

Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering

POSTGRADUATE STUDENT HANDBOOK 2018/19

Faculty of Engineering

MSc, PG Diploma, PG Certificate

Advanced Mechanical Engineering (Distance Learning)

The contents of this booklet are as far as possible up to date and accurate at the date of publication. Changes and restrictions are made from time to time and the University reserves the right to add to, amend, or withdraw courses and facilities, to restrict student numbers and to make any other alterations as it may deem desirable and necessary. Changes are published by incorporation in the University Regulations.

It is the responsibility of each individual student to become familiar with University Regulations which apply to them, and in particular with any changes made to their Course Regulations in their later years of attendance:

<https://www.strath.ac.uk/sees/educationenhancement/qualityassurance/universityregulations/>

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WELCOME

FROM THE HEAD OF DEPARTMENT

Dear All

On behalf of all members of staff, I welcome you to the Department of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering. We hope you will have an enjoyable and successful time with us.

This handbook explains the organisation and regulations affecting the MSc, PgDip and PGCert Courses.

StrathLife – The Student Journey

This handbook should be read in conjunction with ‘everything you need to know about student life’ which can be found here:

www.strath.ac.uk/studywithus/strathlife/

This provides information on the range of support and information services within the University.

Professor Andrew Heyes

Head of Department

Department of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering

INTRODUCTION

The University of Strathclyde has existed in various forms in Glasgow since 1796 and is recognised as one of the largest and most important institutions in the field of engineering education and research in the UK, and located in the centre of Glasgow - Scotland's commercial and industrial capital.

The Faculty of Engineering comprises 8 departments, covering all major engineering areas: Architecture, Biomedical Engineering, Chemical & Process Engineering, Civil & Environmental Engineering; Design, Manufacture & Engineering Management; Electronic & Electrical Engineering; Mechanical & Aerospace Engineering and Naval Architecture, Ocean & Marine Engineering. The Graduate School of Engineering has recently been formed to co-ordinate postgraduate training across the Faculty.

The MSc in Advanced Mechanical Engineering (Distance Learning) course has been developed to provide high calibre mechanical engineering graduates with an in-depth technical understanding of advanced mechanical engineering topics, together with professional skills that will allow them to contribute effectively in developing company capabilities.

Engineering involves the creative process of turning knowledge of science and technology into products, services, and infrastructure that benefit society. For example, the energy sector is currently undergoing major changes, providing significant technological challenges and offering excellent career prospects for well-qualified engineers. The role of engineering is crucial in developing efficient technologies that can help protect the environment while contributing to competitiveness and economic growth.

The Advanced Mechanical Engineering course offers flexible postgraduate training opportunities, and leads to awards at Postgraduate Certificate, Postgraduate Diploma and MSc levels. The MSc requires 180 credits, the PgDip 120 credits, and the PgCert 60 credits. The MSc project carries 60 credits.

This course is particularly suitable for Graduate Engineers in the following sectors:

- Mechanical Engineering
- Chemical, Petrochemical & Process Engineering
- Design Engineering
- Energy & Power Generation
- Manufacturing
- Oil & Gas
- Power Plant
- Renewable Energies

CONTACT INFORMATION

The Student Handbook is designed to address the various questions students may have about the many different aspects of studying for a postgraduate qualification at the Department of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering at the University of Strathclyde.

Department of Mechanical & Aerospace Engineering University of Strathclyde James Weir Building 75 Montrose Street Glasgow G1 1XJ Scotland, UK	<u>Academic</u> Dr W Nicholls Programme Advisor of Studies/ Director of Postgraduate Studies E: w.d.nicholls@strath.ac.uk T: +44 141 574 5086	<u>Postgraduate Administrators</u> Ms Diane McArthur <u>Ms Emma Mcaulay</u> E: mae-pg@strath.ac.uk T: +44 141 548 2846
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We hope you do not encounter any problems during your study, however, please do not hesitate to contact the administrative team at mae-pg@strath.ac.uk

SEMESTER DATES 2018/19

Semester 1:	10 September 2018 – 4 January 2019
Christmas Vacation:	22 December 2018 – 2 January 2019
Semester 2:	7 January – 17 May 2019
Spring Vacation:	1 April – 12 April 2019

