MECHANICAL ENGINEERING

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FACULTY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF MECHANICAL ENGINEERING AND MATERIALS SCIENCE

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Lecturers Beth Anne Bennett, Kailasnath Purushothaman, Joseph Zinter

†A joint appointment with primary affiliation in another department or school.

The role of the mechanical engineer has changed dramatically over the past few decades with the extensive use of high-performance computers (in such areas as computational fluid dynamics design, data acquisition, control, and manufacturing), the interfacing of MEMS and actuators via microprocessors to measure and control (e.g., in flow control, robot control, and optimization of automobile performance), and the advent of new materials (composite, shape-memory alloy, ceramic, superconducting) for new applications (e.g., prosthetic devices, biomaterials, stealth aircraft). These areas offer mechanical engineering students special opportunities for creativity, demanding that they learn not only in depth but also in breadth. Demands for increased energy efficiency and reduced environmental impact—as might be realized, for example, in novel gas turbine or electric hybrid vehicles—require that students understand the fundamentals of mechanics, thermodynamics, fluid mechanics, combustion, and materials science. In all these tasks, the utmost consideration of the modern mechanical engineer is improving the quality of human life. The engineer must be constantly aware both of the finiteness of Earth’s resources and its environment and of the burden that engineering works place on them.

The educational mission of the Department of Mechanical Engineering and Materials Science is to provide an excellent education that will prepare students to become members of the next generation of mechanical engineers. To implement this mission, the department adheres to the following set of educational objectives: to provide a balanced technical and nontechnical education to enable graduates to enter highly selective graduate schools and/or to pursue technical careers in industry or government laboratories; to enable graduates to improve and adapt their skills to accommodate rapid technological changes; to prepare graduates to communicate effectively and to understand the ethical responsibilities and impact on society of their profession. To achieve these objectives, the following fundamental educational goals have been established for the Department of Mechanical Engineering and Materials Science: to provide a comprehensive introduction to basic science and mathematics, which form the foundation of mechanical engineering; to provide thorough training in methods of analytical, experimental, and data analysis, including problem formulation; to provide instruction in the fundamentals of the design process, including project innovation, synthesis, and management, both individually and in a team setting; to provide both a technical and a nontechnical program of study in which oral and written communication skills are developed; to instill in students an understanding of their professional and ethical responsibilities, which affect society and their profession.

At Yale, three mechanical engineering programs are offered: a B.S. degree program with a major in Mechanical Engineering, a B.S. degree program with a major in Engineering Sciences (Mechanical), and a B.A. degree program with a major in Engineering Sciences (Mechanical). Prospective majors in both B.S. programs are advised to complete introductory physics and mathematics through calculus (MATH 115) by the end of their freshman year.

A student’s undergraduate engineering program usually culminates in one or more special project courses (MENG 471, 472), in which the student pursues a particular interest through design-oriented projects and experimental investigations. Projects may be initiated by the student, may be performed in a team, or may be derived from the ideas of faculty members who place undergraduates in their ongoing research projects. All interested students should contact the director of undergraduate studies, preferably no later than the beginning of their sophomore year.

B.S. degree program in Mechanical Engineering This is the most technically intensive mechanical engineering degree program and is accredited by the Engineering Accreditation Commission of ABET, Inc. This program is appropriate for students who plan careers as practicing engineers in industry, consulting firms, or government as well as for students who are considering a career in research and plan to pursue an advanced degree in engineering.

The prerequisites in mathematics are MATH 112, 115, and ENAS 151, or the equivalent. The basic science prerequisites are PHYS 200, 201, or 180, 181; one laboratory from PHYS 165L or 205L, and one from PHYS 166L or 206L, or equivalents.

Nineteen term courses beyond the prerequisites are required as follows:
1. Advanced mathematics: ENAS 194 and MATH 222 or 225

2. Mechanical engineering and related: MENG 211, 280, 285, 286L, 361, 363L, 382, 389, 390, 471 or 472 (the senior requirement), 489, ENAS 130, EENG 200, and at least one term course in chemistry (e.g., CHEM 112, 113, 114, 115, or 118)

3. Technical electives: Three approved technical electives chosen in consultation with the director of undergraduate studies.

The curriculum in this program is arranged in prescribed patterns, but some departures from it are possible with approval of the director of undergraduate studies.

B.S. degree program in Engineering Sciences (Mechanical) This non-ABET degree program is suitable for students who wish to gain significant expertise within mechanical engineering while combining their engineering studies with related disciplines. For example, a number of students have taken courses in architecture while pursuing a program in mechanical engineering that emphasizes structural mechanics; similarly, a student with an interest in computer graphics might combine engineering courses in computer-aided design with programming courses from the Department of Computer Science. The major requires twelve approved term courses in engineering, which can cover a broad array of topics within the subject provided that they contribute to a coherent program. Students should consult with the director of undergraduate studies at the beginning of their sophomore year.

The prerequisites in mathematics are MATH 112, 115, and ENAS 151, or the equivalent. The basic science prerequisites are PHYS 180, 181, or 200, 201; one laboratory from PHYS 165L or 205L, and one from PHYS 166L, 206L, or MENG 286L.

