

# MECHANICAL ENGINEERING

## Mission

In support of the University and college missions, the Department of Mechanical Engineering is dedicated to educating the highest quality engineering professionals and leaders. Graduates will be prepared to creatively solve engineering problems through the use of analysis, computation, and experimentation. Students completing the program should be well-informed citizens who have the ability to grow intellectually and are able to solve new, challenging problems with self-confidence. It is the department's intent to maintain a general and flexible curriculum that prepares students for both industrial practice and graduate education.

## Educational Objectives

The objective of the UNH Mechanical Engineering Program is to produce graduates who are ethical professionals and good citizens. As they progress in the first several years following graduation, they are expected to:

1. Use their engineering education and communication skills for success in:
  - a. Technical careers in industry, academia, government, or other organizations;
  - b. Graduate school in engineering or physical sciences;
  - c. Nontechnical careers or education in areas such as law, medicine, business, public policy, secondary education, service industries, etc.;
  - d. Careers involving management or entrepreneurship.
2. Exercise lifelong learning to:
  - a. Pursue professional development opportunities in their disciplines;
  - b. Develop new knowledge and skills;
  - c. Pursue new areas of expertise or careers.
3. Use their engineering background to:
  - a. Solve technical problems for societal benefit;
  - b. Develop new knowledge and products that will promote sustainable economic and environmental developments to improve the quality of life;
  - c. Promote the practice of engineering.

Mechanical engineering is a challenging profession and has two major emphases. The first is the general area of mechanical design, which involves all types of mechanical motion and the forces and energy that drive it. The other emphasis deals with energy generation and conversion and is grounded in the principles of the thermal and fluid sciences. Other subject areas, which support both emphases and are frequently part of designs and products, are the materials sciences, manufacturing, and control systems. All of these areas are included in the education and training of mechanical engineers. Ocean engineering is another focus area in our department which emphasizes solving engineering problems associated with the sustainable utilization of ocean resources and the scientific exploration and study of the ocean environment. Mechanical engineering requires significant study in mathematics, engineering computing, and basic sciences such as chemistry and physics, as well as basic engineering courses, before reaching the more specialized courses. Additional information can be found at the mechanical engineering website.

<https://ceps.unh.edu/mechanical-engineering>

## Programs

- [Mechanical Engineering Major \(B.S.\)](#)
- [Mechanical Engineering Minor](#)

## Courses

### Mechanical Engineering (ME)

#### ME 400 - Mechanical Engineering First Year Seminar

**Credits:** 1

This course serves as an introduction to success strategies for Mechanical Engineering students, who are new to the University of New Hampshire's College of Engineering and Physical Sciences. Emphasis will be on skills needed to be successful as a Mechanical Engineering student, including academic support resources, specific career opportunities, and professional development.

**Grade Mode:** Credit/Fail Grading

#### ME 441 - Introduction to Engineering Design and Solid Modeling

**Credits:** 0 or 4

Why are some products better than others? What is the definition of "better"? This course uses an inquiry-guided approach to explore the product design process via team design projects and laboratory exercises. Everyday products are examined from historical, societal, design, safety and manufacturing perspectives. Topics include ideation, sketching, design constraints, solid modeling, decision making, statistical quality control, manufacturing methods and engineering analysis. Students develop an appreciation for good design and the ability to communicate design ideas via 3-D solid models, written and oral reports.

**Attributes:** Inquiry (Discovery); Writing Intensive Course

**Prerequisite(s):** MATH 418 with a minimum grade of D- or MATH 425 (may be taken concurrently) with a minimum grade of D- or MATH 425H (may be taken concurrently) with a minimum grade of D-.

**Grade Mode:** Letter Grading

#### ME 477 - Introduction to Solid Modeling

**Credits:** 1

Introduction to solid modeling and engineering drawings using computer-aided design software. For Mechanical Engineering students, this course can only be taken with permission as an alternative to the required ME 441 Introduction to Engineering Design and Solid Modeling for students with extensive engineering design experience (e.g., high school or another university course), an engineering project based program (e.g., FIRST Robotics or Project Lead the Way), or similar experience (e.g., working in the industry). Students should not take both ME 441 and ME 477. Lecture and Lab.

**Grade Mode:** Letter Grading

#### ME 503 - Thermodynamics

**Credits:** 3

Properties of a pure substance, work and heat, laws of thermodynamics, entropy, thermodynamic relations, cycles.