The University is CLOSED on the following dates:

24 September 2018
22 December 2018 - 2 January 2019
19 April and 22 April 2019
6, 27 May 2019
12, 15 July 2019

IMPORTANT: Information on key dates are available at:
<https://www.strath.ac.uk/keydates2018-19/keydates2018-19/>

COURSE INFORMATION

MODULE SELECTION

When choosing modules, individuals will discuss the options with the course co-ordinator. The suite of Postgraduate courses in Advanced Mechanical Engineering leading to awards of Master of Engineering, Postgraduate Diploma and Postgraduate Certificate are modular and intended for off-campus delivery. They are offered by distance learning to allow participants to study at their own pace, in their own homes at times that are convenient to themselves.

Students select courses from the range of instructional modules available. The choice will be limited by initial qualifications. All the modules will include coursework, tutorials and self-directed learning with the appropriate academic support. Each module has a credit value and students will accumulate credits as they progress through the course.

The Department cannot guarantee that all modules will be available in any given academic year as availability will depend on both student demand and resource constraints. However, a reasonable choice will be offered at any given time.

INDIVIDUAL PROJECT

On successful completion of 120 credits of taught modules, students choosing the MSc route undertake a project which entails the production of a dissertation. This individual project involves an in-depth study and production of a thesis – it may be focused on an idea suggested by industrial contacts, or aligned to one of the many areas of research themes within the Department.

DURATION OF STUDY

The minimum duration of the part-time MSc course is 36 months while the minimum duration for PgDip is 18 months and PgCert is 12 months. Candidates may be awarded credits, and have their curriculum reduced accordingly, on the basis of passes obtained in a relevant programme of the University or another institution.

CURRICULUM

As soon as registration is complete, students should give consideration to their curriculum, and the modules they wish to undertake to obtain the requisite credits for their level of registration.

All students shall undertake an approved curriculum as follows:

- for the Postgraduate Certificate – no fewer than 60 credits
- for the Postgraduate Diploma – no fewer than 120 credits
- for the degree of MSc – no fewer than 180 credits including the Project

MAE Level 5 and Postgraduate Module descriptors are available to view at:

<http://www.strath.ac.uk/engineering/mechanicalaerospaceengineering/student-information/>

Available Modules (for Sep 2018)*

ME529	Aerodynamics in C	10 credits	(SEM 2)
ME923	Gas and Steam Turbines	10 credits	(SEM 2)
ME926	Nuclear Power Systems	10 credits	(SEM 2)
ME945	Introduction to Open-Source CFD	10 credits	(SEMS 1 & 2)
ME946	Pressurised Systems	10 credits	(SEM 1)
ME947	Materials for High Temperature Applications	10 credits	(SEM 1)
ME948	Hydraulics	10 credits	(SEM 1)
ME950	Boiler Thermal Hydraulics	10 credits	(SEM 2)
CP933	Project Management	10 credits	(SEM 2)

Important:

1. It is possible to take up to 20 credits from classes outwith those listed above with the approval of the Course Adviser.
2. Students are expected to finalise their curriculum as soon as possible at the start of semester, changes beyond the 3rd week of semester are strongly advised against.
3. Normally the balance of credits between semester 1/ semester 2 should be 30/30.

**Additional modules are under development for future academic years.*

Students may undertake up to 20 modules relevant to their course, from another Department. Examples of these are:

Department of Biomedical Engineering:

94 928	Introduction to Biomechanics	20 credits	(SEMS 1&2)
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Other modules out with the above selection will be at the discretion of the Programme Advisor of Studies whom the student should contact prior to selection.

SUMMARY OF MODULES

ME529 Aerodynamics in C

This module aims to introduce students to the principles of programming in a high level programming language such as C# by writing programs to simulate the flow field around objects using inviscid aerodynamics.

ME923 Gas and Steam Turbines

This module gives students an advanced knowledge of applications of both steam and gas turbines within the power generation industry. The module includes details of power-plants that have been developed specifically to integrate gas turbines such as (gas turbine exhaust gas) heat recovery steam generators (HRSGs) used in combined cycle gas turbine (CCGT) plants.

