

Applicable to students admitted to the curriculum in 2015-2016
MSC(ENG) IN MECHANICAL ENGINEERING

Objectives

The aim of the curriculum is to provide advanced postgraduate education in the fields of energy and power; environmental engineering; material technology; theoretical mechanics and computer integrated design and manufacturing to graduates in engineering or related science.

Modes of Study

There are two modes of study available: full-time or part-time. The full-time curriculum requires a student to satisfactorily complete 8 modules and a dissertation within a study period of 1 to 2 years. For students enrolled in the part-time curriculum, they may opt to either satisfactorily complete 12 modules or 8 modules plus a dissertation within a study period of 2 to 3 years.

Study Modules

The following study modules are the discipline modules of the curriculum. A number of these discipline modules will be selected for offer to students in each academic year. A student who does not undertake a dissertation must complete at least 9 discipline modules (of which at least 3 from List A). A student who undertakes a dissertation must complete at least 5 discipline modules (of which at least 3 from List A). Students can select Taught Postgraduate level modules offered by other curricula in the Faculty of Engineering as electives.

The following list is not final and some modules may not be offered every year.

All modules are assessed through examination (0%-100%) and/or coursework assessment (0%-100%).

List A discipline modules

MECH6010. Service behaviour of materials

The aims of this module are: (1) to study the relevant physical basis for the understanding and prediction of the service behaviour, such as creep, fracture, fatigue and corrosion, of materials in industrial applications; and (2) to provide the knowledge to engineers the microstructure in such a way that the service behaviour of materials can be improved.

Topics include: creep regimes; creep mechanisms; creep resistant alloys; brittle fracture; ductile fracture; brittle-ductile transition; fracture mechanism maps; fatigue; Basquins and Coffin-Manson Laws; Goodman's relation; Palmgren-Miner rule; corrosion; electrochemical principles; forms of corrosion; corrosion control; case studies; service behaviour of engineering plastics; polymer-matrix composites.

MECH6026. Computational fluid dynamics

This module aims to provide practicing engineers and researchers who are learning about Computational Fluid Dynamics (CFD) for the first time with the basic knowledge of numerical techniques and applications of CFD to solve engineering problems.

Topics include: fundamental concepts and equations of fluid dynamics; finite-difference method for solving partial differential equations (stability, consistency, convergence, accuracy and efficiency, and solution of system of algebraic equations); simplified models for fluid flow (wave equation) and heat

transfer (heat equation); grid generation; turbulent diffusion and shear flow dispersion; numerical solution of transport equations (mass; momentum and energy transport); applications involving the built environment, air pollution, atmospheric diffusion and dissipation, power-plant design, land-air- and marine-vehicle design; etc.

MECH6034. Computer-aided product development (CAPD) *

This module will focus on main technologies related to computer-aided product development, including popular product development methodologies, computer-aided design, haptic shape modelling, reverse engineering, additive manufacturing and rapid tooling. The specific module objectives are: (1) To have a good understanding of popular product development methodologies, product development processes; (2) to understand major technologies that can be used to assist product development at different phases; (3) to be able to apply the computer-aided product development technologies to develop a simple product; and (4) to understand the constraints of manufacturing and cost in product development.

Topics include: product development methodologies; basic product manufacturing technologies; design for manufacturing; product costing and value engineering; solid modelling techniques; reverse engineering; additive manufacturing.

MECH6047. Finite element analysis in mechanics

This module aims to: (1) introduce the basic concepts and procedures in finite element analysis; (2) introduce the methods of analysis using the finite element method for mechanics problems in engineering; and (3) provide hands-on experience on conducting various mechanics analyses by using a state-of-the-art finite element software.

Topics include: concepts and procedures in finite element analysis; elasticity analysis of truss, beam, plane and plate problems; thermo-mechanical analysis; direct integration methods for dynamic analysis; geometric and material nonlinear analyses; contact analysis; hands-on experience of finite element analysis.

For students taking the module in the academic year 2017-18 and thereafter:

This module aims to: (1) introduce the basic concepts and procedures in finite element analysis; (2) introduce the methods of analysis using the finite element method for mechanics problems in engineering; and (3) provide hands-on experience on conducting various mechanics analyses by using a state-of-the-art finite element software.

