MECHANICAL ENGINEERING, B.S. (ENGINEERING)

Begin Campus: Any Penn State Campus
End Campus: University Park

Program Description

Mechanical Engineering is one of the broadest engineering disciplines and is central in many new technological developments. Mechanical engineers create things that help improve the health, happiness and safety of our everyday lives such as biomedical devices, aircraft propulsion, and ways to store renewable energies. Mechanical engineering is divided into two broad areas: mechanical systems and thermal systems. Mechanical systems include the design of mechanisms and the analysis of the strength and wear of materials. Thermal systems include methods of energy conversions, heat transfer and fluid flow.

What is Mechanical Engineering?

Mechanical engineering is the largest and broadest engineering discipline. It uses a combination of physics, chemistry, mathematics, and materials science to study mechanical, fluid, and thermal systems. Mechanical engineers are problem solvers: They use their foundational knowledge to apply scientific and engineering methods to the design, construction, and testing of products and components to ensure that they are safe, reliable, and cost effective. Mechanical engineering differs from mechanical engineering technology in that it emphasizes the math and science behind the theoretical development of engineering analysis and design process principles rather than the application of these principles. Mechanical engineers design everything from athletic equipment, medical devices, theme park rides, and personal computers to engines and power plants.

You Might Like This Program If...

You think outside the box to develop solutions to everyday problems. Mechanical engineers contribute to our health, happiness and safety, and often change the way we think about the world.

Entrance to Major

This program currently has administrative enrollment controls. Administrative Enrollment Controls are initiated when limitations of space, faculty, or other resources in a major prevent accommodating all students who request them. Students must follow the administrative enrollment controls that are in effect for the semester that they entered the university. (http://advising.psu.edu/entrance-major-requirements) on the Academic Advising Portal.

Degree Requirements

For the Bachelor of Science degree in Mechanical Engineering, a minimum of 131 credits is required:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Requirement</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>General Education</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Requirements for the Major</td>
<td>113</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

General Education

Connecting career and curiosity, the General Education curriculum provides the opportunity for students to acquire transferable skills necessary to be successful in the future and to thrive while living in interconnected contexts. General Education aids students in developing intellectual curiosity, a strengthened ability to think, and a deeper sense of aesthetic appreciation. These are requirements for all baccalaureate students and are often partially incorporated into the requirements of a program. For additional information, see the General Education Requirements (http://bulletins.psu.edu/undergraduate/general-education/baccalaureate-degree-general-education-program) section of the Bulletin and consult your academic adviser.

The keystone symbol appears next to the title of any course that is designated as a General Education course. Program requirements may also satisfy General Education requirements and vary for each program.

Foundations (grade of C or better is required.)

- Quantification (GQ): 6 credits
- Writing and Speaking (GWS): 9 credits

Knowledge Domains

- Arts (GA): 6 credits
- Health and Wellness (GHW): 3 credits
- Humanities (GH): 6 credits
- Social and Behavioral Sciences (GS): 6 credits
- Natural Sciences (GN): 9 credits

Integrative Studies (may also complete a Knowledge Domain requirement)

- Inter-Domain or Approved Linked Courses: 6 credits

27 of these 45 credits are included in the Requirements for the Major.

University Degree Requirements

First Year Engagement

All students enrolled in a college or the Division of Undergraduate Studies at University Park, and the World Campus are required to take 1 to 3 credits of the First-Year Seminar, as specified by their college First-Year Engagement Plan.

Other Penn State colleges and campuses may require the First-Year Seminar; colleges and campuses that do not require a First-Year Seminar provide students with a first-year engagement experience.

First-year baccalaureate students entering Penn State should consult their academic adviser for these requirements.

Cultures Requirement

6 credits are required and may satisfy other requirements
• United States Cultures: 3 credits
• International Cultures: 3 credits

Writing Across the Curriculum
3 credits required from the college of graduation and likely prescribed as part of major requirements.

Total Minimum Credits
A minimum of 120 degree credits must be earned for a baccalaureate degree. The requirements for some programs may exceed 120 credits. Students should consult with their college or department adviser for information on specific credit requirements.

Quality of Work
Candidates must complete the degree requirements for their major and earn at least a 2.00 grade-point average for all courses completed within their degree program.

