



Mechanical and Manufacturing Engineering

Course Outline

Term 2 2019

MTRN4110

ROBOT DESIGN

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1. Staff contact details

Contact details and consultation times for course convenor

Name: Dr Ngai M Kwok

Office location: Room 510C, Building J17

Tel: (02) 9385 6091

Email: nmkwok@unsw.edu.au

Moodle: <https://moodle.telt.unsw.edu.au/user/profile.php?id=27496>

The consultation time slots will be announced later.

Consultations are possible outside the set times, but a prior appointment would be preferred. Email and Moodle discussions can also be used for solving more general issues.

Contact details and consultation times for additional lecturers/demonstrators/lab staff

Name: Dr Leo Wu

Office location: Room 301C, Building J17

Tel: (02) 9385 6548

Email: liao.wu@unsw.edu.au

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Consultations are possible outside the set times, but a prior appointment would be preferred. Email and Moodle discussions can also be used for solving more general issues.

Please see the course [Moodle](#).

2. Important links

- [Moodle](#)
- [Lab Access](#)
- [Computing Facilities](#)
- [Student Resources](#)
- [Course Outlines](#)
- [Engineering Student Support Services Centre](#)
- [Makerspace](#)
- [UNSW Timetable](#)
- [UNSW Handbook](#)
- [UNSW Mechanical and Manufacturing Engineering](#)

3. Course details

Credit points

This is a 6 unit-of-credit (UoC) course and involves 5 hours per week (h/w) of face-to-face contact.

The normal workload expectations of a student are approximately 25 hours per term for each UOC, including class contact hours, other learning activities, preparation and time spent on all assessable work.

You should aim to spend about 12.5 h/w on this course. The additional time should be spent in making sure that you understand the lecture material, completing the set assignments, further reading, and revising for any examinations.

Contact hours

	Day	Time	Location
Lectures	Tuesday	1pm - 3pm	Webster Theatre B (K-G15-290)
Lab	Please check your timetable	Please check your timetable	J18 / Mechatronics Lab

Please refer to your class timetable for the learning activities you are enrolled in and attend only those classes.

Summary and Aims of the course

This course enables students to explore relevant aspects of autonomous robotic systems. These include the implementation of functions such as selecting, understanding, and installing the sensing capabilities of the robot, processing of the sensor measurements for performing perception, and applying low- and high-level control processes to enable the robotic platform to operate in complex contexts.

This course allows students to apply the concepts introduced in the course, in combination with previously acquired knowledge (from subjects related to Programming, Mathematics, Control, Mechanics, Electronics), in order to solve the complex course projects that involve tasks such as the full design and implementation of a small robotic platform to give it the intelligence to operate in an unknown context. The intelligence of the platform involves performing perception tasks such as obstacle detection, mapping, planning and visualization for human interaction with the intelligent agent. All these components of the agent are implemented by the students.

Student learning outcomes

This course is designed to address the learning outcomes below and the corresponding Engineers Australia Stage 1 Competency Standards for Professional Engineers as shown. The full list of Stage 1 Competency Standards may be found in Appendix A.

After successfully completing this course, you should be able to:

Learning Outcome		EA Stage 1 Competencies
1.	Apply relevant theoretical knowledge pertaining to mobile robots including locomotion, perception and localization utilising onboard sensors, navigation and path planning, for complex problem-solving	PE1.1
2.	Apply general computer vision techniques for feature/object detection and tracking, for complex problem-solving	PE1.1
3.	Demonstrate hands-on skills in mechatronics design, fabrication, and implementation by completing practical activities	PE2.1
4.	Collaborate effectively within a team via participation in a problem-solving competition	PE3.6

4. Teaching strategies

Lectures in the course are designed to cover theory and practical matters. Students are able to appreciate that the knowledge acquired in many of the previous subjects has an effective application for properly solving real problems.

Laboratory work and projects are designed to provide students with the opportunity to create a real complex robotic system.

