Mechanical Engineering

Undergraduate Study

For the undergraduate curriculum in mechanical engineering leading to the degree bachelor of science. This curriculum is accredited under the General Criteria and Engineering Program Criteria by the Engineering Accreditation Commission of ABET, http://www.abet.org.

Mechanical engineers apply the principles of motion, energy, and force to create mechanical solutions to technological problems, thereby realizing devices and systems that make life better. About one-fifth of all engineers practicing today are mechanical engineers. Their skills are used in research, development, design, testing, production, technical sales, technical management, as well as medicine, law, and business. Mechanical engineers are characterized by personal creativity, breadth of knowledge, and versatility. For these reasons they are found to function and thrive as valuable members and leaders of multidisciplinary teams.

The mechanical engineering curriculum at Iowa State University is dedicated to preparing students for productive careers in the state, nation, and the world and has the following objectives:

1. Graduates will have utilized a foundation in engineering and science to improve lives and livelihoods through a successful career in mechanical engineering or other fields.
2. Graduates will have become effective collaborators and innovators, leading or participating in efforts to address social, technical and business challenges.
3. Graduates will have engaged in life-long learning and professional development through self-study, continuing education or graduate and professional studies in engineering, business, law or medicine.

The mechanical engineering curriculum is organized to provide students with a broad foundation in mathematics, science, engineering, social science and humanities. The mechanical engineering disciplinary areas emphasized are design and optimization, dynamic systems and control, materials processing and mechanics, and thermo-fluid sciences. Elective courses provide additional emphasis in terms of the student’s unique educational goals, whether they include immediate entry into industry or further professional or graduate study.

A major focus throughout the mechanical engineering curriculum is a series of experiences that emphasize engineering design, culminating in a capstone design experience in the senior year. Students will develop engineering judgment through open-ended problems that require establishment of reasonable engineering assumptions and realistic constraints. Development of skills needed to be independent, creative thinkers, effective communicators, and contributing team members is emphasized throughout the curriculum. Students also develop an understanding of the societal context in which they will practice engineering, including environmental, legal, aesthetic, and human aspects.

Students are encouraged to participate in the cooperative education program or to obtain engineering internships, both domestically and abroad. Study abroad is encouraged, and the department has exchange programs with several universities around the world. These experiences help students to round out their education and to better prepare for careers in the increasingly global practice of engineering.

Energy Systems Minor

The Energy Systems minor is administered by the mechanical engineering department and is open to all undergraduates in the College of Engineering. The minor may be earned by completing 15 credits from the following courses. The complete list of approved elective courses can be found here (http://www.me.iastate.edu/students/degrees-and-programs/engineering-minors).

Required courses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ECON 380</td>
<td>Environmental and Resource Economics</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E E 351</td>
<td>Analysis of Energy Systems</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electives</td>
<td>Choose from a list of approved courses</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Credits</td>
<td></td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The minor must include at least 9 credits that are not used to meet any other department, college, or university requirement.

Nuclear Engineering Minor

The nuclear engineering minor is administered by the mechanical engineering department and is open to all undergraduates in the College of Engineering. The minor may be earned by completing 15 credits from the following courses. A complete list of approved courses can be found here (http://www.me.iastate.edu/students/degrees-and-programs/engineering-minors).

Required courses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NUC E 401</td>
<td>Nuclear Radiation Theory and Engineering</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electives</td>
<td>Choose from a list of approved courses</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Credits</td>
<td></td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The minor must include at least 9 credits that are not used to meet any other department, college, or university requirement.

Graduate Study

The department offers programs for the degrees Master of Engineering (M. Eng.), Master of Science (M.S.) and Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) with a major in mechanical engineering. The M.Eng. degree is a coursework-only degree designed to improve professional expertise in mechanical engineering. The M.S. and Ph.D. degrees are designed to improve the student’s capability to conduct research as well as their professional expertise. Although co-major and formal minor programs are not offered in mechanical engineering, courses may be used for minor work by students taking major work in other departments.

Well-qualified juniors and seniors in mechanical engineering who are interested in graduate study may apply for concurrent enrollment in the Graduate College to simultaneously pursue both the Bachelor of Science and Master of Science, the Bachelor of Science and Master of Business Administration. Under concurrent enrollment, students are eligible for assistantships and simultaneously take undergraduate and graduate courses. Details are available in the Graduate Programs Office and on the department’s website (http://www.me.iastate.edu/).

The graduate program offers advanced study in a variety of thrust areas, including biological and nanoscale sciences, clean energy technologies, complex fluid systems, design and manufacturing innovation, and simulation and visualization. The department offers students the opportunity to broaden their education by participating in minor programs in established departments, interdepartmental programs, or other experiences as approved by their program of study committees.

