

MINE3310

Mining Geomechanics

Term 1, 2022



Course Overview

Staff Contact Details

Convenors

Name	Email	Availability	Location	Phone
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School Contact Information

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W: www.engineering.unsw.edu.au/minerals-energy-resources

Course Details

Units of Credit 6

Summary of the Course

The course provides students with the fundamental knowledge required to undertake geomechanical investigations and design tasks. This course consists of Soil and Rock Mechanics Modules including the basics of rock and soil behaviours. Soil Mechanics Module comprises of basic soil mechanics, soil classification, phase relationships, effective stress, seepage and flow, compaction and shallow foundations. Rock Mechanics Module consists of rock material and rock mass behaviours, rock mass strength and deformability, strength of discontinuities, basic rock testing, rock mass classification systems, response of rock mass to underground excavation, stress measurement, time dependant and dynamic behaviour of rocks.

Course Aims

The purpose of the course is to introduce the student to methods of testing, analysis and design appropriate to structures which consist of soil and rock.

Course Learning Outcomes

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

Learning Outcome	EA Stage 1 Competencies
1. Demonstrate a working knowledge of the engineering properties of soil and rock.	PE1.1
2. Differentiate appropriate methods for the design of soil slopes, retaining walls and simple foundations on soil.	PE1.5
3. Develop the necessary foundations in rock mechanics to embark upon a study of the principles of rock engineering.	PE1.1
4. Recognise the evolving nature of the discipline and develop skills to access, evaluate and integrate new knowledge and processes.	PE1.2

Teaching Strategies

This course will be delivered mainly through formal lectures with the combination of active learning tutorials. Student will be required to take practical tasks in laboratory sessions.

Assessment

Assessment task	Weight	Due Date	Course Learning Outcomes Assessed
1. Rock Lab Work & Report	10%	22/04/2022 12:00 AM	3, 4
2. Group Assignments in Rock & Soil Mechanics	30%	Will be scheduled during the normal lecture period in the week 7 or 9.	1, 2, 3, 4
3. Tutorials	20%	Not Applicable	1, 2, 3, 4
4. Final Exam	40%	Formal Exam Period	1, 2, 3, 4

Assessment 1: Rock Lab Work & Report

Due date: 22/04/2022 12:00 AM

20 pages

Individual assessment.

Feedback provided via the learning management system (LMS)

Assessment 2: Group Assignments in Rock & Soil Mechanics

Due date: Will be scheduled during the normal lecture period in the week 7 or 9.

Group work; required to solve practical problems and suggest solutions (2*15%).

15-20 page report

Feedback provided via the learning management system (LMS)

Assessment 3: Tutorials

Random select 4 tutorial sessions to be marked, $4*5%=20\%$

Feedback provided via the learning management system (LMS)

Assessment 4: Final Exam

Due date: Formal Exam Period

Assess content from both soil and rock mechanics.

3 hour exam.

Attendance Requirements

Students are strongly encouraged to attend all classes and review lecture recordings.

Resources

Prescribed Resources

The University and the Faculty provide a wide range of support services for students, including:

- UNSW Learning Centre (<http://www.lc.unsw.edu.au>)
- Counselling support - <http://www.counselling.unsw.edu.au>
- Library training and support services - <http://www.library.unsw.edu.au/>

There are numerous articles / information sources on reservoir engineering on the web. Many of them are sound, but many are either very lightweight or contain errors. Be very careful in your choice of web sources. Remember, UNSW librarians are usually happy to help you locate articles or make suggestions regarding possible material to help you in your academic work. You can also access basic online help at <http://www.library.unsw.edu.au/>

Recommended Resources

The recommended textbooks are

- R D Holtz, WD Kovacs and T C Sheahan, *An Introduction to Geotechnical Engineering*, Pearson
- M Budhu, *Soil Mechanics and Foundations*, Wiley.
- B H G Brady and E T Brown, *Rock Mechanics for Underground Mining*, Wiley.
- J C Jaeger, N G Cook, R Zimmerman, *Fundamentals of rock mechanics*, John Wiley & Sons, 2009

Course Evaluation and Development

Online forum will be utilised to gather student feedback in addition to individual consultation scheduled for week 9 or 10, to discuss the change made by the last feedback, or further improvement.

Submission of Assessment Tasks

The School has developed a guideline to help you when submitting a course assignment.

We encourage you to retain a copy of every assignment submitted for assessment for your own record either in hardcopy or electronic form.

All assessments must have an assessment cover sheet attached.

Course completion

Course completion requires submission of all assessment items. Failure to submit all assessment items may result in the award of an Unsatisfactory Failure (UF) grade for the Course unless special consideration has been submitted and approved. Please note, a competency hurdle of 50% is applied to the final assessment.

Late Submission of an Assignment

Full marks for an assignment are only possible when an assignment is received by the due date.

We understand that at times you may not be able to submit an assignment on time, and the School will accommodate any fair and reasonable extension. We would recommend you review the UNSW Special Consideration guidelines – see section below.

Late submission will not be accepted and will be considered as no submission.

Special Consideration

You can apply for special consideration through [The Nucleus Student Hub](#) when illness or other circumstances interfere with your assessment performance. Sickness, misadventure or other circumstances beyond your control may:

- Prevent you from completing a course requirement
- Keep you from attending an assessable activity
- Stop you submitting assessable work for a course
- Significantly affect your performance in assessable work, be it a formal end-of-semester examination, a class test, a laboratory test, a seminar presentation or any other form of assessment

We ask that you please contact the Course Convenor immediately once you have completed the special consideration application, no later than one week from submission.

