Mechanical Engineering

Chair
• Ching-Long Lin

Undergraduate major: mechanical engineering (B.S.E.)
Graduate degrees: M.S. in mechanical engineering; Ph.D. in mechanical engineering
Faculty: https://me.engineering.uiowa.edu/people
Website: https://me.engineering.uiowa.edu

Courses

Mechanical Engineering Courses

ME:0000 Mechanical Engineering Internship/Co-op 0-1 s.h.
Mechanical engineering students participating in the Cooperative Education Program register in this course during work assignment periods; registration provides a record of participation in the program on the student's permanent record. Requirements: admission to the Cooperative Education Program.

ME:1000 First-Year Seminar 0 s.h.
Small discussion class taught by a faculty member; topics chosen by instructor; may include outside activities (e.g., films, lectures, performances, readings, visits to research facilities). Requirements: first- or second-semester standing.

ME:2020 Mechanical Engineering Sophomore Seminar 0 s.h.
Introduction to the mechanical engineering profession and curriculum; ethics and professionalism in classroom and workplace; mentorship program and professional societies; visits to laboratories and local companies. Requirements: sophomore or transfer standing.

ME:2200 Introduction to Mechanical Engineering Design 2 s.h.
Solid modeling, assemblies, drawings, and Geometric Dimensioning and Tolerancing (GD&T); basic engineering design process; introduction to engineering standards, product liability, and ethics. Prerequisites: ENGR:1100.

ME:2300 Manufacturing Processes 3 s.h.
Fundamentals of design, engineering graphics, and manufacturing processes; computer graphics using Pro/ENGINEER for CAD and CAM; typical industrial processes including casting, welding, machining, and forming; laboratory exercises and projects. Corequisites: ENGR:2720 and (ME:2200 or BME:2710).

ME:3040 Thermodynamics II 3 s.h.
Power and refrigeration cycles; mixtures of gases, psychrometric mixtures; availability; thermodynamics of combustion and chemical equilibrium. Prerequisites: ENGR:2130.

ME:3045 Heat Transfer 3 s.h.
Principles of heat transfer by conduction, convection, radiation; analytical and numerical methods of solution; applications to engineering problems. Prerequisites: MATH:3550 and ENGR:2510 and ENGR:1300.

ME:3052 Mechanical Systems 4 s.h.
Topics in mechanical behavior and failure of materials; materials selection in design; stress and deflection analysis; static failure theories; fatigue and durability in design; fracture, statistical, and reliability considerations; introduction to finite element analysis using commercial software packages; standards, product liability, engineering ethics. Prerequisites: ENGR:2750. Corequisites: ENGR:2720 and ME:2300 and STAT:2020.

ME:3091 Professional Seminar: Mechanical Engineering 0 s.h.
Professional aspects of mechanical engineering: presentations, student/faculty interaction, professional society involvement, panel discussions, plant trip. Requirements: junior standing.

ME:3351 Engineering Instrumentation 2 s.h.
Basic elements of measuring circuits (bridges, voltage dividers, shunts, transformers); laboratory instrumentation (oscilloscopes, multimeters, power supplies, signal generators); amplifiers; frequency response principles; sensors; data acquisition, signal processing, filtering using Labview. Prerequisites: PHYS:1612 and ENGR:2120.

ME:3600 Control of Mechanical Engineering Systems 3 s.h.
Introduction to fundamental control theory and robot manipulators. Prerequisites: MATH:2560 and ENGR:2710.

ME:4024 Product Design and Realization 3 s.h.
Design principles and methods to develop 3D part models and assemblies; emphasis on use of mechanical engineering design principles and functional requirements through the complete design process using PTC Creo Parametric; for students with a basic knowledge of computer-aided design (CAD). Prerequisites: ENGR:2760 or ME:2200. Corequisites: ENGR:2750.

ME:4048 Energy Systems Design 4 s.h.
Principles and design of energy conversion systems, including solar, wind, and geothermal power systems; design of thermal-fluid system components, modeling and simulation of systems, optimization techniques; design projects. Prerequisites: ME:3045.