The requirements for advanced degrees are established by the student’s program of study committee within established guidelines of the Graduate College. Graduate students who have not completed an undergraduate program of study substantially equivalent to that required of undergraduate students in the department can expect that additional supporting coursework will be required. Program requirements can be found on the department webpage (http://www.me.iastate.edu/) and in the Mechanical Engineering Graduate Student Handbook.

Curriculum in Mechanical Engineering

Administered by the Department of Mechanical Engineering. Leading to the degree bachelor of science.

Total credits required: 130 cr. See also Basic Program and Special Programs.

International Perspectives: 3 cr. 

U.S. Diversity: 3 cr.

Communication Proficiency/Library requirement (minimum grade of C):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ENGL 150</td>
<td>Critical Thinking and Communication</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENGL 250</td>
<td>Written, Oral, Visual, and Electronic Composition</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LIB 160</td>
<td>Information Literacy</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Choose one of the following communication courses</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENGL 302</td>
<td>Business Communication</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENGL 309</td>
<td>Report and Proposal Writing</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENGL 314</td>
<td>Technical Communication</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SP CM 212</td>
<td>Fundamentals of Public Speaking</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
General Education Electives: 15 cr.
ECON 101 Principles of Microeconomics 3
or ECON 102 Principles of Macroeconomics 3
General Education (Social Science or Humanities) 12
Total Credits 15

Basic Program: 27 cr. 4
CHEM 167 General Chemistry for Engineering Students 4
or CHEM 177 General Chemistry I 4
ENGL 150 Critical Thinking and Communication 3
ENGL 250 Written, Oral, Visual, and Electronic Composition 3
ENGR 101 Engineering Orientation R
M E 160 Mechanical Engineering Problem Solving with Computer Applications 3
LIB 160 Information Literacy 1
MATH 165 Calculus I 4
MATH 166 Calculus II 4
PHYS 221 Introduction to Classical Physics I 5
Total Credits 27

Math and Physical Science: 20 cr.
M E 170 Engineering Graphics and Introductory Design 3
CHEM 167L Laboratory in General Chemistry for Engineering 1
or CHEM 177L Laboratory in General Chemistry I 1
MATH 265 Calculus III 4
4 credits from the following:
MATH 267 Elementary Differential Equations and Laplace Transforms 4
MATH 266 Elementary Differential Equations and Laplace Transforms 4
PHYS 222 Introduction to Classical Physics II 5
STAT 305 Engineering Statistics 3
Total Credits 20

Mechanical Engineering Core: 50 cr. 4
E M 274 Statics of Engineering 3
E M 324 Mechanics of Materials 3
E M 345 Dynamics 3
E E 442 Introduction to Circuits and Instruments 2
E E 448 Introduction to AC Circuits and Motors 2
MAT E 273 Principles of Materials Science and Engineering 3
M E 270 Introduction to Mechanical Engineering Design 3
M E 231 Engineering Thermodynamics I 3
M E 324 Manufacturing Engineering 3
M E 324L Manufacturing Engineering Laboratory 1
M E 325 Machine Design 3
M E 332 Engineering Thermodynamics II 3
M E 335 Fluid Flow 4
M E 370 Engineering Measurements 3
M E 421 System Dynamics and Control 4
M E 436 Heat Transfer 4
One Senior Capstone Design course from the following 3
M E 415 Mechanical Systems Design
M E 442 Heating and Air Conditioning Design
M E 466 Multidisciplinary Engineering Design
M E 486 Appropriate Technology Design
Total Credits 50

Other Remaining Courses: 18 cr.
Complete 15 cr. Technical Electives 2 15
Complete one of the following communication courses with a minimum grade of C, 3 cr.
ENGL 302 Business Communication 2

Total Credits 18

Seminar/Co-op/Internships:
M E 202 Mechanical Engineering - Professional Planning R
Co-op/Internship optional
1. These university requirements will add to the minimum credits of the program unless the university-approved courses are also approved by the department to meet other course requirements within the degree program. U.S. diversity and international perspectives courses may not be taken Pass/Not Pass.
2. Choose from department approved list.
3. See Basic Program for Professional Engineering Curricula for accepted substitutions for curriculum designated courses in the Basic Program.
4. 2.00 GPA average required including transfer courses.

Transfer Credit Requirements
The Mechanical Engineering Department requires a grade of a C or better for any transfer credit course that is applied to the degree program. The degree program must include a minimum of 15 credits taken from courses offered through the Mechanical Engineering Department at Iowa State University. Of these 15 credits, three must be from one of the senior capstone design courses. The remaining 12 credits must be from the core curriculum program (if a student is deficient in these courses) or from 400-level M E technical electives. No more than 3 credits of M E 490 Independent Study (independent study) shall be applied to meet the 12 credit requirement.