Topics include: concepts and procedures in finite element analysis; elasticity analysis of truss, beam, plane and plate problems; thermo-mechanical analysis; modal analysis; direct integration methods for dynamic analysis; geometric and material nonlinear analyses; contact analysis; hands-on experience of finite element analysis.

MECH7011. Applied thermodynamics and power plant technology

This module is focused on understanding the operating principles of power plants for the generation of electric power. The module objectives are to: (1) provide students with the working principles of various types of power plants, including fossil fuels, nuclear fuels and renewable energy; and (2) enable students to understand the thermodynamic principles, emission controls, environmental impact, cycle analysis, component design, plant operation and control technologies of power plant.

Topics include: sources of energy; thermodynamic properties of states; types of power plants; portable combustion engines; Brayton cycle; gas turbines; Rankine cycle; steam power plants; nuclear power plant; solar farm; wind turbines; thermoelectric energy.

Students who have taken and passed MECH6023 will not be allowed to take MECH7011.

List B discipline modules

MECH6017. Noise and vibration

This module aims to provide an integrated treatment for vibration system, noise radiation and the available control methods in engineering. Upon completing this module, the students are expected to: (1) explain the basic characteristics of a simple vibration system; (2) understand the mechanism of noise radiation by structural vibration or turbulent flow, and its impact on human hearing; and (3) offer solution to typical noise and vibration problems. The following are covered in the module: (i) fundamentals of vibration and its control, (ii) human hearing and environmental noise sources and their mitigation, (iii) noise control.

Topics include: fundamentals of single- and multiple degree of freedom systems; vibration modes and finite element analyses; vibration measurement; vibration isolation; sound radiation by vibration and flow; human hearing; environmental legislation and guidelines; sound propagation and duct acoustics; noise absorption and reflection; control of noise at the source.

MECH6018. Atmospheric environment modelling

This module aims to: (1) provide rigorous and comprehensive treatment of various modelling methodologies on the atmospheric environment and air pollution dispersion; and (2) introduce the state-of-the-art of various modelling packages for use in industry.

Topics include: foundations of atmospheric dynamics, models of winds, atmospheric turbulence modelling, boundary layer climate, air pollution in the boundary layer and atmospheric dispersion modelling.

MECH6019. Sources and control of air pollution

This module aims to: (1) provide understanding of the natural and anthropogenic sources of air pollution; and (2) introduce ways to prevent, control and minimize pollution by application of various control practices.

Topics include: concepts and procedures in basis of air pollution, air pollutant transport, sources of air pollutants, control of gaseous pollutants, control of particulate matter, atmospheric dispersion modelling.

MECH6024. Applied mathematics for engineers

This module aims to introduce some advanced knowledge of computational and statistical analysis and methods and provide the students with the ability to apply computational and statistical methods to solve engineering problems.

Topics include: statistical and numerical methods in engineering; hypothesis testing; estimation of parameters and confidence intervals; correlation coefficient; direct and iterative methods for systems of equations; optimization; numerical analysis.

EMEE 6004. Energy conservation and management

This module aims to: (1) understand the technological, social, economic and environmental factors related to the use of fossil fuels and renewable energy; (2) understand the major energy consumers in buildings, transportation and industrial processes; and (3) identify effective energy conservation and conduct energy audits and management systems.

Topics include: energy sources and environmental impact; energy in buildings; energy-efficient industrial processes; waste heat recovery; energy storage; energy auditing; energy strategies and management.

Students who have taken and passed MECH 6033 will not be allowed to take EMEE6004.

MECH6039. Biomaterials and tissue engineering

This module aims to: (1) equip students with a broad knowledge of biomaterials science and engineering and also tissue engineering; (2) have an in-depth understanding of various types of biomaterials currently in clinical use; (3) learn various techniques for developing, analysing and testing new biomaterials; and (4) make students aware of prosthetic medical device regulations and standards for materials and devices; to learn the most recent developments in the biomaterials and tissue engineering field and also future trends.

