**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 enter the university.

**First-Year Students Entering Summer 2018, Fall 2018, Spring 2019**

In order to be eligible for entrance to this major, students must satisfy the following requirements:

- completed 40-59 credits at Penn State (actual credits taken at the University)
- completed with a grade of C or better: CHEM 110, MATH 140, MATH 141, MATH 250 or MATH 251, PHYS 211, and PHYS 212
- earned a minimum of 3.20 cumulative GPA

**Students Who Entered Prior to Summer 2018**

Students who entered the University prior to the summer 2018 semester should view the administrative enrollment controls 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>
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</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.
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). 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.

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### 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

Select 3 credits of the following:
- EBF 200 Introduction to Energy and Earth Sciences Economics
- CAS 100A Effective Speech
- or CAS 100B Effective Speech

Select 2 credits of the following:
- ME 325 Fluids Laboratory
- ME 315 Heat Transfer Laboratory
- ME 375 Vibrations Laboratory
- ME 355 Dynamic Systems Laboratory
- EMCH 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
- **EDSGN 100** Introduction to Engineering Design 3
- **CMPSC 200** Programming for Engineers with MATLAB 3
- **MATH 220** Matrices 2-3
- **MATH 231** Calculus of Several Variables 2
- **PHYS 214** General Physics: Wave Motion and Quantum Physics 2
- **EE 212** Introduction to Electronic Measuring Systems 3
- **EMCH 315** Mechanical Response of Engineering Materials 2
- **EMCH 213** Strength of Materials 3
- **ME 300** Engineering Thermodynamics I 3
- **MATH 251** Ordinary and Partial Differential Equations 4
- **PHYS 212** General Physics: Electricity and Magnetism 4
- **ME 320** Fluid Flow 3
- **ME 340** Mechanical Engineering Design Methodology 3
- **ME 345** Instrumentation, Measurements, and Statistics 4
- **ME 360** Mechanical Design 3
- **ME 370** Vibration of Mechanical Systems 3
- **ME 410** Heat Transfer 3
- **ME 450** Modeling of Dynamic Systems 3

### Prescribed Courses: Require a grade of C or better
- **CHEM 110** Chemical Principles I 3
- **MATH 140** Calculus With Analytic Geometry I 4
- **MATH 141** Calculus With Analytic Geometry II 4
- **PHYS 211** General Physics: Mechanics 4
- **EMCH 211** Statics 3
- **EMCH 212** Dynamics 3

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.

A. An ability to apply knowledge of mathematics, science, and engineering.
B. An ability to design and conduct experiments, as well as to analyze and interpret data.
C. 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.
D. An ability to function on multidisciplinary teams.
E. An ability to identify, formulate, and solve engineering problems.
F. An understanding of professional and ethical responsibility.
G. An ability to communicate effectively.
H. The broad education necessary to understand the impact of engineering solutions in a global, economic, environmental, and societal context.
I. A recognition of the need for, and an ability to engage in life-long learning.
J. A knowledge of contemporary issues.
K. 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

Eric Marsh
Associate Head for Undergraduate Programs
139 Reber Building
University Park, PA 16802
814-865-5242
emarsh@psu.edu

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

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<tr>
<th>Fall</th>
<th>Spring</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CAS 100A or 100B (GWS)*#†</td>
<td>3 EMCH 212*</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CMPSC 200</td>
<td>3 EMCH 213*</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EMCH 211*</td>
<td>3 MATH 220</td>
<td>2-3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MATH 251*#</td>
<td>4 MATH 231</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PHYS 212 (GN, PHYSICS</td>
<td>4 ME 300*</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>212L &amp; PHYSICS 212R)*#†</td>
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**Third Year**

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<th>Course</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tr>
<td>Fall</td>
<td>Spring</td>
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<tr>
<td>EE 212</td>
<td>3 EMCH 315</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IE 312</td>
<td>3 ENGL 202C (GWS)††</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MATSE 259</td>
<td>3 ME 320*</td>
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<td>ME 345*</td>
<td>4 ME 340*</td>
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<tr>
<td>ME 370†</td>
<td>3 ME 360*</td>
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<tr>
<td>General Education Course</td>
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<td>(GHW)†</td>
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**Fourth Year**

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fall</td>
<td>Spring</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ME 410*</td>
<td>3 ME 440 or 441</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ME 450†</td>
<td>3 Engineering Technical Elective (ETE)</td>
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<td>Engineering Technical Elective (ETE)</td>
<td>3 General Technical Elective</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mechanical Engineering Lab Course</td>
<td>1 Mechanical Engineering Lab Course</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mechanical Engineering Technical Elective (METE)</td>
<td>3 General Education Course†</td>
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</table>

Total Credits 131-132

- * 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.

**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)**

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</table>

Total Credits 17

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<table>
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Career Paths

Penn State’s mechanical engineering curriculum offers many opportunities to gain hands-on experience in the profession. From experiential laboratory components to a series of design courses, our program prepares you for entering industry or going on to graduate school. The design component of the curriculum culminates in an industry-sponsored senior design project, in which you’ll work in a team to solve a real-world issue.

Careers

Mechanical engineering graduates go on to work in a diverse range of industries for large multinational companies and small local firms. Mechanical engineers are well prepared to work as managers due to their broad backgrounds and creative problem-solving skills. Our graduates regularly accept positions at Fortune 500 companies, such as Ingersoll Rand, Boeing, Toshiba-Westinghouse, General Electric, Lockheed Martin, Northrop Grumman, Dow Chemical, ExxonMobil, Procter & Gamble, United Technologies Corporation, and Johnson & Johnson.

Opportunities for Graduate Studies

If you want to work with renowned faculty, scientists, and engineers, the Department of Mechanical and Nuclear Engineering is a great place for you. We are one of the nation’s largest engineering departments with more than 50 full-time faculty, numerous research staff, visiting faculty, scientists, and more than 300 graduate students. Research funding comes from industry and government sources, including the Department of Energy, the National Science Foundation, the Army, the Air Force, and NASA. Our graduates are known for their ability to find high-level positions in national research centers and laboratories as well as postdoctoral and tenure-track positions in top-tier research universities.

Professional Resources

- American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME) (http://sites.psu.edu/asmeuniversitypark)
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
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DEPARTMENT OF MECHANICAL AND NUCLEAR ENGINEERING
137 Reber Building
University Park, PA 16802
814-865-2519
emash@psu.edu

http://www.mne.psu.edu/about/ContactUs.aspx