ME:4055 Mechanical Systems Design 3 s.h.
Kinematics of mechanisms, dynamics and vibration of machines, cam and gear, machine elements, computer-aided analysis of machines. Prerequisites: ENGR:2710 and ME:3052.

ME:4080 Experimental Engineering 4 s.h.

ME:4086 Mechanical Engineering Design Project 3 s.h.
Application of mechanical, thermal, fluid systems design; student or team design projects initiated at various levels in the design process and carried through to higher levels; emphasis on synthesis, written and oral communication. Corequisites: ME:4048 or ME:4055.

ME:4098 Individual Investigations: Mechanical Engineering 3 s.h.
Individual projects for mechanical engineering undergraduate students; laboratory study; engineering design project; analysis, synthesis, simulation of an engineering system; computer software development, research.
ME:4110 Computer-Aided Engineering 3 s.h.

ME:4111 Scientific Computing and Machine Learning 3 s.h.
Numerical methods in scientific computing; root problems and optimization; linear algebraic equations; eigenvalue problems; numerical differentiation and integration; interpolation and curve-fitting; initial value and boundary value problems; machine learning in regression, classification, and clustering problems; Python programming and packages. Prerequisites: MATH:2560. Same as CEE:4511.

ME:4112 Engineering Design Optimization 3 s.h.
Engineering design projects involving modeling, formulation, and analysis using optimization concepts and principles; linear and nonlinear models, optimality conditions, numerical methods. Prerequisites: ENGR:2110 and MATH:2550. Requirements: junior standing. Same as CEE:4512.

ME:4113 Control of Mechanical Engineering Systems 3 s.h.
How to model simple engineering systems, apply time and frequency domain analysis techniques, and design control systems; application of these techniques using MATLAB; writing differential equations describing engineering systems and determine time domain response to a wide range of inputs; use of state-variable equations to model engineering systems and determine their time response to a wide range of inputs; describe advantages of feedback control; analyze performance of control systems; determine stability of control systems using Root-Locus, Bode, and Nyquist methods; design feedback control systems using frequency domain and state-variable methods. Prerequisites: MATH:2550 and MATH:2560 and ENGR:2750. Same as CEE:4513.

ME:4116 Manufacturing Processes Simulations and Automation 3 s.h.
Material processing, metal cutting theories, forming, micro/nano fabrication, programmable logic controller, computer numerical controllers, discrete control system, DC and AC servo motors, Command generation. Prerequisites: ME:2300. Same as ISE:4113.

ME:4117 Finite Element Analysis 3 s.h.
Trusses and frames; Rayleigh-Ritz methods; 2D and 3D elasticity problems; heat transfer, thermo-mechanical coupling; transient problems; use of commercial software for applications in analysis and design of mechanical engineering systems. Prerequisites: ENGR:2750.

ME:4120 Advanced Linear Control Systems 3 s.h.
Overview of system modelling and classical control design tools and methods, and bridges those with state-space approach for analysis and control of linear systems in the time domain; topics include linearization, root locus, Bode diagrams, Nyquist criteria, robustness margins, lead-lag compensators, observability and controllability, state-space realizations, internal stability and input-output stability, pole-placement, observers and reduced order observers, separation principle, performance limitations, linear quadratic regulator and its guaranteed margins, and optimal estimation. Prerequisites: ME:3600 or (MATH:2550 and MATH:2560 and ENGR:2750).

ME:4125 Biomimetic Fluid Dynamics 3 s.h.
Study and development of engineered systems that mimic the structure and function of biological systems; overview of the fluid dynamic principles that govern locomotion by swimming or flapping flight; equations of motion, fundamentals of aerodynamics; analytical models of force generation for swimming and flight; parameters governing effective locomotion; experimental and numerical studies to understand the present state of the art, challenges, and important questions. Prerequisites: ENGR:2510.