Limitations on Source and Time for Credit Acquisition
The college dean or campus chancellor and program faculty may require up to 24 credits of course work in the major to be taken at the location or in the college or program where the degree is earned. Credit used toward degree programs may need to be earned from a particular source or within time constraints (see Senate Policy 83-80 (http://senate.psu.edu/policies-and-rules-for-graduate-students/82-00-and-83-00-degree-requirements/#83-80)). For more information, check the Suggested Academic Plan for your intended program.

Requirements for the Major
This includes 27 credits of General Education courses: 9 credits of GN courses; 6 credits of GQ courses; 3 credits of GS courses; 9 credits of GWS courses.

To graduate, a student enrolled in the major must earn a grade of C or better in each course designated by the major as a C-required course, as specified by Senate Policy 82-44 (http://senate.psu.edu/policies-and-rules-for-undergraduate-students/82-00-and-83-00-degree-requirements/#82-44). For more information, check the Suggested Academic Plan for your intended program.

Additional Courses
Select 1 credit of First-Year Seminar
CHEM 112 Chemical Principles II
or BIOL 141 Introductory Physiology
ENGL 15 Rhetoric and Composition
or ENGL 30 Honors Freshman Composition
Select 3 credits of the following:
ECON 102 Introductory Microeconomic Analysis and Policy
ECON 104 Introductory Macroeconomic Analysis and Policy
ECON 14 Principles of Economics
EBF 200 Introduction to Energy and Earth Sciences
or ECON 102 Economics
Select 3 credits of the following:
ME 440 Mechanical Systems Design Project
or ME 441 Thermal Systems Design Project
ME 442 Advanced Vehicle Design I
& ME 443 and Advanced Vehicle Design II
ME 441 Thermal Systems Design Project
Select 2 credits of the following:
ME 325 Fluids Laboratory
ME 315 Heat Transfer Laboratory
ME 375 Vibrations Laboratory
ME 355 Dynamic Systems Laboratory
MECH 316 Experimental Determination of Mechanical Response of Materials

Supporting Courses and Related Areas
Select 3 credits in a 400-level ME Technical Elective course
Select 6 credits in Engineering Technical Elective courses, any 400-level courses in the College of Engineering not required for a B.S. in M.E.
Select 3 credits in General Technical Elective courses from department list

Prescribed Courses: Require a grade of C or better
CHEM 110 Chemical Principles I
MATH 140 Calculus With Analytic Geometry I
or MATH 141 Calculus With Analytic Geometry II
PHYS 211 General Physics: Mechanics
EMCH 211 Statics
EMCH 212 Dynamics

Prescribed Courses
EDSGN 100 Introduction to Engineering Design
CMPSC 200 Programming for Engineers with MATLAB
MATH 220 Matrices
PHYS 211 General Physics: Wave Motion and Quantum Physics
EE 212 Introduction to Electronic Measuring Systems
EMCH 315 Mechanical Response of Engineering Materials
ENGL 202C Effective Writing: Technical Writing
MATSE 259 Properties and Processing of Engineering Materials
IE 312 Product Design and Manufacturing Processes

ME 300 Engineering Thermodynamics I
MATH 251 Ordinary and Partial Differential Equations
PHYS 212 General Physics: Electricity and Magnetism
ME 320 Fluid Flow
ME 340 Mechanical Engineering Design Methodology
ME 345 Instrumentation, Measurements, and Statistics
ME 360 Mechanical Design
ME 370 Vibration of Mechanical Systems
ME 410 Heat Transfer
ME 450 Modeling of Dynamic Systems

EMCH 213 Strength of Materials
EMCH 211 Statics
EMCH 212 Dynamics

1 Excluding ME 410, ME 440, ME 441, ME 450, ME 494, and ME 496.
2 Three rotations of Engr Co-op (ENGR 295, ENGR 395, and ENGR 495) can be used as 3 credits of GTE.
3 Students who complete Basic ROTC may substitute 6 of the ROTC credits for 3 credits of GTE and 3 credits of GHW.
Integrated B.S. and M.S. in Mechanical Engineering

A limited number of undergraduate students in the B.S.M.E. program will be considered for admission to the integrated undergraduate/graduate program leading to the B.S.M.E. and the M.S.M.E. degrees. Students with a junior standing in the B.S.M.E. degree program may be admitted to the integrated B.S.M.E./M.S.M.E. program, following a positive review of an application specific to this program by the faculty committee on graduate admissions. Students must have attained a GPA of at least 3.0. Students admitted to the integrated program must maintain a GPA in all classes used toward the M.S.M.E. degree of at least 3.0.