See also: A 4-year plan of study grid showing course template by semester. (https://nextcatalog.registrar.iastate.edu/planofstudy/engineering/ #mechanicalengineeringbs)

Courses primarily for undergraduates:
(2-2) Cr. 3. F.S. Prereq: MATH 142 or satisfactory scores on Mathematics placement examinations; credit or enrollment in MATH 165. Introduction to the field of Mechanical Engineering through problem-solving in a range of topics including statics, mechanics of materials and thermo-fluids. Techniques to professionally present and communicate solutions. Use of MATLAB computer programming to aid problem solving, including curve fitting and graphing. Only one of M E 160, ENGR 160, Aer E 160, C E 160, CPR E 185, E E 185, S E 185 and I E 148 may count towards graduation.

(2-2) Cr. 3. F.S. Prereq: Satisfactory scores on mathematics placement assessments; credit or enrollment in MATH 142. Introduction to the use of computer CAD systems in the mechanical engineering design process. Engineering Graphics, computer-aided design. Engineering graphics and design applications.

M E 190. Learning Communities.
(1-0) Cr. 1. Repeatable. F.S. Enrollment in M E learning communities.

(1-0) Cr. R. F.S. Prereq: Sophomore classification. Preparation for a career in mechanical engineering; discussion of opportunities for leadership, undergraduate research, experiential learning.

M E 220. Globalization and Sustainability.
(Cross-listed with ANTHR, ENV S, GLOBE, MAT E, T SC, SOC). (3-0) Cr. 3. F.S. An introduction to understanding the key global issues in sustainability. Focuses on interconnected roles of energy, materials, human resources, economics, and technology in building and maintaining sustainable systems. Applications discussed will include challenges in both the developed and developing world and will examine the role of technology in a resource-constrained world. Cannot be used for technical elective credit in any engineering department. Meets International Perspectives Requirement.
ME 231. Engineering Thermodynamics I. 
(3-0) Cr. 3. F.S.SS. Prereq: MATH 265, CHEM 167, PHYS 222 
Fundamental concepts based on zeroth, first and second laws of thermodynamics. Properties and processes for ideal gases and solid-liquid-vapor phases of pure substances. Applications to vapor power cycles. Credit for either M E 231 or 330, but not both, may be applied toward graduation.

ME 270. Introduction to Mechanical Engineering Design. 
(1-6) Cr. 3. F.S. Prereq: M E 170 or equivalent, PHYS 221 
Overview of mechanical engineering design with applications to thermal and mechanical systems. Introduction to current design practices used in industry. Semester-long team project focused on addressing societal needs. Past projects include designing human powered charging systems and products for developing nations.

ME 296. Cooperative Education. 
Cr. R. F.S.SS. Prereq: Permission of department 
First professional work period in the cooperative education program. Students must register for this course before commencing work.

ME 324. Manufacturing Engineering. 
(3-0) Cr. 3. F.S.SS. Prereq: M E 270, E M 324, MAT E 273 and M E 324L or permission of instructor 

ME 324L. Manufacturing Engineering Laboratory. 
(0-2) Cr. 1. F.S.SS. Prereq: M E 270, MAT E 273 
Laboratory exercises in metrology, mechanical testing (tensile/compression and hardness tests), computer aided design (CAD), machining operations, metal welding, metal casting, and bulk/sheet metal forming.

(3-0) Cr. 3. F.S.SS. Prereq: M E 170, E M 324 
Philosophy of design and design methodology. Consideration of stresses and failure models useful for static and fatigue loading. Analysis, selection and synthesis of machine elements. Nonmajor graduate credit.

ME 332. Engineering Thermodynamics II. 
(3-0) Cr. 3. F.S.SS. Prereq: M E 231 
Gas power cycles. Fundamentals of gas mixtures, psychrometry, and thermochemistry. Applications to one-dimensional compressible flow, refrigeration, air conditioning and combustion processes. Nonmajor graduate credit.

ME 335. Fluid Flow. 
(3-2) Cr. 4. F.S.SS. Prereq: Credit or enrollment in M E 332, E M 345, MATH 266 or MATH 267 
Incompressible and compressible fluid flow fundamentals. Dimensional analysis and similitude. Internal and external flow applications. Lab experiments emphasizing concepts in thermodynamics and fluid flow. Written reports are required. Nonmajor graduate credit.