ME:4140 Modern Robotics and Automation 3 s.h.
Introduction to basics of robotics and automation; mechanical design development and manufacturing of smart and automated devices, components, and systems; principles of robotic motion and kinematics; introduction to process automation through system requirement identification, equipment integration, sensors, actuation, and logical control; fundamentals of design, analysis, and manufacturing to meet functionality requirements of products, devices, and systems using the principles of mechatronics to develop smart and automated products. Prerequisites: ENGR:2710.

ME:4145 Industrial Internet of Things (IIoT) 3 s.h.
Introduction to process automation through system requirement identification, equipment integration, sensors, actuation, and logical control; fundamentals of design, analysis, and manufacturing to meet functionality requirements of products, devices, and systems using principles of mechatronics to develop smart and automated products; integration of advanced networking and monitoring into device control and automation. Corequisites: ME:3351.

ME:4150 Artificial Intelligence in Engineering 3 s.h.
Artificial intelligence, computational intelligence, data science and engineering, machine intelligence, digital manufacturing and design, intelligent machining, fault diagnosis, autonomy, robotics; applications in mechanical engineering. Prerequisites: ME:4111.

ME:4153 Fundamentals of Vibrations 3 s.h.
Vibration of linear discrete and continuous mechanical and structural systems; harmonic, periodic, and arbitrary excitation; modal analysis; applications. Prerequisites: ENGR:2750. Same as CEE:4532.

ME:4160 Engines and Power Plants 3 s.h.
Fundamental principles of thermodynamics applied to areas of particular interest in mechanical engineering; power plants and refrigeration cycles, internal combustion engine cycles, gas mixtures and combustion, mixing processes and pollutant formation, and hybrid power systems. Prerequisites: ENGR:2130.

ME:4175 Computational Naval Hydrodynamics 3 s.h.
Simulations based on relevant vessels and propellers will be used to introduce the use of computational fluid dynamics for the analysis of surface and underwater marine craft performance, while also introducing naval hydrodynamics concepts related to resistance, propulsion, maneuvering, and seakeeping; an educational version of the naval hydrodynamics code REX will be freely distributed and used in the class. Prerequisites: ENGR:2510.
ME:4176 Experimental Naval Hydrodynamics 3 s.h.
Introduction to experimental methods for measurement of propeller thrust performance and resistance of surface vessels and underwater marine craft; present and expand on fundamental concepts related to fluid mechanics, measurement methods, and uncertainty analysis in a context that focuses on naval science and technology challenges; students work with models of relevant vessels and propellers in a dedicated towing tank facility. Prerequisites: ENGR:2510.

ME:4186 Enhanced Design Experience 2-3 s.h.
Experience working in teams on industry-sponsored design and product development projects scheduled for production; emphasis on practical experience with the complete design process, from conceptualization through prototyping, evaluation, testing, and production; written and oral communication. Prerequisites: ME:4086.

ME:4200 Modern Engineering Materials for Mechanical Design 3 s.h.
Overview of design approaches for different engineering materials (i.e., metals, polymers, ceramics); topics include manufacturing processes, smart and advanced functionalities for applications in emerging engineering fields, theoretical models describing mechanical behavior, failure mechanisms, and design criteria; introduction to composite materials; computer lab activities focus on finite element method (FEM) simulations of materials with different mechanical properties. Prerequisites: ME:3052.

ME:5113 Mathematical Methods in Engineering 3 s.h.

ME:5114 Nonlinear Control in Robotic Systems 3 s.h.
Nonlinear analysis and control systems theory; focus on Lyapunov-based analysis methods and associated design techniques; introduction to definitions of stability for autonomous and nonautonomous systems leading to a Lyapunov framework, and based on the developed Lyapunov-based analysis tools, basic and advanced design tools for contemporary engineering problems are presented, including state-of-the-art techniques. Prerequisites: ME:3600 or ME:4120 or CBE:4105 or ECE:3600.

