Course Outline
Term 1 2020

MMAN9001
MASTER OF ENGINEERING SCIENCE PROJECT A
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1. Staff contact details

Contact details and consultation times for course convenor

Name: Dr Ron Chan
Office Location: Room ME507, Ainsworth Building
Tel: (02) 9385 1535
Email: r.chan@unsw.edu.au

It is recommended you email the course convenor to make a specific appointment if you need to discuss any important issues. Always consult the course Moodle first in case your questions have already been answered.

Please see the course Moodle.

2. Important links

- Moodle
- Lab Access
- Health and Safety
- 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 1 hour 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 8 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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Workshop</th>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Workshop</td>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>1000 – 1100</td>
<td>Ainsworth 201</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

Master of Engineering Science Project allows each student to work under the guidance of academic staff and Mentors with input from technical (industry/research/practitioner) specialists. Topics are related to projects selected from contemporary practice. The work involves research-based investigations, industrial problems and design applications.

This course enhances the student’s skills for undertaking scholarly enquiry by attempting to achieve a specific topic objective within a defined period of time. A significant component of the course relates to the review of literature, which promotes independent and reflective learning as well as increases students’ capacity to develop information literacy. The project report is expected to reinforce the student's ability and confidence in the written communication of technical information. Verbal presentation skills are tested during presentations and at group meetings.

This course is the first of two parts and is undertaken before MMAN9002 Master of Engineering Science Project B next term. The thesis involves formulating the designs for and solutions to open-ended engineering problems. The problems will be drawn from contemporary practice and will be multi-disciplinary, involving the application of material learnt throughout your undergraduate program and will require a lot of creative thought. Project A includes the formulation of a Progress Report, which includes a review of the relevant literature and other professional engineering documents.

The group project is to be completed in two consecutive trimesters during the last academic year before graduation. It is not the responsibility of the course coordinator or Mentor to tell the student what to do, nor should it be assumed that your Mentor is an expert in all areas of engineering. Your Mentor is there to offer guidance and advice, as are other staff in the School (you should always seek an appointment by prior arrangement) that may have expertise in the area of your project. The successful execution of the project is solely the responsibility of the student.

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:
Course Outline: MMAN9001

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Learning Outcome</th>
<th>EA Stage 1 Competencies</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Conduct independent research and apply established theories to address an engineering problem that does not have a well-defined solution</td>
<td>PE2.1, 2.3, 2.4, 3.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Analyse critically, reflect on and synthesise complex information, problems, concepts and theories.</td>
<td>PE2.1, 2.3, 2.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Interpret and transmit knowledge, skills and ideas to specialist and non-specialist audiences.</td>
<td>PE2.4, 3.2, 3.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Demonstrate managerial skills and individual responsibility to complete a project within limited time and resources.</td>
<td>PE3.4, 3.5, 3.6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

4. Teaching strategies

Face-to-face and online advice and strategies to assist your independent project work will be provided. Student groups are expected to meet their Mentors face-to-face, to provide updates on progress and to seek feedback and guidance. Your team needs to submit ‘evidence of progress’ weekly on your Moodle Group Forum prior to your meeting with the mentors. Attendance to the face-to-face meeting with the mentors and contribution is mandatory.

5. Course schedule

By Week 10 student teams are expected to produce the following deliverables:
- The team has developed a preliminary model to address the project problem
- The team has submitted their work on Moodle that demonstrated their weekly progress during the team
- Each team member has selected a technical role and an optional administrative role
- Each member in the team produces an individual progress report to be submitted on Moodle.
## 6. Assessment

### Assessment overview

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assessment</th>
<th>Group Project? (Students per group)</th>
<th>Length</th>
<th>Weight</th>
<th>Learning outcomes assessed</th>
<th>Assessment criteria</th>
<th>Due date and submission requirements</th>
<th>Deadline for absolute fail</th>
<th>Marks returned</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Face-to-Face Progress Evaluation with Mentors</td>
<td>Yes (5)</td>
<td>1 hour</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>1 to 4</td>
<td>See marking rubrics on Moodle</td>
<td>Weekly during workshop time</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>Instant feedback from the mentors</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deliverables to Moodle Group Forum (MGF)</td>
<td>Yes (5)</td>
<td>Weekly submission</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>1 to 3</td>
<td>See marking rubrics on Moodle</td>
<td>Weekly during workshop time</td>
<td>One week after due date</td>
<td>Instant feedback from the mentors</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Progress Report</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>10 pages + front &amp; end matter¹</td>
<td>70%</td>
<td>1 to 4</td>
<td>See marking rubrics on Moodle</td>
<td>Submission: 5pm Fri Week 10 via Moodle</td>
<td>One week after due date</td>
<td>Upon release of final results</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

¹ [http://users.clas.ufl.edu/msscha/uwp/rsrchreport/front_end.html](http://users.clas.ufl.edu/msscha/uwp/rsrchreport/front_end.html)
Assignments

Presentation

All submissions are 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 assignment submissions 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.

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 exam.

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](https://www.library.unsw.edu.au/).

### 7. Expected resources for students

Content on the course Moodle page will be updated often with tips, discussions and resources, so you are strongly advised to make sure you check for all updates.

UNSW Library website: [https://www.library.unsw.edu.au/](https://www.library.unsw.edu.au/)

### 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 having smaller team sizes to improve students-mentor engagement.

### 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](https://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 polices. In particular, students should be familiar with the following:

- Attendance
- UNSW Email Address
- Special Consideration
- Exams
- Approved Calculators
- Academic Honesty and Plagiarism
- Equitable Learning Services
## Appendix A: Engineers Australia (EA) Competencies

### Stage 1 Competencies for Professional Engineers

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