The College of Optical Sciences at the University of Arizona is the world’s premier optical institute.

The Master of Science in Photonic Communications Engineering was created to educate engineers for modern photonic engineering challenges with an emphasis on entrepreneurship and industrial relevance. The M.S. in PCE, unlike the M.S. in Optical Sciences, has a core curriculum; it pairs classes in systems-level engineering, marketplace demand, and the technology commercialization process with course material in leadership dynamics, technology management, ethical professionalism, and communication. All required lectures are available via distance learning. Students choosing distance learning classes will attend, via streaming video, the same classes as on-campus students, communicating with their professors and fellow students through email, discussion boards and Web chat rooms. Distance learning students buy the same textbooks, use the same professional software, complete the same homework and sit for the same exams as on-campus students. The University of Arizona requires on-campus and distance students to complete their thesis defense on-campus. A one-day visit will usually suffice.

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