5. Course schedule

Week	Topic	Location	Suggested Readings
1	Introduction	Lecture Room	Moodle lecture notes
2	Localization I	Lecture Room	Moodle lecture notes
3	Planning I	Lecture Room	Moodle lecture notes
4	Vision I	Lecture Room	Moodle lecture notes
5	Vision II	Lecture Room	Moodle lecture notes
6	Kinematics	Lecture Room	Moodle lecture notes
7	Localization II	Lecture Room	Moodle lecture notes
8	Planning II	Lecture Room	Moodle lecture notes
9	Summary	Lecture Room	Moodle lecture notes
10	Contingency time	Lecture Room	

6. Assessment

Assessment overview

Assessment	Group Project? (# Students per group)	Length	Weight	Learning outcomes assessed	Assessment criteria	Due date and submission requirements	Deadline for absolute fail	Marks returned
Quiz (4)	No	10 multiple choice	40%	1 and 2	Lecture material from weeks 1-7	During week 2, 3, 6, and 8	N/A	One week after assessment
Individual assignment ¹	No	Demonstration	40%	1, 2, and 3	Refer to assignment specifications provided via Moodle for exact details	Meeting with a demonstrator, week 4 and 7	1 week later	One week after assessment
Group assignment ²	Yes (4)	Competition	20%	1, 2, 3, and 4	Refer to assignment specifications provided via Moodle for exact details	Meeting with a demonstrator, week 10	Week 10	Upon release of final results

1. The main assignment of this course is a project on developing a maze-solving robot. The students will form in groups of 4 to complete the project. Students will be assessed both individually and in a group. The separate assessment will be based on the performance of each student on completing their individual tasks.
2. In week 10, the students will present their project results by participating in a maze-solving competition. The assessment will be based on the completion and ranking in the competition.

Assignments

Presentation

All work is expected to be neat and clearly set out. Your results are the pinnacle of all your hard work and should be treated with due respect. Presenting results clearly gives the marker the best chance of understanding your method; even if the numerical results are incorrect.

Submission

Work submitted late without an approved extension by the course coordinator or delegated authority is subject to a late penalty of 20 percent (20%) of the maximum mark possible for that assessment item, per calendar day.

The late penalty is applied per calendar day (including weekends and public holidays) that the assessment is overdue. There is no pro-rata of the late penalty for submissions made part way through a day.

Work submitted after the 'deadline for absolute fail' is not accepted and a mark of zero will be awarded for that assessment item.

For some assessment items, a late penalty may not be appropriate. These are clearly indicated in the course outline, and such assessments receive a mark of zero if not completed by the specified date. Examples include:

- a. Weekly online tests or laboratory work worth a small proportion of the subject mark, or
- b. Online quizzes where answers are released to students on completion, or
- c. Professional assessment tasks, where the intention is to create an authentic assessment that has an absolute submission date, or
- d. Pass/Fail assessment tasks.

Marking

Marking guidelines for assessment will be provided at the same time as assignment details to assist with meeting assessable requirements. Submissions will be marked according to the marking guidelines provided.

Examinations

There neither mid-session tests nor final exams in this course.

Special consideration and supplementary assessment

If you have experienced an illness or misadventure beyond your control that will interfere with your assessment performance, you are eligible to apply for Special Consideration prior to submitting an assessment or sitting an examination.

Please note that UNSW now has a [Fit to Sit / Submit rule](#), which means that if you sit an exam or submit a piece of assessment, you are declaring yourself fit enough to do so and cannot later apply for Special Consideration.

For details of applying for Special Consideration and conditions for the award of supplementary assessment, please see the information on UNSW's [Special Consideration page](#).

7. Expected resources for students

All the academic material is provided by the lecturers (lecture notes, example data, software libraries and example code).

Lecture notes and projects specifications will be available on Moodle in advance before the class.

There will be no textbook required for this course. The students are suggested to read the following if they want to expand their learning:

- R. Siegwart, I. R. Nourbakhsh, D. Scaramuzza. Introduction to autonomous mobile robots. The MIT Press. Second edition. 2011.