Topics include: definitions and fundamentals in biomaterials science and engineering; classification for biomaterials; criteria for biomaterials; bioceramics; metallic biomaterials; bioactive ceramic coatings; biomedical polymers; biomedical composites; analytical and testing techniques for developing new biomaterials; long-term performance of biomaterials; degradation of biomaterials in the human body environment; tissue engineering: principles, methods and applications; standards and regulatory issues; new trends in R & D of biomaterials and tissue engineering.

EMEE 6005. Renewable energy technology I: Fundamental

This module focuses mainly on different renewable energy technologies including hydro power, wind power, bioenergy, solar thermal, solar PV, energy storage, and energy usage. The specific module objectives are: (1) to have a deep understanding of the important role played by renewable energy in our energy supply; and (2) to grasp the fundamentals of different energy resources; (3) to understand energy storage and its important role in solving intermittency and other issues; and (4) to understand how to use energy more efficiently with solid state lighting and other energy saving technologies.

Topics include: renewable energy in a big picture; hydro power; wind power; solar thermal; solar PV; bioenergy; energy storage: intermittency and other issues; energy usage: solid state lighting.

Students who have taken and passed MECH 6042 will not be allowed to take EMEE6005.

EMEE 6006. Renewable energy technology II: Advanced

This module is on the working principles of advanced energy conversion devices including solar cells, fuel cells, batteries, photoelectrochemical (PEC) water splitting cells, and thermoelectric cells. Also covered are the energy carriers in different materials and the connection between different energy conversion devices. The specific module objectives are as: (1) to have a deep understanding of the energy carriers in different materials and their important roles in energy conversion; (2) to grasp the working principles of different energy conversion devices; (3) to be able to tell the differences and similarities between different energy conversion devices; and (4) to be able to design more efficient energy conversion devices.

Topics include: introduction: energy carriers in energy conversion cells; solar cells; fuel cells; electrochemical cells; photoelectrochemical (PEC) water splitting; thermoelectric cells.

Pre-requisite: EMEE6005 or for students who have previously passed MECH6042 or MECH6009 which have been obsolete with effect from 2014-2015 and 2011-2012 respectively

Students who have taken and passed MECH 6043 will not be allowed to take EMEE6006.

EMEE 6007. Energy and carbon audit

This module aims to: (1) provide students with the fundamental principles, skills and guidelines needed to carry out effective energy and carbon audits for the commercial and industrial sectors; (2) enable students to identify energy saving and carbon reduction measures and perform quantitative analysis to predict the energy savings and carbon reduction, environmental and economic benefits; and (3) enable students to verify the performance of implemented energy saving and carbon reduction measures.

Topics include: greenhouse gas emission; global warming; energy benchmarking; electrical distribution system; power quality and power factor; energy efficient lighting; motor; HVAC energy audit; refrigeration cycle; passive cooling; heating appliances; energy consumptions in compressors and pumps; energy saving measurements; local and international guidelines in energy and carbon audit; carbon footprint calculator.

Students who have taken and passed MECH 6044 will not be allowed to take EMEE6007.

MECH6045. Nanotechnology: fundamentals and applications

Nanotechnology is a rapidly developing discipline which has emerged from foundations based in microtechnology built up during the past few decades. Many exciting engineering applications in nanotechnology have been proposed and some are already in use. The current intensive research activities world-wide make it highly likely that many more products and applications in nanotechnology will emerge in the next few decades. This module aims at: (1) to equip students with fundamental knowledge and concepts on micro- and nano-technology, and to enable the students to apply such knowledge in future careers in both industry and universities; (2) to enable students to understand the effects of material size on behaviour and properties, and from these to appreciate the new possibilities in both fundamental science and practical applications brought about by nanotechnology; and (3) to introduce students to promising and emerging applications of nanotechnology in energy storage/conversion, unconventional materials and optical metamaterials, and help students to further research and/or work in specific application areas.

Topics include: characteristic length scales, nanomaterials, nanostructures, physical properties of nanostructures, deposition techniques of nanofabrication, micro/nanolithography, high resolution analysis and characterization, scanning probe methods, nanoindentation, mechanical behaviours of

bulk nanostructured materials, processing techniques for bulk nanostructured materials, ultrahigh strength of nanostructures, bio-nanotechnology, energy storage, energy conversion, nanophotonics, plasmonics, optical metamaterial.