More details on special consideration can be found at: www.student.unsw.edu.au/special-consideration

Student Support

The University and the Faculty provide a wide range of support services for students, including:

- Library training and support services - www.library.unsw.edu.au

- UNSW Learning Centre - www.lc.unsw.edu.au
- Counselling support - www.counselling.unsw.edu.au

Equitable Learning Services aims to provide all students with a free and confidential service that provides practical support to ensure that your health condition doesn't adversely affect your studies.
<https://student.unsw.edu.au/els>

Academic Honesty and Plagiarism

Your lecturer and the University will expect your submitted assignments are truly your own work. UNSW has very clear guidelines on what plagiarism is and how to avoid it. Plagiarism is using the words or ideas of others and presenting them 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. The University has adopted an educative approach to plagiarism and has developed a range of resources to support students. All the details on plagiarism, including some useful resources, can be found at www.student.unsw.edu.au/plagiarism.

All Mining Engineering students are required to complete a student declaration for academic integrity which is outlined in the assignment cover sheets. By signing this declaration, you agree that your work is your own original work.

If you need some additional support with your writing skills, please contact the Learning Centre or view some of the resources on their website: www.lc.unsw.edu.au. The Learning Centre is designed to help you improve your academic writing and communication skills. Some students use the Centre services because they are finding their assignments a challenge, others because they want to improve an already successful academic performance.

Academic Information

Course Results

For details on UNSW assessment policy, please visit: www.student.unsw.edu.au/assessment

In some instances your final course result may be withheld and not released on the UNSW planned date. This is indicated by a course grade result of either:

- LE – indicates you have not completed one or more items of assessment; or
- WD – indicates there is an issue with one or more assignment; or
- WC – which indicates you have applied for Special Consideration due to illness or misadventure and the course results have not been finalised.

In either event it would be your responsibility to contact the Course Convener as soon as practicable but no later than five (5) days after release of the course result. If you don't contact the convener on time, you may be required to re-submit an assignment or re-sit the final exam and may result in you failing the course. You would also have a NC (course not completed) mark on your transcript and would need to re-enroll in the course.

Studying a course in the School of Minerals and Energy Resources Engineering at UNSW

Report writing guide

The School has a [Report Writing Guide \(RWG\)](#) available. A copy of this is available on the course Moodle site.

Computing Resources and Internet Access Requirements

UNSW Minerals and Energy Resources Engineering provides blended learning using the on-line Moodle LMS (Learning Management System). Also see - Transitioning to Online Learning: www.covid19studyonline.unsw.edu.au

It is essential that you have access to a PC or notebook computer. Mobile devices such as smart phones and tablets may compliment learning, but access to a PC or notebook computer is also required. Note that some specialist engineering software is not available for Mac computers.

- Mining Engineering Students: OMB G48
- Petroleum Engineering Students: TETB LG34 & LG 35

It is recommended that you have regular internet access to participate in forum discussion and group work. To run Moodle most effectively, you should have:

- broadband connection (256 kbit/sec or faster)
- ability to view streaming video (high or low definition UNSW TV options)

More information about system requirements is available at www.student.unsw.edu.au/moodle-system-requirements

Accessing Course Materials Through Moodle

Course outlines, support materials are uploaded to Moodle, the university standard Learning Management System (**LMS**). In addition, on-line assignment submissions are made using the assignment dropbox facility provided in Moodle. All enrolled students are automatically included in Moodle for each course. To access these documents and other course resources, please visit: www.moodle.telt.unsw.edu.au

How We Contact You

At times, the School or your course convenors may need to contact you about your course or your enrolment. Your course convenors will use the email function within Moodle or we will contact you on your @student.unsw.edu.au email address.

We understand that you may have an existing email account and would prefer for your UNSW emails to be redirected to your preferred account. Please see instructions on how to redirect your UNSW emails: "[How can I forward my emails to another account?](#)"

How You Can Contact Us

We are always ready to assist you with your inquiries. To ensure your question is directed to the correct person, please use the email address below for:

- Enrolment or other admin questions regarding your program: <https://unswinsight.microsoftcrmportals.com/web-forms/>
- Course inquiries should be directed to the Course Convenor

Image Credit

Synergies in Sound 2016

CRICOS

CRICOS Provider Code: 00098G

Acknowledgement of Country

We acknowledge the Bedegal people who are the traditional custodians of the lands on which UNSW Kensington campus is located.

Appendix: Engineers Australia (EA) Professional Engineer Competency Standard

Program Intended Learning Outcomes	
Knowledge and skill base	
PE1.1 Comprehensive, theory based understanding of the underpinning natural and physical sciences and the engineering fundamentals applicable to the engineering discipline	✓
PE1.2 Conceptual understanding of the mathematics, numerical analysis, statistics, and computer and information sciences which underpin the engineering discipline	✓
PE1.3 In-depth understanding of specialist bodies of knowledge within the engineering discipline	
PE1.4 Discernment of knowledge development and research directions within the engineering discipline	
PE1.5 Knowledge of engineering design practice and contextual factors impacting the engineering discipline	✓
PE1.6 Understanding of the scope, principles, norms, accountabilities and bounds of sustainable engineering practice in the specific discipline	
Engineering application ability	
PE2.1 Application of established engineering methods to complex engineering 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	
Professional and personal attributes	
PE3.1 Ethical conduct and professional accountability	
PE3.2 Effective oral and written communication in 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	