(2-3) Cr. 3. F.S.SS. Prereq: E E 442, STAT 305 

ME 386. Sustainable Engineering and International Development. 
(Cross-listed with A E, E E, C E, E M, T E, B S E). (2-2) Cr. 3. F. Prereq: Junior classification in engineering 
Multi-disciplinary approach to sustainable engineering and international development, sustainable development, appropriate design and engineering, feasibility analysis, international aid, business development, philosophy and politics of technology, and ethics in engineering. Engineering-based projects from problem formulation through implementation. Interactions with partner community organizations or international partners such as nongovernment organizations (NGOs). Course readings, final project/design report. Meets International Perspectives Requirement.

(Cross-listed with M E) (3-0) Cr. 3. Repeatable, maximum of 2 times, SS. 
Learning how to work in a cross disciplinary engineering team to develop and implement appropriate solutions for cooking, lighting, farming, and sanitation in a rural village in Mali. Engineering principles necessary for the projects to be worked on including lighting solutions in a village without electricity, new construction materials, water, etc. Application of engineering principles from core courses. Design conception, feasibility, production, and implementation within context of local cultures and needs. Emphasis on creating real solutions that can be implemented with the constraints imposed by cost, time, manufacturing capability, and culture. Meets International Perspectives Requirement.

ME 396. Summer Internship. 
Cr. R. Repeatable. SS. Prereq: Permission of department and Engineering Career Services 
Summer professional work period.

ME 397. Engineering Internship. 
Cr. R. Repeatable. F.S. Prereq: Permission of department and Engineering Career Services 
Professional work period, one semester maximum per academic year.

ME 398. Cooperative Education. 
Cr. R. F.S.SS. Prereq: M E 296, permission of department and Engineering Career Services 
Second professional work period in the cooperative education program. Students must register for this course before commencing work.

ME 410. Mechanical Engineering Applications of Mechatronics. 
(2-2) Cr. 3. S. Prereq: E E 442, E E 448, credit or enrollment in M E 421 
Fundamentals of sensor characterization, signal conditioning and motion control, coupled with concepts of embedded computer control. Digital and analog components used for interfacing with computer controlled systems. Mechanical system analysis combined with various control approaches. Focus on automation of hydraulic actuation processes. Laboratory experiences provide hands-on development of mechanical systems. Nonmajor graduate credit.

ME 411. Automatic Controls. 
(2-2) Cr. 3. F. Prereq: M E 421 
Methods and principles of automatic control. Pneumatic, hydraulic, and electrical systems. Representative applications of automatic control systems. Mathematical analysis of control systems. Nonmajor graduate credit.

ME 412. Ethical Responsibilities of a Practicing Engineer. 
(3-0) Cr. 3. F. Prereq: Credit or enrollment in M E 325 
The study of ethics in engineering design and the engineering profession. A comprehensive look at when ethical decisions must be made and an approach to make them. The approach takes into account moral, legal, technical, experiential, and standards to aid in ethical decision making. Each area will be studied through lectures, debates, guest speakers, class discussion, and case studies. Nonmajor graduate credit.

ME 413. Fluid Power Engineering. 
(Cross-listed with A E) (2-2) Cr. 3. F. Prereq: Credit or enrollment in E M 378 or M E 355, A E 216 or M E 270 

ME 415. Mechanical Systems Design. 
(0-6) Cr. 3. F.S. Prereq: M E 324, M E 325 
Mechanical Engineering Capstone Design course. Team approach to solving design problems involving mechanical systems. Teams will use current design practices they will encounter in industry. Document decisions concerning form and function, material specification, manufacturing methods, safety, cost, and conformance with codes and standards. Solution description includes oral and written reports. Projects often worked with industry sponsors. Nonmajor graduate credit.

(Dual-listed with M E 517) (3-0) Cr. 3. S. Prereq: M E 325, MAT E 273 
Stress life, strain life, and fracture mechanics approaches to fatigue life and design with metals, polymers and ceramics. Introduction to material selection in design of machine components. Thermal and structural considerations in design of machine components and hybrid materials. Course project and relevant literature review required for graduate credit. Nonmajor graduate credit.
M E 418. Mechanical Considerations in Robotics. (Dual-listed with M E 518) (3-0) Cr. 3. S. Prereq: Credit or enrollment in M E 421. Three-dimensional kinematics, dynamics, and control of robot manipulators, hardware elements and sensors. Laboratory experiments using industrial robots. Nonmajor graduate credit.


M E 421. System Dynamics and Control. (3-2) Cr. 4. F.S.S. Prereq: E E 442, E E 448, E M 345, MATH 267. Modeling and simulation of mechanical, electrical, fluid, and/or thermal systems. Development of equations of motion and dynamic response characteristics in time and frequency domains. Fundamentals of classical control applications, including mathematical analysis and design for closed loop control systems. Introduction to computer interfacing for simulation, data acquisition, and control. Laboratory exercises for hands-on system investigation and control implementation. Nonmajor graduate credit.