Students who have taken and passed MECH 6040 will not be allowed to take MECH6045.

MECH6046. Microsystems for energy, biomedical and consumer electronics applications

Microelectromechanical systems (MEMS) and microfluidics have gradually found numerous applications in modern energy, mechanical engineering and biomedical engineering applications. This module aims to provide students with the necessary fundamental knowledge and experience in the working principles, design, materials, fabrication and packaging, and applications of MEMS and microfluidic systems. MEMS and microfluidic devices are emerging platforms for modern engineering applications in biomedicine, chemistry, material sciences and micro-machines. This is the module that will introduce graduate students and practicing engineers into the growing field of microsystem engineering. Practical examples will be given when delivering each major topic. Teaching of the module is also strengthened with case studies on carefully chosen topics. At the end of this module, students who fulfill the requirements of this module will be able to: (1) demonstrate ability to understand the fundamental principles behind MEMS and microfluidic; (2) differentiate different MEMS and microfluidic techniques and understand their importance in modern engineering; (3) apply concepts of micro-systems for industrial applications, particularly in energy, mechanical engineering and biomedical engineering.

Topics include: MEMS and microsystem products; microsensors; microactuators; microfluidic devices; multidisciplinary nature of microsystem design and manufacture; fluid mechanics in microscaled flows; materials for MEMS and microfluidic devices; fluid mechanics in microscaled flows; fabrication techniques of MEMS and microfluidic devices; flow characterization techniques; flow control with microfluidics; microfluidics for life sciences and chemistry.

Students who have taken and passed MECH 6032 will not be allowed to take MECH6046.

MECH6048. Dissertation (4 modules)

It involves undertaking a dissertation or report on a topic consisting of design, experimental or analytical investigation by individual students. The objectives are to: (1) simulate a realistic working experience for students; (2) provide them an experience of applying engineering principles, engineering economics, business or management skills; and (3) train students to work independently to obtain an effective and acceptable solution to industry-related or research-type problems.

MECH7010. Contemporary robotics

This module aims to explore the major technologies related to modern robotic systems, including the components and working principles of robots, automatic and computer-aided control, kinematics and control of industrial robotic manipulators, humanoid and biomimetic robots. The specific module objectives are listed as follows: (1) to have a comprehensive understanding of robotic systems in terms of their principles, historical evolutions, and applications for both industrial and civilian applications; (2) to understand the mathematical foundations, designs, data processing, and real-time control of various sensing and actuation units which comprise a robotic system; (3) to study the robot kinematics modelling, and the basic knowledge of intelligent motion planning that can enable effective manipulation in various applications; and (4) to explore the challenges and trends in contemporary robotic research, and the future directions for application of robotic components.

Topics include: a) Historical and contemporary robotic systems; b) Concept and components of robots, sensors and actuators; c) Robot kinematics; d) Robotic control and human interaction; e) Intelligent motion planning and localization; f) Applications and challenges of robots; g) Social, economic and ethical aspects of robotic applications.

MECH7012. Principles of engineering management

The focus of this module is on the basic principles, methods, and functions of engineering management. An overview of systems engineering is provided, with coverage on the design and management of an enterprise as an integrated system. The module objectives are: (1) acquire the essential principles of engineering management and understand how to apply these principles in daily practice in industry; and (2) understand and apply methods for managing the operations of engineering companies in the global business environment.

Topics include: systems engineering; core concepts and tools for the management of operations: operations planning and control functions, ERP systems; contemporary topics and approaches in engineering management: supply chain, green management, ethics, corporate social responsibility and compliance, risk and crisis management.

CIVL6002. Advanced finite elements

Equilibrium and virtual work principle; variation principle; numerical integration; computer applications; convergence and error estimate; hybrid and mixed methods for multi-field problems; enhanced and assumed strain method; nonlinear problems.

* Approved for reimbursement from the Continuing Education Fund (CEF) (applicable to Hong Kong Residents only)