ME:5115 Cooperative Autonomous Systems 3 s.h.
How to enable ground, marine, and aerial robotic platforms to perform cooperative tasks autonomously in complex real-world environments; theoretical topics include numerical approximation, optimal control, nonlinear analysis and control, game theory, and graph theory; project-based activities in a laboratory environment; focus on design and implementation of motion planning, tracking, collision avoidance, and cooperative control algorithms for autonomous vehicles. Prerequisites: ME:3600 or ME:4120 or ME:4113 or CBE:4105 or CEE:3600.

ME:5120 Vehicle System Dynamics 3 s.h.
Introduction to principles and basic procedures used in analysis of vehicle system dynamics and design; topics include tire mechanics, longitudinal and cornering tire force characteristics, steady-state and transient vehicle cornering responses, vehicle stability control, ride comfort, suspension design, off-road vehicle mobility, tire-soil interaction, and vehicle performance evaluations. Prerequisites: ENGR:2710.
ME:5162 Experimental Methods in Fluid Mechanics and Heat Transfer  3 s.h.
Hands-on experience in methodology of conducting experiments in fluid mechanics and heat transfer from design to data acquisition and processing; essential theoretical elements, experimental methodologies, data acquisition systems, uncertainty analysis; wide variety of instruments for fundamental and applied experimentation; work in small groups; design, implement, test, and report an experiment in area of interest. Same as CEE:5372.

ME:5167 Composite Materials  3 s.h.
Mechanical behavior of composite materials and their engineering applications; composite constituents (fibers, particles, matrices) and their properties and behavior; macromechanical behavior of composite laminae; micromechanical predictions of composite overall properties; classical lamination theory; composite beams and plates. Prerequisites: ENGR:2750. Same as CEE:5137.

ME:5179 Continuum Mechanics arr.
Mechanics of continuous media; kinematics of deformation, concepts of stress and strain; conservation laws of mass, momentum and energy; constitutive theories; boundary and initial value problems. Prerequisites: ENGR:2750 or ENGR:2510. Same as CEE:5179.

ME:5195 Contemporary Topics in Mechanical Engineering arr.
New topics in fluid and thermal sciences and mechanical systems not covered in other courses; topic and coverage determined by student/faculty interest. Requirements: junior standing.

ME:5210 Intermediate Thermodynamics  3 s.h.
Fundamental principles of thermodynamics as applied to phase equilibrium; properties of fluids, first and second law, variable composition systems, behavior of real fluids, mathematical techniques for solution thermodynamics. Requirements: CBE:3105 or ME:3040 or graduate standing. Same as CBE:5110.

ME:6191 Graduate Seminar: Mechanical Engineering  1 s.h.
Presentation and discussion of recent advances and research in mechanical engineering by guest lecturers, faculty, students.

ME:6198 Individual Investigations: Mechanical Engineering arr.
Individual project in mechanical engineering, for department graduate students; laboratory study, engineering design project, analysis and simulation of an engineering system, computer software development, research.

Experimental and/or analytical investigation of an approved topic for partial fulfillment of requirements for M.S. with thesis in mechanical engineering.

ME:6214 Analytical Methods in Mechanical Systems  3 s.h.
Vector and function spaces; functionals and operators in Hilbert spaces; calculus of variations and functional analysis with application to mechanics; Ritz and Galerkin methods. Prerequisites: ME:5113. Same as CEE:6310.

ME:6215 Finite Element II  3 s.h.
Computer implementation; plate and shell elements; mixed and hybrid formulations; nonlinear analysis; recent development; introduction to boundary element method. Prerequisites: CEE:4533. Same as CEE:6532, IGPI:6216.

ME:6216 Laser Materials Processing  3 s.h.
Proficient engineering background involved in laser processing and manufacturing; fundamentals and operation principles for various types of laser systems, laser optics, principles of laser-matter interactions, laser-induced thermal and thermomechanical effects; emerging areas of laser applications (e.g., microscale and nanoscale laser processing, ultrafast laser processing) and related energy transport analyses; video demonstrations. Prerequisites: ME:3045 and MATH:3550.