**Prerequisite(s):** (PHYS 407 with a minimum grade of D- or PHYS 407S with a minimum grade of D- or PHYS 407H with a minimum grade of D-) and (CHEM 405 (may be taken concurrently) with a minimum grade of D- or CHEM 403 (may be taken concurrently) with a minimum grade of D-) and (MATH 528 (may be taken concurrently) with a minimum grade of D- or MATH 526 (may be taken concurrently) with a minimum grade of D-).

**Grade Mode:** Letter Grading

**ME 525 - Statics****Credits:** 4

Introduces statics. Two- and three-dimensional force systems, the concept of equilibrium, analysis of trusses and frames, centroids, bending moment and shear force diagrams, and friction.

**Prerequisite(s):** ((PHYS 407 with a minimum grade of C or PHYS 407S with a minimum grade of C or PHYS 407H with a minimum grade of C) and (MATH 426 with a minimum grade of C+ or MATH 426H with a minimum grade of C+)) or ((PHYS 407 with a minimum grade of C+ or PHYS 407S with a minimum grade of C+ or PHYS 407H with a minimum grade of C+) and (MATH 426 with a minimum grade of C or MATH 426H with a minimum grade of C)).

**Equivalent(s):** CEE 500, CIE 525, CIE 528

**Grade Mode:** Letter Grading

**ME 526 - Mechanics of Materials****Credits:** 3

Introduces strength of materials. Analysis of members under torsion, axial, shear and bending stresses, superposition of stresses, stability of columns.

**Attributes:** Writing Intensive Course

**Prerequisite(s):** ME 525 with a minimum grade of D- or CEE 500 with a minimum grade of D-.

**Equivalent(s):** CEE 501, CIE 526, CIE 529

**Grade Mode:** Letter Grading

**ME 561 - Introduction to Materials Science****Credits:** 4

The concepts of materials science and the relation of structure of material properties. Atomic structure, bonding material transport, mechanical properties of materials, solidification, phase diagrams, solid state transformations, and corrosion and oxidation. Laboratory exercises are carried out to demonstrate the basic concepts of the course.

**Attributes:** Writing Intensive Course

**Prerequisite(s):** (MATH 425 with a minimum grade of D- or MATH 425H with a minimum grade of D-) and (CHEM 403 with a minimum grade of D- or CHEM 405 with a minimum grade of D-).

**Equivalent(s):** ME 661

**Grade Mode:** Letter Grading

**ME 603 - Heat Transfer****Credits:** 3

Analysis of phenomena; steady-state and transient conduction, radiation, and convection; engineering applications.

**Prerequisite(s):** MATH 527 with a minimum grade of D- and ME 608 with a minimum grade of D-.

**Grade Mode:** Letter Grading

**ME 608 - Fluid Dynamics****Credits:** 0 or 3

Dynamics and thermodynamics of compressible and incompressible fluid flow; behavior of fluids as expressed by hydrostatic, continuity, momentum, and energy equations.

**Prerequisite(s):** ME 503 with a minimum grade of D- and (MATH 527 (may be taken concurrently) with a minimum grade of D- and IAM 550 (may be taken concurrently) with a minimum grade of D-).

**Equivalent(s):** ME 508

**Grade Mode:** Letter Grading

**ME 627 - Dynamics****Credits:** 3

Introduction to particle and rigid body dynamics. Rectilinear and curvilinear motion, translation and rotation, momentum and impulse principles, and work-energy relationships.

**Attributes:** Writing Intensive Course

**Prerequisite(s):** ME 525 with a minimum grade of D- or CEE 500 with a minimum grade of D-.

**Equivalent(s):** CIE 527, ME 527

**Grade Mode:** Letter Grading

**ME 643 - Machine Design****Credits:** 3

Analysis, synthesis, and design of machine elements and systems. Development of engineering judgment; selection of materials stress and failure analysis; kinematic arrangement design for finite and infinite life. Open-ended design problems unify course topics.

**Attributes:** Writing Intensive Course

**Prerequisite(s):** (ME 526 with a minimum grade of D- or CEE 501 with a minimum grade of D-) and ME 561 with a minimum grade of D- and ME 627 with a minimum grade of D-.

**Grade Mode:** Letter Grading

**ME 646 - Experimental Measurement and Data Analysis****Credits:** 0 or 4

Basic and advanced techniques of engineering and scientific parameter measurement including statistical data and error analysis, curve fitting, calibration and application of transducers, and technical writing. Laboratory experiments draw on concepts from mechanics, thermodynamics, and fluid mechanics.

**Attributes:** Writing Intensive Course

**Prerequisite(s):** (ME 526 with a minimum grade of D- or CEE 501 with a minimum grade of D-) and ME 608 (may be taken concurrently) with a minimum grade of D-.