M E 423. Creativity and Imagination for Engineering and Design. (Dual-listed with M E 523). (3-0) Cr. 3. F. Improve ability to think creatively and be innovative in designs. Understand and discuss creativity from different perspectives, learn to control your voice of judgment, identify personality traits that encourage and hinder creativity. Assignments include individual and team design projects; weekly readings; and, for graduate students, a semester-long research project on creativity and the development of a related teaching module.

M E 425. Optimization Methods for Complex Designs. (Dual-listed with M E 525). (Cross-listed with HCI). (3-0) Cr. 3. S. Prereq: M E 160, MATH 265. Optimization involves finding the ‘best’ according to specified criteria. Review of a range of optimization methods from traditional nonlinear to modern evolutionary methods such as Genetic algorithms. Examination of how these methods can be used to solve a wide variety of design problems across disciplines, including mechanical systems design, biomedical device design, biomedical imaging, and interaction with digital medical data. Students will gain knowledge of numerical optimization algorithms and sufficient understanding of the strengths and weaknesses of these algorithms to apply them appropriately in engineering design. Experience includes code writing and off-the-shelf routines. Numerous case-studies of real-world situations in which problems were modeled and solved using advanced optimization techniques. Nonmajor graduate credit.

M E 433. Alternative Energy. (3-0) Cr. 3. F. Prereq: PHY S 221/PHY S 222 and CHEM 167. Basic principles, performance, and cost analysis of alternative energy systems including biofuels, bioenergy, wind, solar, fuel cells, storage and other alternative energy systems. Performance analysis and operating principles of systems and components, and economic analysis for system design and operation will be taught. Emphasis is on alternative energy technologies needed to meet our future energy needs at various scales ranging from household to city to national levels. Nonmajor graduate credit.


M E 437. Introduction to Combustion Engineering. (3-0) Cr. 3. S. Prereq: Credit in M E 332 or equivalent and credit or enrollment in M E 335 or equivalent. Introduction to the fundamentals of combustion and the analysis of combustion systems for gaseous, liquid, and solid fuels-including biomass fuels. Combustion fundamentals are applied to the analysis of engines; turbines; biomass cookstoves; suspension, fixed-bed, and fluidized-bed furnaces; and other combustion devices.

M E 441. Fundamentals of Heating, Ventilating, and Air Conditioning. (3-0) Cr. 3. F. Prereq: Credit or enrollment in M E 436. Space conditioning and moist air processes. Application of thermodynamics, heat transfer, and fluid flow principles to the analysis of heating, ventilating, and air conditioning components and systems. Performance and specification of components and systems. Nonmajor graduate credit.


M E 444. Elements and Performance of Power Plants. (3-0) Cr. 3. S. Prereq: M E 332, credit or enrollment in M E 335. Basic principles, thermodynamics, engineering analysis of power plant systems. Topics include existing power plant technologies, the advanced energyplex systems of the future, societal impacts of power production, and environmental and regulatory concerns. Nonmajor graduate credit.

M E 448. Fluid Dynamics of Turbomachinery. (Cross-listed with AER E). (3-0) Cr. 3. S. Prereq: M E 335 or equivalent. Applications of principles of fluid mechanics and thermodynamics in performance analysis and design of turbomachines. Conceptual and preliminary design of axial and radial flow compressors and turbines using velocity triangles and through-flow approaches. Nonmajor graduate credit.


M E 466. Multidisciplinary Engineering Design. (Cross-listed with A E, AER E, CPR E, E E, ENGR, I E, MAT E). (1-4) Cr. 3. Repeatable. F. S. Prereq: Student must be within two semesters of graduation and permission of instructor. Application of team design concepts to projects of a multidisciplinary nature. Concurrent treatment of design, manufacturing and life cycle considerations. Application of design tools such as CAD, CAM and FEM. Design methodologies, project scheduling, cost estimating, quality control, manufacturing processes. Development of a prototype and appropriate documentation in the form of written reports, oral presentations, computer models and engineering drawings.

M E 467. Multidisciplinary Engineering Design II. (Cross-listed with AER E, CPR E, E E, I E, MAT E, ENGR). (1-4) Cr. 3. Repeatable, maximum of 2 times. F. S. Prereq: Student must be within two semesters of graduation or receive permission of instructor. Build and test of a conceptual design. Detail design, manufacturability, test criteria and procedures. Application of design tools such as CAD and CAM and manufacturing techniques such as rapid prototyping. Development and testing of a full-scale prototype with appropriate documentation in the form of design journals, written reports, oral presentations and computer models and engineering drawings.