ME:6217 Advanced Modeling and Simulation for Manufacturing  3 s.h.
How materials often behave in a complicated manner involving deeply coupled effects among stress/stain, temperature, and microstructure during a manufacturing process; modeling and prediction of material processes based on a metallo-thermomechanical coupled analysis; focus on heat transfer modeling in material processes, fundamental mechanics aspects required for material processing analysis, and microstructural evolution modeling in material processes. Prerequisites: CEE:4533 and ME:3045.

ME:6240 Probabilistic Inference and Estimation for Mechanical Systems  3 s.h.
Theory and application of common techniques for probabilistic inference and estimation including types of estimators; Bayesian, Kalman, and Particle filtering; various motion and measurement models; and algorithms for simultaneous localization and mapping (SLAM). Prerequisites: ME:4120. Requirements: some level of exposure to probability and statistics, linear algebra, and 3D rigid body dynamics.

ME:6245 Diffusive Transport  3 s.h.
Diffusive transport of heat, mass, and momentum; phenomenological laws and analogies; analytical and numerical solution techniques; inverse heat conduction; multiphase and multicomponent systems. Prerequisites: ME:5145. Same as CBE:6145.

ME:6247 Contact Mechanics  3 s.h.
Varied aspects of contact mechanics and engineering applications, including stationary contacts, sliding, rolling, impact, and fretting fatigue; emphasis on theoretical basis of solutions of contact mechanics problems; mathematical methods of solving contact problems using Green’s function method; complex potentials and integral transform methods. Prerequisites: ME:5113 and ME:5150.

ME:6255 Multiscale Modeling  3 s.h.
Computational modeling of engineering materials ranging from molecular to continuum scales, molecular dynamics and Monte Carlo methods, nanoscale continuum modeling, scale-coupling methods. Prerequisites: ME:5143 or CEE:4533. Same as CEE:7549.

ME:6260 Viscous Flow  3 s.h.
Equations of viscous flow; classical analytical and numerical solutions; flow regimes and approximations; laminar boundary layers—equations, solution methods, applications; stability theory and transition; incompressible turbulent flow—meanflow and Reynolds-stress equations, modeling, turbulent boundary layers and free shear flows. Requirements: for ME:6260—ME:5160; for CEE:6376—CEE:5369. Same as CEE:6376.