**Grade Mode:** Letter Grading

**ME 670 - Systems Modeling, Simulation, and Control****Credits:** 4

Lumped parameter models for mechanical, electrical, thermal, fluid, and mixed systems. Matrix representation, eigenvalues, eigenvectors, time domain solutions, frequency response plots, and computer simulations are used to explore system response. Design of system for desired responses. Introduces feedback control, stability, and performance criteria.

**Attributes:** Writing Intensive Course

**Prerequisite(s):** ECE 537 with a minimum grade of D- and ME 627 with a minimum grade of D- and MATH 527 with a minimum grade of D-.

**Grade Mode:** Letter Grading

**ME 705 - Thermal System Analysis and Design****Credits:** 4

Engineering design of thermal systems that involve real problems and analysis of performance of the design. Design criteria include function, performance, optimization, economy, safety, and others as appropriate for the system. Required for ME seniors.

**Co-requisite:** ME 608

**Attributes:** Writing Intensive Course

**Prerequisite(s):** ME 503 with a minimum grade of D-.

**Equivalent(s):** ME 605

**Grade Mode:** Letter Grading

**ME 706 - Renewable Energy: Physical and Engineering Principles****Credits:** 3

The goal of this course is to become "Fluent in energy" and to learn about the engineering fundamentals of renewable energy technologies. The course will begin by giving an overview of U.S. energy usage and sources, as well as history and trends. Various renewable energy topics will then be discussed. Where applicable, topics will be discussed in detail from a fluid and thermal sciences point of view. Guest lecturers and a field trip may be included. This course is open to all engineering seniors.

**Prerequisite(s):** ME 608 with a minimum grade of D-.**Grade Mode:** Letter Grading**ME 707 - Analytical Fluid Dynamics****Credits:** 4

Kinematics of flow; constitutive relationships; development of the Navier-Stokes equations; vorticity theorems; potential flow.

**Prerequisite(s):** ME 608 with a minimum grade of D-.**Grade Mode:** Letter Grading**ME 709 - Computational Fluid Dynamics****Credits:** 3

Conservation of mass, momentum, and energy, discretization schemes, boundary and initial conditions, turbulence and turbulence models, two-equation models, CFD software such as OpenFOAM, best practice guidelines for CFD. The class incorporates the use and creation of Open Educational Resources (OER).

**Grade Mode:** Letter Grading**ME 712 - Waves in Fluids****Credits:** 3

Linear and nonlinear dynamics of hyperbolic and dispersive wave systems with application to acoustic waves, surface and internal gravity waves, Rossby waves, and capillary waves. Key physical concepts include wave-generation mechanisms, wavelength and amplitude dispersion, group velocity and energy propagation, steady streaming, and mode interactions.

**Prerequisite(s):** ME 608 with a minimum grade of D-.**Grade Mode:** Letter Grading**ME 717 - Marine Robotics and Applications****Credits:** 3

The purpose of this course is to cover (in lecture and lab format) the broad spectrum of marine vehicles and applications, as well as what is involved in designing and building robotic vehicles for specific missions. Course topics include: marine applications, sensors for marine environments, vehicle subsystems, ocean and open water environment, dynamic modeling and control, and design/fabrication/testing. Various invited speakers (both scientists and engineers) provide learning modules on various marine robotic related topics.

**Prerequisite(s):** ME 670 with a minimum grade of D-.**Equivalent(s):** OE 717**Grade Mode:** Letter Grading**ME 726 - Fracture Mechanics****Credits:** 4

The goal is to acquaint the student with understanding of the basic principles behind the derivation of the most common linear and non-linear fracture mechanical equations. The aim is also to gain knowledge in analytical predictions of the failure of materials and become familiar with the ongoing fracture mechanical research. The motivation for this course is that many practical problems in mechanical engineering, manufacturing and materials science have to do with material deformation and failure.

**Prerequisite(s):** ME 526 with a minimum grade of D- and ME 561 with a minimum grade of D-.**Grade Mode:** Letter Grading**ME 727 - Advanced Mechanics of Solids****Credits:** 4

Stress, strain, stress-strain relations, anisotropic behavior, introduction to elasticity, plane stress/strain, bending and torsion of members with general cross-sections introduction to thin plates and shells, energy methods.

**Prerequisite(s):** ME 526 with a minimum grade of D-.**Grade Mode:** Letter Grading**ME 742 - Materials Processing in Manufacturing****Credits:** 4

Description and analysis of major material shaping processes in modern manufacturing. Casting: fluid flow and heat transfer, solidification, casting processes, properties of cast components and geometric capabilities. Forming: plasticity and formability, bulk and sheet metal forming processes, properties of formed components and geometric capabilities. Machining: cutting forces and tool wear, machining processes, properties of machined components and geometric capabilities. Overview of some non-conventional processes. Lab demonstrations.