M E 475. Modeling and Simulation. (3-0) Cr. 3. S. Prereq: M E 421, credit or enrollment in M E 436. Introduction to computer solution techniques required to simulate flow, thermal, and mechanical systems. Methods of solving ordinary and partial differential equations and systems of algebraic equations; interpolation, numerical integration; finite difference and finite element methods. Nonmajor graduate credit.

M E 479. Sustainability Science for Engineering Design. (3-0) Cr. 3. S. Prereq: Any engineering design course. Scientific principles and quantitative methods concerning sustainability. Analysis of environmental issues associated with engineering design and product manufacturing in an economic and social context. Heuristic and analytical methods for assessing the sustainability of existing or potential product/service designs. Application to a design problem in teams. Nonmajor graduate credit.
M E 484. Technology, Globalization and Culture. 
(Dual-listed with M E 584). (Cross-listed with WLC). (3-0) Cr. 3. F. Prereq: senior classification for M E 484; graduate classification for M E 584  
Cross-disciplinary examination of the present and future impact of globalization with a focus on preparing students for leadership roles in diverse professional, social, and cultural contexts. Facilitate an understanding of the threats and opportunities inherent in the globalization process as they are perceived by practicing professionals and articulated in debates on globalization. Use of a digital forum for presenting and analyzing globalization issues by on-campus and off-campus specialists. Meets International Perspectives Requirement.

M E 486. Appropriate Technology Design. 
(3-0) Cr. 3. F. Prereq: M E 231, M E 270, enrollment in M E 335; or permission of instructor. 
Hands-on design experience utilizing knowledge acquired in core mechanical engineering courses. Emphasis with engineering problem formulation and solution, oral and written communication, team decision-making and ethical conduct. Design projects include engineering considerations in appropriate technology which have multidisciplinary components in economics and sociology.

M E 490. Independent Study. 
Cr. 1-6. Repeatable. Prereq: Senior classification  
Investigation of topics holding special interest of students and faculty. Election of course and topic must be approved in advance by supervising faculty.

M E 490H. Independent Study: Honors. 
Cr. 1-6. Repeatable. Prereq: Senior classification  
Investigation of topics holding special interest of students and faculty. Election of course and topic must be approved in advance by supervising faculty.

M E 490J. Independent Study: Thermodynamics and Energy Utilization. 
Cr. 1-6. Repeatable. Prereq: Senior classification  
Investigation of topics holding special interest of students and faculty. Election of course and topic must be approved in advance by supervising faculty.

M E 490M. Independent Study: Nuclear Engineering. 
Cr. 1-6. Repeatable. Prereq: Senior classification  
Investigation of topics holding special interest of students and faculty. Election of course and topic must be approved in advance by supervising faculty.

M E 490O. Independent Study: Design and Optimization. 
Cr. 1-6. Repeatable. Prereq: Senior classification  
Investigation of topics holding special interest of student and faculty. Election of course and topic must be approved in advance by supervising faculty.

M E 490P. Dynamic Systems and Controls. 
Cr. 1. Repeatable. Prereq: Senior classification  
Investigation of topics holding special interest of student and faculty. Election of course and topic must be approved in advance by supervising faculty.

Cr. 1-6. Repeatable. Prereq: Senior classification  
Investigation of topics holding special interest of student and faculty. Election of course and topic must be approved in advance by supervising faculty.

M E 490R. Independent Study: Thermo-fluids. 
Cr. 1-6. Repeatable. Prereq: Senior classification  
Investigation of topics holding special interest of student and faculty. Election of course and topic must be approved in advance by supervising faculty.

M E 490S. Independent Study: Emerging Areas. 
Cr. 1-6. Repeatable. Prereq: Senior classification  
Investigation of topics holding special interest of student and faculty. Election of course and topic must be approved in advance by supervising faculty.

M E 498. Cooperative Education. 
Cr. R. Repeatable. F.S.S.S. Prereq: M E 298, permission of department and Engineering Career Services  
Third and subsequent professional work periods in the cooperative education program. Students must register for this course before commencing work.

Courses primarily for graduate students, open to qualified undergraduates:

M E 511. Advanced Control Design. 
(3-0) Cr. 3. S. Prereq: M E 411  
Application of control design methods using continuous, discrete, and frequency-based models. Approaches include classical, pole assignment, model reference, internal model, and adaptive control methods. Mechanical design projects.

(Dual-listed with M E 417). (3-0) Cr. 3. S. Prereq: M E 325, MAT E 273  
Stress life, strain life, and fracture mechanics approaches to fatigue life and design with metals, polymers and ceramics. Introduction to material selection in design of machine components. Thermal and structural considerations in design of machine components and hybrid materials. Course project and relevant literature review required for graduate credit.