The program requires twelve approved term courses beyond the prerequisites, including the senior project.

B.A. degree program in Engineering Sciences (Mechanical) In a society with increasing levels of technical sophistication, a well-rounded individual must have some background in science and technology. The non-ABET B.A. program is designed for students who may be planning careers in business, law, medicine, journalism, or politics but need to understand the impact that science and technology can have on society at large. An understanding of engineering methods and practices, combined with a traditional liberal arts education, provides a strong background for a variety of careers. The program is well suited for students who wish to fulfill the requirements of two majors.

The prerequisites in mathematics are MATH 112 and 115. The basic science prerequisite is physics at least to the level of PHYS 170, 171.

The program requires eight approved term courses beyond the prerequisites, including the senior project.

Senior requirement In all B.S. and B.A. degree programs, students must successfully complete a project (MENG 471 or 472) during their senior year.

Courses for majors in the humanities and social sciences Mechanics and mechanical engineering content can be found in several courses intended for those not majoring in science. See under Engineering and Applied Science.

REQUIREMENTS OF THE MAJOR
MECHANICAL ENGINEERING, B.S.

Prerequisites MATH 112, 115, and ENAS 151, or equivalent; PHYS 200, 201, or 180, 181, and 2 labs (1 from PHYS 165L or 205L, and 1 from PHYS 166L or 206L, or equivalents)

Number of courses 19 term courses beyond prereqs (incl senior project)

Specific courses required ENAS 130 and 194; EENG 200; MATH 222 or 225; MENG 211, 280, 285, 286L, 361, 363L, 382, 389, 390, 489

Distribution of courses 3 technical electives chosen in consultation with DUS; 1 term course in chem

Substitution permitted With DUS approval

Senior requirement Senior project (MENG 471 or 472)

ENGINEERING SCIENCES (MECHANICAL), B.S. AND B.A.

Prerequisites B.S. — MATH 112, 115, and ENAS 151, or equivalent; PHYS 180, 181, or 200, 201, and 2 labs (1 from PHYS 165L or 205L; 1 from PHYS 166L, 206L, or MENG 286L); B.A. — MATH 112, 115; PHYS 170, 171

Number of courses B.S. — 12 term courses beyond prereqs (incl senior project); B.A. — 8 term courses beyond prereqs (incl senior project)

Substitution permitted With DUS approval

Senior requirement Both degrees — senior project (MENG 471 or 472)

Courses

*MENG 185b, Mechanical Design  Aaron Dollar
A course designed for potential majors in mechanical engineering, with units on design, materials science, structural mechanics, utilization of a machine shop, mechanical dissection, and computers in mechanical engineering. Includes a design project competition. Prerequisite: physics at the level of PHYS 180, or permission of instructor.  SC  RP
MENG 211b, Thermodynamics for Mechanical Engineers  
Udo Schwarz

Study of energy and its transformation and utilization. First and Second Laws for closed and open systems, equations of state, multicomponent nonreacting systems, auxiliary functions (H, A, G), and the chemical potential and conditions of equilibrium. Engineering devices such as power and refrigeration systems and their efficiencies. Prerequisites: PHYS 180 or 200, and MATH 115.  
QR, SC

MENG 280a, Mechanical Engineering I: Strength and Deformation of Mechanical Elements  
Eric Dufresne

Elements of statics; mechanical behavior of materials; equilibrium equations, strains and displacements, and stress-strain relations. Elementary applications to trusses, bending of beams, pressure vessels, and torsion of bars. Prerequisites: PHYS 180 or 200, and MATH 115.  
QR, SC

MENG 285a, Introduction to Materials Science  
Udo Schwarz

Study of the atomic and microscopic origin of the properties of engineering materials: metals, glasses, polymers, ceramics, and composites. Phase diagrams; diffusion; rates of reaction; mechanisms of deformation, fracture, and strengthening; thermal and electrical conduction. Prerequisites: elementary calculus and background in basic mechanics (deformation, Hooke’s law) and structure of atoms (orbitals, periodic table).  
QR, SC

MENG 286Lb, Solid Mechanics and Materials Science Laboratory  
Jan Schroers

Experiments that involve either structural mechanics or materials science. Comparisons between structural theories and experimental results. Relationships among processing, microstructure, and properties in materials science. Introduction to techniques for the examination of the structure of materials.  
SC

MENG 361a, Mechanical Engineering II: Fluid Mechanics  
Nicholas Ouellette

Mechanical properties of fluids, kinematics, Navier-Stokes equations, boundary conditions, hydrostatics, Euler’s equations, Bernoulli’s equation and applications, momentum theorems and control volume analysis, dimensional analysis and similitude, pipe flow, turbulence, concepts from boundary layer theory, elements of potential flow. Prerequisites: ENAS 194 or equivalent, and physics at least at the level of PHYS 170.  
QR, SC

*MENG 363Lb, Fluid Mechanics and Thermodynamics Laboratory  
Eric Brown

Hands-on experience in applying the principles of fluid mechanics and thermodynamics. Integration of experiment, theory, and simulation to reflect real-world phenomena. Students design and test prototype devices. Prerequisites: MENG 211 and 361.  
WR, SC