**Prerequisite(s):** ME 526 with a minimum grade of D- and ME 561 with a minimum grade of D-.**Grade Mode:** Letter Grading**ME 743 - Satellite Systems, Dynamics, and Control****Credits:** 3

General satellite systems with emphasis on spacecraft dynamics and control. Topics include general satellite information such as types of satellites, missions, and orbits, as well as satellite subsystems. Basic spacecraft dynamics and orbital mechanics topics are covered. Advanced topics include attitude and orbit estimation, and automatic attitude control.

**Prerequisite(s):** ME 670 with a minimum grade of D-.**Grade Mode:** Letter Grading**ME 747 - Experimental Measurement and Modeling of Complex Systems****Credits:** 0 or 4

Experimental measurements for evaluation, design, and control of mechanical, electrical, and thermal/fluid phenomena. Emphasizes the dynamic response of both sensors and systems and the interactions between physical processes. Experimental examples are drawn from mechanics, material science, thermal-fluid science and controls.

**Attributes:** Writing Intensive Course**Prerequisite(s):** ME 646 with a minimum grade of D- and ME 670 with a minimum grade of D-.**Grade Mode:** Letter Grading

**ME 755 - Senior Design Project I****Credits:** 2

Part I of this two-part sequence emphasizes problem definition, analysis, development of alternative concepts, decision-making processes, synthesis of an optimum solution and the development of a conceptual design. Lectures on these and other topics are combined with seminars given by professionals from industry, government, and academia. Related topics include ISO9000 quality systems, engineering management, design review process, engineering economics, team building and communications. Students are organized into project teams to develop a conceptual design. Formal design reviews are conducted. A formal proposal documents the semester's work.

**Attributes:** Writing Intensive Course**Equivalent(s):** ME 656**Grade Mode:** Letter Grading**ME 756 - Senior Design Project II****Credits:** 2

Continuation of Senior Design Project I, in which the proposal submitted in the previous course is developed into a prototype system. Part II emphasizes the development, assembly, testing and evaluation of the system designed in Part I. Lectures and seminars focus on the prototype development process, design verification and industry practices. A formal report documents the semester's work.

**Attributes:** Writing Intensive Course**Prerequisite(s):** ME 755 with a minimum grade of D-.**Equivalent(s):** ME 656**Grade Mode:** Letter Grading**ME 772 - Control Systems****Credits:** 0 or 4

Development of advanced control system design concepts such as Nyquist analysis, lead-lag compensation, state feedback, parameter sensitivity, controllability, observability, introduction to non-linear and modern control. Includes interactive computer-aided design and real-time digital control. Lab.

**Prerequisite(s):** ME 747 with a minimum grade of D-.**Equivalent(s):** ECE 772, EE 772**Grade Mode:** Letter Grading**ME 777 - Computer Aided Engineering****Credits:** 4

In this course, modules of Solid Works (beyond its basic solid modeling capabilities) and other software is used to demonstrate how computer based tools can be used in engineering practice, in particular design analysis and optimization. Emphasis placed on using knowledge from past engineering courses to obtain theoretical calculations to compare with the results from the computer software package.

**Attributes:** Writing Intensive Course

**Prerequisite(s):** (ME 526 with a minimum grade of D- or CEE 501 with a minimum grade of D-) and ME 627 with a minimum grade of D- and ME 603 with a minimum grade of D- and ME 608 with a minimum grade of D-.

**Grade Mode:** Letter Grading**ME 786 - Introduction to Finite Element Analysis****Credits:** 4

Topics include basic matrix theory, potential energy approach, direct stiffness method, calculus of variations, development of finite element theory, and modeling techniques. Applications in solid mechanics, heat transfer, fluids, and electromagnetic devices, via both commercially available codes and student-written codes. Lab.

**Prerequisite(s):** ME 526 with a minimum grade of D-.**Equivalent(s):** CIE 786**Grade Mode:** Letter Grading**ME 795 - Special Topics****Credits:** 1-4

New or specialized courses and/or independent study.

**Repeat Rule:** May be repeated for a maximum of 20 credits.**Grade Mode:** Letter Grading**ME 797 - Honors Seminar****Credits:** 1

Course enrichment and/or additional independent study in subject matter pertaining to a 600- or 700-level ME course other than ME 695, ME 696, ME 697, or ME 795.

**Attributes:** Honors course**Repeat Rule:** May be repeated for a maximum of 3 credits.**Grade Mode:** Letter Grading

## Faculty

[Mechanical Engineering Department Faculty](#)