

## COURSE INFORMATION

INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Kurt A. Soschinske  
Mechanical Engineering Department, Campus Box 133  
Engineering Building, Mechanical Engineering Adjunct Faculty Office  
Telephone: 978-3402 (Department No.; department will forward to my work number only if necessary to contact me at work. I will contact you.)  
685-8773 (home, evenings and weekends)  
ME Department Fax: 978-3236  
Email: [ksoswsu@netscape.net](mailto:ksoswsu@netscape.net)

### COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course is intended to be an exercise in the practice of mechanical engineering. Students will engage in a semester long mechanical engineering project requiring integration of knowledge gained in prerequisite engineering science and design courses. Students will work in small groups on projects proposed by local area companies. Groups will usually be three students.

Mechanical engineering graduates in the past have ranked this course to be one of the most enjoyable and meaningful experiences of their degree program. You will have an opportunity to interact with technical people outside of the normal academic sphere on a challenging engineering problem. You will learn about not only your project, but about a variety of mechanical engineering applications by following the progress of the other project groups in your class.

Successful completion of your design project will require careful planning of your time and good communication with your group members, your industrial sponsor and the course instructor. *Historically, groups that have the most success are those who keep in touch with their sponsors and instructor.*

No textbook is required for this course, and there are no exams or homework other than the oral and written progress reports specified on the course schedule. However, students are expected to purchase some supplies and services. The main expenses are:

- Notebooks to accumulate project information.
  - Each student must have a project notebook or a time management book to record work
  - The group will need a "master" notebook for accumulating common group information and for constructing the draft final report. A 2" three-ring binder with inside pockets is recommended.
- Printing and binding of:
  - Group Information Packet, two copies, each in 1" 3-ring view-binder with your project name and number on cover and spine.
  - Final report, three copies, in attractive and convenient bindings
- Folding poster board

### RESOURCES:

Since you are representing WSU's Mechanical Engineering Department, resources of the Mechanical Engineering Department will be available to you.

- Your group will be given access to the Mechanical Engineering Department's "Design Lab". Here, you will find computers, technical product literature, reference materials, a telephone, fax machine and tables where design groups can meet and work on projects. See the department secretary for a key.
- Each group will be issued a telephone "pin" number, so that long distance telephone calls related to the project can be made. See the department secretary to obtain a "pin" number for your group.
- A scanner and color printer may also be used for preparation of your reports and overhead transparencies for presentations. See the department secretary or office assistant for help with these resources.
- If you are using a PowerPoint presentation for an oral report, it is your responsibility to be sure the PC and projector are in the room and that your presentation will run smoothly on them.
- The ME department usually has a digital camera and projector equipment that may be checked out for use in giving presentations in class or at off-campus locations. See the department secretary.
- If required by your project, you might also need laboratory equipment and facilities or use of the student machine shop. Please consult with Ken Tedder to arrange this. Whether or not these facilities are free of charge will depend on what you are planning to do.

If you wish to receive vendor information by mail or fax, you may have it sent to the Mechanical Engineering Office. Please use the following addresses:

Mr./Ms. Chris A. Student  
c/o Dr. K. A. Soschinske  
Mechanical Engineering Department  
Wichita State University  
Wichita, KS 67260-0133  
FAX (316) 978-3236

Any items I receive for you will be placed in the center rack labeled "ME662 For Students", located by the adjunct faculty office door. The bottom rack is for your assignments and notes to me. The top rack may contain handouts for the entire class from time to time, or overflow if one of the others is full.

If you need to receive telephone messages at the ME office, please have the party calling clearly state your name and that you are in the "ME 662 Senior Projects" class. The ME department secretary will place your messages in the rack described above.

#### A FINAL NOTE:

The projects you will work on are group projects. It will be very important that you function effectively in your group, and solve any personality problems that may arise. If problems occur that you cannot seem to solve, such as extreme cases involving unsatisfactory group member participation, please do not hesitate to ask for help from the instructor.

**ADMINISTRATIVE NOTES:**

The last day to drop a class with a "W" this semester is October 30.

The prerequisite for ME662 is that the student be enrolled in his or her last semester of study. Please be sure that you initial the column under "Verify Last Semester Before Graduation" on sign-in sheet.

**GRADING:**

Grades will be determined by the following formula:

Oral reports (4) -- 16%

Written progress reports (3) -- 12%

Final written report -- 14%

Project poster -- 8%

Instructor's assessment -- 25% (*Individual grade will be group grade multiplied by peer assessment*)

Project Sponsor's evaluation --25%