Materials Science and Engineering is an interdisciplinary programme focusing on the relationship between structures and behaviour of materials (science) and the design of these structures to produce predefined properties for specific applications (engineering). Students consider materials over a wide range of length and time scales, from the behaviour of collections of individual atoms to macroscopic structural and functional properties and from raw material processing through sustainable production and application of materials, to failure, durability and recycling.

Materials Science and Engineering is concerned with the sustainable development of materials that meet or exceed performance expectations for specific functions. It is also concerned with the sustainable processes that convert raw materials into final engineered products and the design of innovative new materials for the continuously evolving needs of society and technology.

The MSc Programme in Materials Science and Engineering combines studies of the physical, chemical and mechanical behaviour and properties of materials with training in production techniques and the development of materials that meet requirements for a wide range of applications.

In the programme, you will gain understanding of the behaviour of materials under different conditions and learn how to maximise their suitability in products and industrial processes. You will study the design of new materials that perform better, last longer, enhance function, conserve resources and have a low environmental footprint. Covering subjects from atomic scale (fundamental) to large scale (application) and from design to disposal, the Materials Science and Engineering programme is well suited to meet the expectations of students with more theoretical interests as well as those with interests in applied science and engineering.

**Programme**

The programme starts with core courses offering a firm basis in Materials Science and Engineering.
engineering. Subsequently, students choose a specialisation which addresses a particular subject area. The specialisation can be one of three predefined course options (which may also include a research based internship) or students can choose to compose their own specialisation. Finally, students undertake a literature study and an independent scientific investigation leading to a Master’s thesis.

Specialisations

- **Materials in Engineering Applications (MEA)**
  The focus is on the usage of materials in applications and structures by considering selection, processing, joining, degradation and failure of materials. Besides of functional and structural service life performance assessment also a materials lifecycle analysis and related sustainability aspects are to be taken into account.

- **Metals Science and Technology (MST)**
  In this specialisation, attention is paid to the whole life cycle of metals, from design to performance, by considering aspects such as sustainable processing, phase transformations, and strengthening mechanisms, and by applying advanced computational tools and experimental techniques.

- **Materials for Sustainable Development (MSD)**
  The focus is on materials engineering in the context of sustainable resources (materials and energy) and environmental impact. Topics such as clean energy technologies, sustainable production and recycling of material are addressed.

- **Self-defined Specialisation (SDS)**
  Students may compile their own specialisation on any material class or aspect of material science that attracts their interest (subject to approval). TU Delft offers more than 80 materials related master courses. The specialisation should have a minimum of 14 ECTS following a common theme.

Graduation examples

- Phase control in quenched and tempered steels;
- Assessing the susceptibility of pipelines for hydrogen embrittlement;
- 3D printing of fibre-reinforced polymers for aerospace applications;
- Evaluation of transport properties of radio-nuclides in clay materials;
- Design of Metamaterials using machine learning;
- Optimizations of high-efficiency silicon heterojunction solar cells.

Career prospects

Tata Steel, Allseas, Stork, DAF, Bosch, ASML and Philips are just a few of the companies where graduates in Materials Science and Engineering have found positions. They are working in materials production, development and research in the industrial sector, or as materials experts in high level consultancy and management positions. Many graduates choose to work in the steel and aluminium production industries. Others have more unusual positions – in archaeology, for example, or authenticating works of art on behalf of museums. Still others are employed in higher education and research, the polymer and recycling industries, patent offices, and industries involved in the development of high-tech micro-devices for applications in biomedical prostheses.