Program Educational Objectives

The overall educational objective of the Mechanical Engineering program is to help prepare our graduates to succeed and provide leadership in a range of career paths. To that end we endeavor to maintain and continuously improve a curriculum that prepares our graduates to:

1. Apply foundational knowledge, critical thinking, problem solving, and creativity in engineering practice or in other fields.
2. Grow as leaders while maintaining the highest societal responsibility and ethical standards in the global workplace.
3. Develop innovative solutions through effective communication, collaboration, and teamwork.
4. Seek advancement in their knowledge and careers through continuing technical and/or professional studies.

Program Outcomes (Student Outcomes)

The Program outcomes are knowledge, skills, and/or behavior that are derived from the program educational objectives.

- An ability to apply knowledge of mathematics, science, and engineering.
- An ability to design and conduct experiments, as well as to analyze and interpret data.
- An ability to design a system, component, or process to meet desired needs within realistic constraints such as economic, environmental, social, political, ethical, health and safety, manufacturability, and sustainability.
- An ability to function on multidisciplinary teams.
- An ability to identify, formulate, and solve engineering problems.
- An understanding of professional and ethical responsibility.
- An ability to communicate effectively.
- The broad education necessary to understand the impact of engineering solutions in a global, economic, environmental, and societal context.
- A recognition of the need for, and an ability to engage in life-long learning.
- A knowledge of contemporary issues.
- An ability to use the techniques, skills, and modern engineering tools necessary for engineering practice.

Academic Advising

The objectives of the university’s academic advising program are to help advisees identify and achieve their academic goals, to promote their intellectual discovery, and to encourage students to take advantage of both in-and out-of class educational opportunities in order that they become self-directed learners and decision makers.

Both advisers and advisees share responsibility for making the advising relationship succeed. By encouraging their advisees to become engaged in their education, to meet their educational goals, and to develop the habit of learning, advisers assume a significant educational role. The advisee’s unit of enrollment will provide each advisee with a primary academic adviser, the information need to plan the chosen program of study, and referrals to other specialized resources.

READ SENATE POLICY 32-00: ADVISING POLICY (http://senate.psu.edu/policies-and-rules-for-undergraduate-students/32-00-advising-policy)

University Park

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Associate Head for Undergraduate Programs
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814-865-5242
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Suggested Academic Plan

Mechanical Engineering - Ending at University Park Campus (Last Names Starting with A-K)

The course series listed below provides only one of the many possible ways to move through this curriculum. The University may make changes in policies, procedures, educational offerings, and requirements at any time. This plan should be used in conjunction with your degree audit (accessible in LionPATH as either an Academic Requirements or What If report). Please consult with a Penn State academic adviser on a regular basis to develop and refine an academic plan that is appropriate for you.

If you are starting at a campus other than the one this plan is ending at, please refer here:

http://advising.engr.psu.edu/degree-requirements/academic-plans-by-major.aspx

First Year

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fall</th>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>Spring</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CHEM 110 (GN)†‡</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>CHEM 112 or BIOL 141 (GN)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ECON 102 or 104 (GS)†</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>ENGL 15, 30, or ESL 15 (GWS)‡</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EDSGN 100</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>MATH 141 or 141E (GQ)†‡</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MATH 140 or 140E (GO)†‡</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>PHYS 211 (GN, PHYSICS 211L &amp; PHYSICS 211R)†‡</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ME 101 or 102 (or First Year Seminar)†</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>General Education Course†</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>General Education Course†</strong></td>
<td><strong>3</strong></td>
<td><strong>17</strong></td>
<td><strong>17</strong></td>
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Second Year

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fall</th>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>Spring</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CAS 100A or 100B (GWS)†‡</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>EMCH 212</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CMPSC 200</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>EMCH 213</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EMCH 211</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>MATH 220</td>
<td>2-3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MATH 251</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>MATH 231</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PHYS 212 (GN, PHYSICS 212L &amp; PHYSICS 212R)†‡</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>ME 300†</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Park will take ENGL/CAS 137 in the fall semester and ENGL/CAS 138 in the spring semester. These courses carry the GWS designation and replace both ENGL 30 and CAS 100. Each course is 3 credits.

College Note

Engineering Technical Elective (ETE): Select a 3-credit, 400-level course in the College of Engineering (includes any non-required mechanical engineering course).