ME:6261 Multibody System Dynamics  3 s.h.
Introduction to principles of analytical and computational dynamics for rigid and flexible multibody systems; spatial kinematics and dynamics of rigid body systems, numerical solution procedures for multibody dynamics analysis, and flexible multibody dynamics. Prerequisites: ME:5154.
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<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ME:6262</td>
<td>Inviscid Flow</td>
<td>3 s.h.</td>
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<td>Derivation of governing equations for fluid flow; general theorems for motion of inviscid, incompressible flows; solution techniques for two- and three-dimensional irrotational flows; forces and moments acting on immersed bodies; vortex kinematics and dynamics; steady and unsteady aerodynamic theory. Prerequisites: ME:5160.</td>
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<tr>
<td>ME:6263</td>
<td>Compressible Flow</td>
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<td>Compressible flow behavior; 1D unsteady flow and appropriate use of x-t diagrams; 2D flows and use of the method of characteristics; Burgers' Equation and its properties.</td>
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<td>ME:6275</td>
<td>Advanced Heat Transfer</td>
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<td>Conservation laws, forced and natural convection; surface and gaseous radiation; analytical and numerical methods; applications. Prerequisites: ME:5145.</td>
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<td>ME:6278</td>
<td>Nonlinear Elasticity</td>
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<td>Nonlinear elasticity theory; modern applications in biomechanics; vectors and tensors, constitutive theory of elastic material, some exact solutions of boundary value problems, inverse deformation relations, stability of elastic material, theories of tissue adaptive response. Prerequisites: ME:5150. Requirements: elementary linear elasticity.</td>
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<td>ME:6300</td>
<td>Control of Networked Autonomous Systems</td>
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<td>Introduction to state-of-the-art research in networked autonomous robotic systems; graph theory based network models, decentralized control, multi-agent cooperation, and mobile sensor networks. Corequisites: ME:5115 or ME:5114.</td>
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<td>ME:6320</td>
<td>Fluid-Structure Interactions</td>
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<td>Foundations of fluid-structure interactions (FSI) with focus on hydro-electric responses of flexible structures in dense fluids; structural dynamics and fluid dynamics are too often characterized as distinct disciples and this dichotomous mindset fails to recognize the important effects that dynamics fluid loads exert upon structural vibrations and vice-versa; students are equipped with knowledge to approach modern FSI problems; foundations of theoretical FSI, experimental methods, and computational approaches. Prerequisites: (ME:5160 or ME:4125) and (ME:4153 or ME:5154).</td>
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<td>ME:7248</td>
<td>Combustion Theory</td>
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<td>Laminar flame theory; turbulent combustion; spray combustion; thermal ignition; pollutant formation, oxidation; combustion diagnostics. Prerequisites: ME:5145 and ME:5160.</td>
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<tr>
<td>ME:7250</td>
<td>Advanced Fracture Mechanics</td>
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<td>Fracture of modern engineering materials; linear-elastic fracture; computational methods; functionally graded materials; elastic-plastic fracture; multiscale fracture and fatigue crack initiation. Prerequisites: ME:5113 and (ME:5159 or CEE:4533). Same as CEE:7250.</td>
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<tr>
<td>ME:7256</td>
<td>Computational Solid Mechanics</td>
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<td>Advanced computational methods for nonlinear and dynamic analysis of solids, structures; new space- and time-discretization methods for problems, including highly nonlinearities, large deformation, contact/impact conditions. Prerequisites: ME:5113 and CEE:4533.</td>
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<td>ME:7257</td>
<td>Probabilistic Mechanics and Reliability</td>
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<td>Stochastic and reliability analysis of mechanical systems; computational methods for structural reliability; random eigenvalue problem; random field and stochastic finite element methods. Prerequisites: CEE:4533 and ME:5113.</td>
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<tr>
<td>ME:7266</td>
<td>Interfacial Flows and Transport Processes</td>
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<td>Physics of fluid interfaces and numerical techniques to simulate interface dynamics; interfacial flow coupled with thermal-fluid transport, from molecular interactions to continuum approximations; development of computer code segments to track and represent interface-flow interactions. Prerequisites: ME:5145 and ME:5160.</td>
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<tr>
<td>ME:7267</td>
<td>Multiphase Flow and Transport</td>
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<td>Thermodynamic and mechanical aspects of interfacial phenomena and phase transitions; nucleation, phase-change, species transport, particulate flows, liquid-vapor systems, solidification, porous media. Prerequisites: ME:5145 and ME:5160.</td>
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<tr>
<td>ME:7268</td>
<td>Turbulent Flows</td>
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<td>Origin; need for modeling, averages, Reynolds equations, statistical description; experimental methods and analysis; turbulence modeling; free shear layers and boundary layers; complex shearflows; development of computational strategies; recent literature on theory and applications, chaos phenomena. Prerequisites: ME:5160.</td>
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<td>ME:7269</td>
<td>Computational Fluid Dynamics and Heat Transfer</td>
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<td>Development of numerical and algebraic approximations for elliptic, parabolic, hyperbolic partial differential equations; finite-volume, spectral, pseudo-spectral, Galerkin techniques; stability of numerical methods; CFL condition; stiff problems; adaptive grid generation and boundary-fitted coordinates; numerical solutions for one- and two-dimensional compressible and incompressible fluid flow and heat transfer problems. Prerequisites: ME:4111 and ME:5160.</td>
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<tr>
<td>ME:7299</td>
<td>Research: Mechanical Engineering Ph.D.</td>
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<td>Experiment and/or analytical investigation of an approved topic for partial fulfillment of requirements for Ph.D. in mechanical engineering.</td>
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