M E 518. Mechanical Considerations in Robotics. 
(Dual-listed with M E 418). (3-0) Cr. 3. S. Prereq: Credit or enrollment in 421  
Three dimensional kinematics, dynamics, and control of robot manipulators, hardware elements and sensors. Laboratory experiments using industrial robots. Nonmajor graduate credit.

M E 520. Material and Manufacturing Considerations in Design. 
(3-0) Cr. 3. F. Prereq: M E 324, M E 325  

M E 521. Mechanical Behavior and Manufacturing of Polymers and Composites. 
(Cross-listed with M S E). (3-0) Cr. 3. Alt. S., offered 2013. Prereq: M E 324 or MAT E 272 and E M 324  
Effective manufacturing using material selection and DFMA software. Material selection and designing with polymers. Processing of polymer and composite parts.

M E 523. Creativity and Imagination for Engineering Design. 
(Dual-listed with M E 423). (3-0) Cr. 3. F. Prereq: Graduate classification  
Broad exposure to the study of creativity, both in scientific research and in engineering design practice. Exploration of the subject includes readings from a variety of fields; in-class discussion and activities; and individual and team projects that enable students to develop their creativity. Graduate students also will do independent research on creativity and develop a related teaching module.

(Dual-listed with M E 425). (Cross-listed with HCI). (3-0) Cr. 3. S. Prereq: ENGR 160, MATH 265  
Optimization involves finding the 'best' according to specified criteria. Review of a range of optimization methods from traditional nonlinear to modern evolutionary methods such as Genetic algorithms. Examination of how these methods can be used to solve a wide variety of design problems across disciplines, including mechanical systems design, biomedical device design, biomedical imaging, and interaction with digital medical data. Students will gain knowledge of numerical optimization algorithms and sufficient understanding of the strengths and weaknesses of these algorithms to apply them appropriately in engineering design. Experience includes code writing and off-the-shelf routines. Students will also be exposed to numerous case studies of real-world situations in which problems were modeled and solved using advanced optimization techniques.

(3-0) Cr. 3. Alt. S., offered 2013. Prereq: M E 324  

M E 528. Micro/Nanomanufacturing. 
(3-0) Cr. 3. Alt. S., offered 2012. Prereq: M E 324  
Concepts and applications of micro/nanotechnology appropriate to the manufacturing field. An overview of micro/nano-fabrication techniques including mechanical, EDM, laser and lithography. MEMS device fabrication. Scaling laws. Top down and bottom up approaches of nanomanufacturing. Experimental or theoretical project leading to potential submission of a manuscript for journal or conference.

M E 530. Advanced Thermodynamics. 
(3-0) Cr. 3. F. Prereq: M E 332  
Fundamentals of thermodynamics from the classical viewpoint with emphasis on the use of the first and second laws for analysis of thermal systems. Generalized thermodynamic relationships. Computer applications of thermodynamic properties and system analysis. Selected topics.

M E 535. Thermochemical Processing of Biomass. (Cross-listed with BRT) (3-0) Cr. 3. S. Prereq: Undergraduate course work in thermodynamics and transport phenomena Introduction to thermal and catalytic processes for the conversion of biomass to biofuels and other biobased products. Topics include gasification, fast pyrolysis, hydrothermal processing, syngas to synteuls, and bio-oil upgrading. Application of thermodynamics, heat transfer, and fluid dynamics to bioenergy and biofuels.


M E 538. Advanced Fluid Flow. (3-0) Cr. 3. F. Prereq: Credit or enrollment in M E 436 Detailed analysis of incompressible/compressible, viscous/inviscid, laminar/turbulent, and developing fluid flows on a particle/point control volume basis.

M E 540. Solar Energy Systems. (3-0) Cr. 3. F. Prereq: M E 436 Application of heat transfer, thermodynamics and photovoltaics to the design and analysis of solar energy collectors and systems.


M E 545. Thermal Systems Design. (3-0) Cr. 3. Alt. F., offered 2012. Prereq: M E 436 Integrating thermodynamics, fluid mechanics, and heat transfer to model thermal equipment and to simulate thermal systems. Second law and parametric analysis; cost estimation, life cycle analysis and optimization. Some computer programming required.


M E 547. Computational Fluid Mechanics and Heat Transfer II. (Cross-listed with AER E) (3-0) Cr. 3. Alt. S., offered 2013. Prereq: AER E 546 or AER E 546 Application of computational methods to current problems in fluid mechanics and heat transfer. Methods for solving the Navier-Stokes and reduced equation sets such as the Euler, boundary layer, and parabolized forms of the conservation equations. Introduction to relevant aspects of grid generation and turbulence modeling.