General Technical Elective (GTE): Select 3 credits of engineering, science, or math courses beyond the level required for the major (http://www.mne.psu.edu/students/undergraduate/curriculum-electives.aspx).

Health and Physical Activity Elective: Students who complete the ROTC Program may substitute 3 ROTC credits for the GHW requirement and 3 ROTC credits for the GTE requirement.

Mechanical Engineering Lab Course: Select a one-credit course from the following list: E MCH 316 (1), M E 315 (1), M E 325 (1), M E 355 (1), or M E 375 (1).

Mechanical Engineering Technical Elective (METE): Select a 3-credit, 400-level mechanical engineering course except M E 410, M E 440, M E 441, M E 442, M E 443, M E 450, M E 494, or M E 496.

Mechanical Engineering-Ending at University Park Campus (Last Names Starting with L-Z)

The course series listed below provides only one of the many possible ways to move through this curriculum. The University may make changes in policies, procedures, educational offerings, and requirements at any time. This plan should be used in conjunction with your degree audit (accessible in LionPATH as either an Academic Requirements or What If report). Please consult with a Penn State academic adviser on a regular basis to develop and refine an academic plan that is appropriate for you.

If you are starting at a campus other than the one this plan is ending at, please refer here:

http://advising. engr.psu.edu/degree-requirements/academic-plans-by-major.aspx

| University Requirements and General Education Notes: |
| US and IL are abbreviations used to designate courses that satisfy University Requirements (United States and International Cultures). |
| W, M, X, and Y are the suffixes at the end of a course number used to designate courses that satisfy University Writing Across the Curriculum requirement. |
| WGS, GQ, GHW, GN, GA, GH, and GS are abbreviations used to identify General Education program courses. General Education includes Foundations (WGS and GQ) and Knowledge Domains (GHW, GN, GA, GH, GS, and Integrative Studies). Foundations courses (WGS and GQ) require a grade of ‘C’ or better. |
| Integrative Studies courses are required for the General Education program. N is the suffix at the end of a course number used to designate an Inter-Domain course and Z is the suffix at the end of a course number used to designate a Linked course. |
| All incoming Schreyer Honors College first-year students at University Park will take ENGL/CAS 137 in the fall semester and ENGL/CAS 138 |
### General Education Course (GHW)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Third Year</th>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>Spring</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EMCL 315</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>EE 212</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENGL 202C (GWS)†</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>IE 312</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ME 320*</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>MATS 259</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ME 340*</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>ME 345*</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ME 360*</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>ME 370*</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Education Course (GHW)†</td>
<td>1.5</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>16.5-17.5</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fourth Year</th>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>Spring</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ME 410*</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>ME 450*</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ME 440 or 441</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Engineering Technical Elective (ETE)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Engineering Technical Elective (ETS)</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>General Technical Elective (GETE)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mechanical Engineering Lab Course</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Mechanical Engineering Lab Course</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mechanical Engineering Technical Elective (METE)</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>General Education Course†</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>General Education Course†</td>
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<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>16</td>
<td></td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Course requires a grade of C or better for the major
† Course requires a grade of C or better for General Education
‡ Course is an Entrance to Major requirement
‡† Course satisfies General Education and degree requirement

### University Requirements and General Education Notes:

- **US and IL are abbreviations used to designate courses that satisfy University Requirements (United States and International Cultures).**
- **W, M, X, and Y are the suffixes at the end of a course number used to designate courses that satisfy University Writing Across the Curriculum requirement.**
- **GWS, GQ, GHW, GN, GA, GH, and GS are abbreviations used to identify General Education program courses. General Education includes Foundations (GWS and GQ) and Knowledge Domains (GHW, GN, GA, GH, GS, and Integrative Studies). Foundations courses (GWS and GQ) require a grade of ‘C’ or better.**

**Integrative Studies courses are required for the General Education program. N is the suffix at the end of a course number used to designate an Inter-Domain course and Z is the suffix at the end of a course number used to designate a Linked course.**

All incoming Schreyer Honors College first-year students at University Park will take ENGL/CAS 137 in the fall semester and ENGL/CAS 138 in the spring semester. These courses carry the GWS designation and replace both ENGL 30 and CAS 100. Each course is 3 credits.
Accreditation

The baccalaureate program in Mechanical Engineering is accredited by the Engineering Accreditation Commission of ABET, www.abet.org (http://www.abet.org).

MORE INFORMATION (http://www.abet.org)

Contact

University Park

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