MENG 365a, Propulsion and Energy Conversion  
Juan Fernández de la Mora

Review of thermodynamics and fluid dynamics; discussion of elements of gas dynamics. Air-breathing engines for aircraft propulsion, gas turbines, and different forms of rocket propulsion. Engineering aspects of other forms of energy conversion with applications to one of the following areas: internal combustion engines, fossil-fuel power plants, solar energy. Prerequisite: MENG 361 or permission of instructor.  
QR, SC

MENG 383a, Mechanical Engineering III: Dynamics  
Corey O’Hern

Kinematics and dynamics of particles and systems of particles. Relative motion; systems with constraints. Rigid body mechanics; gyroscopes. Prerequisites: PHYS 180 or 200, and MATH 120 or ENAS 151.  
QR, SC

MENG 389b, Mechanical Engineering IV: Fluid and Thermal Energy Science  
Kailasnath Purushothaman

Fundamentals of mechanical engineering applicable to the calculation of energy and power requirements, as well as transport of heat by conduction, convection, and radiation. Prerequisites: MENG 211, 361, and ENAS 194; or permission of instructor.  
QR, SC

MENG 400b, Computer-Aided Engineering  
Marshall Long

Aspects of computer-aided design and manufacture (CAD/CAM). The computer’s role in the mechanical design and manufacturing process; commercial tools for two- and three-dimensional drafting and assembly modeling; finite-element analysis software for modeling mechanical, thermal, and fluid systems. Prerequisite: ENAS 130 or EENG 200; or permission of instructor.  
QR

MENG 403a, Introduction to Nanomaterials and Nanotechnology  
Jeeyoung Cha

Survey of nanomaterial synthesis methods and current nanotechnologies. Approaches to synthesizing nanomaterials; characterization techniques; device applications that involve nanoscale effects. Prerequisite: MENG 285 or permission of instructor.  
SC

MENG 404a, Medical Device Design and Innovation  
Joseph Zinter and Richard Fan

The engineering design, project planning, prototype creation, and fabrication processes for medical devices that improve patient conditions, experiences, and outcomes. Students develop viable solutions and professional-level working prototypes to address clinical needs identified by practicing physicians. Some attention to topics such as intellectual property, the history of medical devices, documentation and reporting, and regulatory affairs.
MENG 440a / ENAS 440a, Applied Numerical Methods I  Beth Anne Bennett
The derivation, analysis, and implementation of various numerical methods. Topics include root-finding methods, numerical solution of systems of linear and nonlinear equations, eigenvalue/eigenvector approximation, polynomial-based interpolation, and numerical integration. Additional topics such as computational cost, error analysis, and convergence are studied in several contexts throughout the course. Prerequisites: MATH 115, and 222 or 225, or equivalents; ENAS 130 or some knowledge of MATLAB, C++, or Fortran programming. QR RP

MENG 441b / ENAS 441b, Applied Numerical Methods II  Beth Anne Bennett
The derivation, analysis, and implementation of numerical methods for the solution of ordinary and partial differential equations, both linear and nonlinear. Additional topics such as computational cost, error estimation, and stability analysis are studied in several contexts throughout the course. Prerequisites: MATH 115, and 222 or 225, or equivalents; ENAS 130 or some knowledge of MATLAB, C++, or Fortran programming; ENAS 194 or equivalent. ENAS 440 is not a prerequisite. QR RP

MENG 463a, Theoretical Fluid Dynamics  Juan Fernández de la Mora
Derivation of the equations of fluid motion from basic principles. Potential theory, viscous flow, flow with vorticity. Topics in hydrodynamics, gas dynamics, stability, and turbulence. Prerequisite: MENG 361 or equivalent. QR, SC RP

*MENG 471a and MENG 472b, Special Projects  Corey O’Hern
Faculty-supervised individual or small-group projects with emphasis on research (laboratory or theory), engineering design (required for the ABET-accredited program), or tutorial study. Students are expected to consult the director of undergraduate studies and appropriate faculty members to discuss ideas and suggestions for topics. These courses may be taken at any time during the student’s career when appropriate and may be taken more than once. Permission of adviser and director of undergraduate studies required.

MENG 489a, Mechanical Design: Process and Implementation  Vincent Wilczynski
Study of the design process, including concept generation, project management, teamwork, detail design, and communication skills. Student teams implement a real-world design project with hardware objectives that can be achieved in a term, and a problem definition that allows room for creative solutions. Prerequisite: MENG 280, 361, or permission of instructor. SC RP

*MENG 491b, Appropriate Technology and the Developing World  Joseph Zinter and Robert Hopkins
Introduction to user-centered design through exploration of appropriate technology, a class of solutions that solve a particular need and are viable and sustainable within the environmental, economic, cultural, and technological infrastructure for which they are intended. Focus on technologies for use in the developing world. Student design teams conceptualize, ideate, prototype, and generate a commercialization plan for a real-world appropriate technological device. RP