M E 552. Advanced Acoustics. (Cross-listed with E M) (3-0) Cr. 3. Alt. F., offered 2011. Prereq: E M 451 Theoretical acoustics: wave propagation in fluids; acoustic radiation, diffraction and scattering; nonlinear acoustics; radiation force; cavitation; and ray acoustics.


M E 580. Virtual Environments, Virtual Worlds, and Application. (Cross-listed with HCI) (3-0) Cr. 3. F. Prereq: Senior or Graduate status. A systematic introduction to the underpinnings of Virtual Environments (VE), Virtual Worlds, advanced displays and immersive technologies; and an overview of some of the applications areas particularly virtual engineering.

M E 584. Technology, Globalization and Culture. (Dual-listed with M E 484) (Cross-listed with WLC) (3-0) Cr. 3. F. Prereq: senior classification for M E 484; graduate classification for M E 584 Cross-disciplinary examination of the present and future impact of globalization with a focus on preparing students for leadership roles in diverse professional, social, and cultural contexts. Facilitate an understanding of the threats and opportunities inherent in the globalization process as they are perceived by practicing professionals and articulated in debates on globalization. Use of a digital forum for presenting and analyzing globalization issues by on-campus and off-campus specialists. Meets International Perspectives Requirement.


Courses for graduate students:

M E 600. Seminar. Cr. R. Repeatable. (1-0)


M E 690. Advanced Topics. Cr. arr. Repeatable. Investigation of advanced topics of special interest to graduate students in mechanical engineering.

M E 690A. Advanced Topics: Experimental Gas Dynamics. Cr. arr. Repeatable. Investigation of advanced topics of special interest to graduate students in mechanical engineering.

M E 690B. Advanced Topics: Fluid Mechanics. Cr. arr. Repeatable. Investigation of advanced topics of special interest to graduate students in mechanical engineering.

M E 690C. Advanced Topics: Heat Transfer. Cr. arr. Repeatable. Investigation of advanced topics of special interest to graduate students in mechanical engineering.

M E 690D. Advanced Topics: Thermodynamics and Energy Utilization. Cr. arr. Repeatable. Investigation of advanced topics of special interest to graduate students in mechanical engineering.

M E 690E. Advanced Topics: Turbomachinery. Cr. arr. Repeatable. Investigation of advanced topics of special interest to graduate students in mechanical engineering.

M E 690F. Advanced Topics: Vehicular Propulsion Systems. Cr. arr. Repeatable. Investigation of advanced topics of special interest to graduate students in mechanical engineering.


M E 690H. Advanced Topics: Automatic Controls. Cr. arr. Repeatable. Investigation of advanced topics of special interest to graduate students in mechanical engineering.

M E 690J. Advanced Topics: Operating and Environmental Considerations in Design. Cr. arr. Repeatable. Investigation of advanced topics of special interest to graduate students in mechanical engineering.

M E 690K. Advanced Topics: Mechanical Behavior of Materials. Cr. arr. Repeatable. Investigation of advanced topics of special interest to graduate students in mechanical engineering.

M E 690L. Advanced Topics: Manufacturing Processes. Cr. arr. Repeatable. Investigation of advanced topics of special interest to graduate students in mechanical engineering.

M E 690M. Advanced Topics: Tribology. Cr. arr. Repeatable. Investigation of advanced topics of special interest to graduate students in mechanical engineering.

M E 690N. Advanced Topics: Sensitivity Methods. Cr. arr. Repeatable. Investigation of advanced topics of special interest to graduate students in mechanical engineering.

M E 690O. Advanced Topics: Engineering Computation. Cr. arr. Repeatable. Investigation of advanced topics of special interest to graduate students in mechanical engineering.
Cr. arr. Repeatable.
Investigation of advanced topics of special interest to graduate students in mechanical engineering.

M E 690Q. Advanced Topics: Independent Literature Investigation.
Cr. arr. Repeatable.
Investigation of advanced topics of special interest to graduate students in mechanical engineering.

M E 690R. Advanced Topics: Nuclear Engineering.
Cr. arr. Repeatable.
Investigation of advanced topics of special interest to graduate students in mechanical engineering.

M E 690S. Advanced Topics: CAD/CAM.
Cr. arr. Repeatable.
Investigation of advanced topics of special interest to graduate students in mechanical engineering.

M E 697. Engineering Internship.
Cr. R. Repeatable. Prereq: Permission of Director of Graduate Education, graduate classification
One semester and one summer maximum per academic year professional work period. Offered on a satisfactory-fail basis only.

Cr. arr. Repeatable.
Offered on a satisfactory-fail basis only.