedical applications

### Andrew Croll, Ph.D.

McMaster University, Ontario, 2009

Research Interests: Polymers, Diblock copolymers, Thin films, Pattern formation, Mechanics

### Alan R. Denton, Ph.D.

Cornell University, 1991

Postdoctoral, University of Guelph, 1991-94; Technical University of Vienna, 1994-95, Research Center Julich, 1996-98

Research Interests: Soft condensed matter theory, Computational physics

### Erik K. Hobbie, Ph.D.

University of Minnesota, 1990

Postdoctoral: NRC Fellow, NIST, 1990-1992

Research Interests: Colloidal nanoparticles, Polymers, Complex fluids, Chromatography, Self-assembly, Photoluminescence, Flexible electronics

### Syed M. Iskander, Ph.D.

Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, 2019

Postdoctoral, University of Southern California, 2019-2020

Research Interests: Non-recyclable municipal solid waste management, Food waste management, Plastics pollution, Landfilling, and Landfill leachate management

**Long Jiang, Ph.D.**

Nanyang Technological University, 2003

Research Interests: Polymer/composite processing, Polymer processing machinery/design, Nanocomposites, Biobased polymers/composites, Functional composites with novel microstructures

**Alan R. Kallmeyer, Ph.D.**

University of Iowa, 1995

Research Interests: Theoretical, computational, and experimental solid mechanics, Fatigue and fracture of engineering materials, Composite materials

**Dinesh Katti, Ph.D.**

University of Arizona, 1991

Research Interests: Geotechnical engineering, Constitutive modeling of geologic materials, Expansive soils, Multiscale modeling, Steered molecular dynamics, Computational mechanics, Nanocomposites and biomaterials

**Kalpana Katti, Ph.D.**

University of Washington, 1996

Research Interests: Advanced composites, Nanomaterials, Biomaterials, Biomimetics, Materials characterization/modeling, Analytical electron microscopy, Bone tissue engineering

**Dmitri Kilin, Ph.D.**

Chemnitz University of Technology, Chemnitz, Germany, 2000

Research Interests: Photo-induced dynamic processes of charge transfer, Nonradiative charge carrier relaxation, Surfaces/interfaces of metal/semiconductor nanomaterials for photovoltaic/photocatalytic energy conversion

**Svetlana Kilina, Ph.D.**

University of Washington, 2007

Research Interests: Photoexcitation process on the organic-inorganic interfaces in hybrid nanostructures, Functionalized carbon nanotubes and quantum dots, Non-adiabatic dynamics in hybrid nanostructures, Electron-phonon interactions in ligated quantum dots and functionalized carbon nanotubes, Self-assembly of bio/nanomaterials, Transport in conjugated polymers

**Andrei Kryjevski, Ph.D.**

University of Washington, 2004

Research Interests: First-principles theoretical descriptions of the electronic properties of nanomaterials

**Ivan T. Lima Jr., Ph.D.**

University of Maryland, 2003

Research Interests: Photonics

**Sylvio May, Ph.D.**

Jena, 1996

Research Interests: Physics of lipid membranes, Biophysics

**Keerthi Nawarathna, Ph.D.**

University of Houston, 2005

Research Interests: Lab-on-a-chip technologies, Single-cell genomics, Nanobioengineering, Tissue engineering, Novel imaging techniques for biology, Computation/simulations

**Selvakumar Prakash Parthiban, Ph.D.**

Nagoya University, 2012

Research Interests: Biomaterials, Regenerative medicine, Tissue-engineered vascular grafts, Microvasculature, Decellularized extracellular matrix, Bioceramics, Cancer and vascular biology

**Xiaoning Qi, Ph.D.**

North Dakota State University, 2009

Research Interests: Corrosion characterization and prevention, Coating design and formulation, Sustainable coatings, Nanocomposites

**Mohiuddin Quadir, Ph.D.**

Freie University of Berlin, 2010

Research Interests: High performance delivery technologies, Biosynthetic interfaces for medical coatings, Synthesis of new polymers from bio-based resources

**Seth C. Rasmussen, Ph.D.**

Clemson University, 1994

Postdoctoral, University of Oregon, 1995-1999  
Research Area: Inorganic/organic materials chemistry, Chemical history

**Bakhtiyor Rasulev, Ph.D.**

Uzbek Academy of Science, 2002  
Postdoctoral, Drew University, 2002; Jackson State University, 2004-2007  
Research Area: Structure-property studies of materials, Cheminformatics for materials, Modeling of nanomaterials interactions with biosystems, Nano-descriptors, Development of predictive structure-activity/toxicity models

**Jing Shi, Ph.D.**

Purdue University, 2004  
Research Interests: Microelectronics packaging, Direct-write material deposition, Laser processing for electronics, RFID applications, Modeling of manufacturing processes, Computer integrated manufacturing

**Mukund P. Sibi, Ph.D.**

City University of New York, 1980  
Postdoctoral, Dartmouth College, 1980-1982; University of Waterloo, 1982-1985  
Research Interests: Synthetic organic chemistry, Natural products

**Xiangqing (Annie) Tangpong, Ph.D.**

Carnegie Mellon University, 2006  
Research Area: Vibrations, dynamics and friction, friction-vibration interaction, friction damping in rotating structures, damping in nanocomposites and biomaterials

**Chad A. Ulven, Ph.D.**

University of Alabama at Birmingham, 2005  
Research Interests: Advanced composites materials, Green materials processing, Nondestructive evaluation, Characterization of advanced materials under extreme conditions

**Jessica Vold, Ph.D.**

North Dakota State University, 2015  
Research Interests: Additive manufacturing of materials, Polymer composites, Materials characterization, Entrepreneurship

**Andriy Voronov, Ph.D.**

Lviv Polytechnical Institute, 1994  
Postdoctoral, Institute Charles Sadron, CNRS, 1997  
Research Interests: Polymer synthesis and characterization

**Alexander J. Wagner, Ph.D.**

University of Oxford, 1997  
Postdoctoral MIT, 1998-2000, Edinburgh, 2000-2002  
Research Interests: Computational soft matter, Phase separation, Diffusion, Interface physics

**Danling Wang, Ph.D.**

University of Washington, 2013  
Research Interests: Chemiresistive sensors, Semiconducting nanomaterials, Optical spectroscopy, Electronic devices, Microfabrication

**Dean Webster, Ph.D.**

Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University 1984  
Research Interests: Synthesis of high performance polymers, Polymerization reactions, Crosslinking chemistry, Quantitative structure-property relationship

**Xiangfa Wu, Ph.D.**

University of Nebraska-Lincoln, 2003  
Beijing Institute of Technology, 1998  
Research Interests: Nanofabrication/nanomaterials, Advanced functional composites, Fracture/impact mechanics

**Wenjie Xia, Ph.D.**

Northwestern University, 2016  
Research Interests: Multiscale modeling, Mechanics of materials, Polymers and composites, Soft matter, Bioinspired materials, Mechanobiology

**Qifeng Zhang, Ph.D.**

Peking University, 2001  
Postdoctoral, University of Washington, 2006-2008

Research Interests: Electronic materials, Nanomaterials: synthesis, characterization and device application, Nanotechnology, Materials/devices/technology for energy conversion and storage, Solar cells, Lithium ion batteries, Photocatalysis