The Ph.D. in Mechanical Engineering is ideal for students looking to pursue advanced-level careers in industry, research, or academia. Students pursuing a Ph.D. in Mechanical Engineering undertake advanced research under the mentorship of a faculty advisor (Principal Investigator), most often on a government or industry funded project as a paid research assistant. The degree plan involves consideration of a challenging problem utilizing analytical, experimental, and/or design techniques. This research – in addition to coursework, exams, journal articles, and dissertation credits – culminates in a final dissertation. The dissertation contains new analytical knowledge, experimental knowledge, design knowledge, or a combination thereof. The dissertation must make an original contribution to the field.