UNSW Library website: <https://www.library.unsw.edu.au/>

Moodle: <https://moodle.telt.unsw.edu.au/login/index.php>

8. Course evaluation and development

Feedback on the course is gathered periodically using various means, including the UNSW myExperience process, informal discussion in the final class for the course, and the School's Student/Staff meetings. Your feedback is taken seriously, and continual improvements are made to the course based, in part, on such feedback.

In this course, recent improvements resulting from student feedback include:

- More hands-on skills development
- Clear specification for projects/individual projects

9. Academic honesty and plagiarism

UNSW has an ongoing commitment to fostering a culture of learning informed by academic integrity. All UNSW students have a responsibility to adhere to this principle of academic integrity. Plagiarism undermines academic integrity and is not tolerated at UNSW. *Plagiarism at UNSW is defined as using the words or ideas of others and passing them off as your own.*

Plagiarism is a type of intellectual theft. It can take many forms, from deliberate cheating to accidentally copying from a source without acknowledgement. UNSW has produced a

website with a wealth of resources to support students to understand and avoid plagiarism, visit: student.unsw.edu.au/plagiarism. The Learning Centre assists students with understanding academic integrity and how not to plagiarise. They also hold workshops and can help students one-on-one.

You are also reminded that careful time management is an important part of study and one of the identified causes of plagiarism is poor time management. Students should allow sufficient time for research, drafting and the proper referencing of sources in preparing all assessment tasks.

If plagiarism is found in your work when you are in first year, your lecturer will offer you assistance to improve your academic skills. They may ask you to look at some online resources, attend the Learning Centre, or sometimes resubmit your work with the problem fixed. However more serious instances in first year, such as stealing another student's work or paying someone to do your work, may be investigated under the Student Misconduct Procedures.

Repeated plagiarism (even in first year), plagiarism after first year, or serious instances, may also be investigated under the Student Misconduct Procedures. The penalties under the procedures can include a reduction in marks, failing a course or for the most serious matters (like plagiarism in an honours thesis) even suspension from the university. The Student Misconduct Procedures are available here:

www.gs.unsw.edu.au/policy/documents/studentmisconductprocedures.pdf

10. Administrative matters and links

All students are expected to read and be familiar with UNSW guidelines and policies. In particular, students should be familiar with the following:

- [Attendance](#)
- [UNSW Email Address](#)
- [Computing Facilities](#)
- [Special Consideration](#)
- [Exams](#)
- [Approved Calculators](#)
- [Academic Honesty and Plagiarism](#)
- [Student Equity and Disabilities Unit](#)
- [Health and Safety](#)
- [Lab Access](#)

Appendix A: Engineers Australia (EA) Competencies

Stage 1 Competencies for Professional Engineers

	Program Intended Learning Outcomes
PE1: Knowledge and Skill Base	PE1.1 Comprehensive, theory-based understanding of underpinning fundamentals
	PE1.2 Conceptual understanding of underpinning maths, analysis, statistics, computing
	PE1.3 In-depth understanding of specialist bodies of knowledge
	PE1.4 Discernment of knowledge development and research directions
	PE1.5 Knowledge of engineering design practice
	PE1.6 Understanding of scope, principles, norms, accountabilities of sustainable engineering practice
PE2: Engineering Application Ability	PE2.1 Application of established engineering methods to complex problem solving
	PE2.2 Fluent application of engineering techniques, tools and resources
	PE2.3 Application of systematic engineering synthesis and design processes
	PE2.4 Application of systematic approaches to the conduct and management of engineering projects
PE3: Professional and Personal Attributes	PE3.1 Ethical conduct and professional accountability
	PE3.2 Effective oral and written communication (professional and lay domains)
	PE3.3 Creative, innovative and pro-active demeanour
	PE3.4 Professional use and management of information
	PE3.5 Orderly management of self, and professional conduct
	PE3.6 Effective team membership and team leadership