Module Description Form

ME524 MENG GROUP PROJECT ABROAD

Module Registrar: Dr Andrew McLaren
andrew.mclaren@strath.ac.uk

Taught To (Course): 5th year MAE students, on exchange

Other Lecturers Involved: Supervisors at host institutions

Credit Weighting: 60
Semester: 1 (assessed S2)

Assumed Prerequisites: Years 1-4 of appropriate MAE programme.

Compulsory/optional/elective class
Academic Level: 5

Module Format and Delivery (HOURS i.e. 1 credit = 10hrs of study):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Lecture</th>
<th>Tutorial</th>
<th>Laboratory</th>
<th>Groupwork</th>
<th>External</th>
<th>Online</th>
<th>Project</th>
<th>Assignments</th>
<th>Private Study</th>
<th>Total</th>
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Educational Aim

This module aims to give students an authentic experience of managing and contributing to a complex group project. This will include an opportunity to demonstrate mastery of the technical aspects of the project, in addition to demonstrating competence in project management, technical risk management and safety risk assessment. In addition, students will have the experience of working in an institution in a foreign country.

Learning Outcomes

On completion of the module the student is expected to be able to

LO1 Appreciate the principles of project management and planning
LO2 Be able to reflect on their role in a team and their interaction with team members
LO3 Appreciate the importance of technical risk and health and safety management

(UK SPEC suggests no more than 4 learning outcomes per module. Statements must be broad and be syllabus free and link in with the intended learning outcomes on the programme specifications.)

Syllabus

Students may apply to spend the first semester of 5th year on exchange at one of our international partners. Students who are allocated a place abroad will complete this group project full time as their entire first semester curriculum. The project contains all the essential elements of the regular 5th year MEng Group Project, with the added element of taking the project abroad. Topics and supervisors at the host institution will be arranged by the students in consultation with the class registrar. During the first two weeks of the project, each group will write a statement of purpose detailing the deliverables and schedule for the project. This will be agreed with the supervisor, who will take on the role of client. The statement of purpose will form a contract between the group and the client.

Students will carry out the project, and will deliver an interim report to the assessment team at Strathclyde by 31st October. The group will produce a final technical report in a format to be agreed with the supervisor at the host institution. On return, each group will be assessed on the extent to which they have met the deliverables set out in the contract, as well as on the quality of reflection on the group process and project management experience. This will be assessed by a one hour group presentation/discussion/oral exam with Strathclyde staff during second semester.

Assessment of Learning Outcomes

Criteria

For each of the Module Learning Outcomes the following criteria will be used to make judgements on student learning:

[Note: Criteria break the LO down into ‘teachable’ elements but do not become syllabus orientated i.e. no mention of CAD package names, components etc.]

LO1 Appreciate the principles of project management and planning
C1 Show an ability to develop a detailed project plan
C2 Be able to analyse the critical path of a project
C3 Understand project estimating and project control

LO2 Be able to reflect on their role in a team and their interaction with team members

C1 Critically analyse their contribution to the project
C2 Consider the interaction between team members
C3 Reflect of the influence of team structure on team effectiveness

LO3 Appreciate the importance of technical risk and health and safety management

C1 Understand the need for technical risk management
C2 Apply appropriate methods to support risk analysis
C3 Appreciate the role of uncertainty and modelling
C4 Appreciate the obligations of health and safety law

The standards set for each criterion per Module Learning Outcome to achieve a pass grade are indicated on the assessment sheet for all assessment.

**12 Principles of Assessment and Feedback**
(on Learning & Teaching web pages: [www.strath.ac.uk/learnteach/teaching/staff/assessfeedback/12principles/](http://www.strath.ac.uk/learnteach/teaching/staff/assessfeedback/12principles/))

The following principles have been addressed in the design of the assessment.

3. Deliver high quality feedback information that helps learners self-correct.
The assessment is by oral presentations and dialogue, which provides instant feedback on group performance in a two-way communication process.

5. Ensure that summative assessment has a positive impact on learning.
The summative assessment is through oral presentations, after which feedback/mark sheets are completed by each assessor. These are returned to each group within a week of the assessment. Groups are encouraged to discuss any issues with the assessors.

8. Give choice in the topic, method, criteria, weighting or timing of assessments.
Project deliverables and deadlines will be defined by the group through a statement of purpose. Progress at each oral presentation is assessed against these criteria. Each group will define the detailed work on their project in negotiation with the supervisor (client).

**Assessment Method(s) Including Percentage Breakdown and Duration of Exams**

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<tr>
<th>L/Outcomes</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Duration</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Interim report</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final report/presentation, including website</td>
<td>90%</td>
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All learning outcomes are assessed by all assessments

Indicate which learning outcomes (L01, L02 etc) are to be assessed by exam/coursework/project as required.

**Coursework / Submissions deadlines:**
Statement of purpose, within two weeks of arrival at host institution
Interim report, 31 October
Final report/presentation, on return, during second semester by arrangement with class registrar.

**Resit Assessment Procedures:**
A group that fails to meet the threshold level for a pass will be allowed to complete further work over the summer. This will be assessed for the September Board of Examiners.

**PLEASE NOTE:**
Students need to gain a summative mark of 50% to pass the module. Students who fail the module at the first attempt will be re-examined during the August diet. This re-examination will consist of oral examinations.
**Recommended Reading**

No specific recommendations. (Students will be expected to research extensively in support of their project)

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**Additional Student Feedback**

*(Please specify details of when additional feedback will be provided)*

Feedback is individually given to each group. Additional feedback is provided to each group after each assessment in the form of written feedback sheets. In addition, groups may discuss their feedback sheets with individual assessors.

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**Approved:**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Course Director Signature:</th>
<th>Ian J. Taylor</th>
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| Date of Last Modifications: | 31 August 2014 |
**MODULE TIMETABLE**

**Module Code:** ME524  
**Module Title:** MEng Group Project Abroad

**Brief Description of Assessment:**

Statement of purpose two weeks after start of project  
Interim report by 31st October  
Final report/presentation (S2), timing defined by student groups at outset of project.

**Assessment Timing:**

Indicate on the table below the start/submission dates for each assignment/project and the timing of each exam/assessment(s).

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<th>WK12</th>
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<td>Timing of final report/presentation defined by group in statement of purpose.</td>
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