ME926 Nuclear Power Systems

This module aims to provide core knowledge of nuclear power plant engineering and to develop a critical awareness of the nuclear basics, reactor basics, reactor operation and design, waste disposal, and key issues relating to health and safety.

ME945 Introduction to Open-Source CFD

This module is intended for those who have either no prior experience of computational fluid dynamics (CFD) or students who only have experience of using commercial CFD codes and would like to investigate an open source CFD code that is used predominantly for research. It aims to introduce the principles and application of numerical simulation of fluid flows and to underpin the theoretical foundations by applying a CFD code to realistic flow problems.

ME946 Pressurised Systems

This class aims to introduce the subject of industrial Pressurised Systems and ensure competency in the use of Standards and Design Codes. Pressurised Systems are inherently dangerous since they contain stored energy which must be carefully controlled. A methodology is set down whereby a range of pressurised components can be designed, manufactured, installed and operated to a high degree of safety.

ME947 Materials for High Temperature Applications

This module gives students a thorough introduction to the materials science and metallurgy that underpins the design of high temperature applications. This will build on basic concepts to give an appreciation for the theory of alloy design and strengthening mechanisms, including an understanding of the importance of fracture and creep.

ME948 Hydraulics

This module aims to introduce the principles and basic theory of hydraulics for internal flow and builds upon standard undergraduate engineering and physics courses. The purpose of the course is to provide the foundations for calculations of fluid flows in pumping systems. It's intended that the course participant will have achieved a variety of competencies by the end of the course including an understanding of the fundamental analysis of steady and unsteady flows and the ability to design and analyse basic hydraulic networks.

ME950 Boiler Thermal Hydraulics

This module aims to provide core knowledge of the modern conventional power plant boiler and to develop a critical awareness of the operation, design and integration of the key components that comprise a boiler system.

EF900: INDIVIDUAL PROJECT/DISSERTATION

In this part of the course, students undertake supervised, individual project work, with the award of MSc being made on the basis of an acceptable report/dissertation submission, and submitting an electronic format as a pdf file as directed by their Project Supervisor. This component is valued at 60 PG credits.

A list of project titles will be distributed in March/April time. Students will be asked to choose 5 projects from this list and send these to mae-pg@strath.ac.uk. The allocation of these projects will then be managed centrally in the department and students will be notified of their allocated project.

Students are also given the opportunity to come up with a self-generated project title which could be out with the University. However the student will be responsible for finding a suitable academic in the department to supervise this. Also, if a student is interested in a particular area of research they can approach an academic in this area with a project title.

It is important to note that this is a STRICT DEADLINE for successful completion of the MSc course. Bear in mind, however, that it is necessary to register to graduate prior to completion of the dissertation.

Part-time Students

The normal duration of a Part-time (PT) MSc programme is 36 months. Meaning 60 credits should be completed per year. PT students can choose to start the project in their second year of study in line with the rest of cohort meaning commencing in May (June graduation) or they can wait until the new academic session commencing in September (November graduation)

PG Diploma Students

Students who are enrolled in the PG Diploma course, however meet the requirements and wish to be moved to the MSc course can request that a transfer is considered at the June Board of Examiners. They can choose a project title however this will be at risk and will not be confirmed until after the Board of Examiners. Students should inform mae-pg@strath.ac.uk of which option they wish to choose:

- Students can wait until the board of examiners results before commencing their project; meaning they would commence in early June and submit mid-September which would result in a June graduation.
- Students can commence their project 'at risk' in May and if the board of examiners agree on the PG-MSc transfer, they can continue and graduate in November.

Information and application procedure for Graduation is available at:

<http://www.strath.ac.uk/studywithus/graduation/>

PLEASE NOTE: the undertaking of the student project of 60 credits, to qualify for the award of MSc, requires approximately 600 hours of study. Therefore, it is important to note that you should be fully committed to your project during this period. Any request for an extension will only be granted by the Personal Circumstances Board for recognised personal

circumstances (see the [University's Personal Circumstances and Appeals policy](#)). **For example, other work commitments will not be considered an adequate reason.**

PENALTIES FOR LATE SUBMISSION OF PROJECT:

Please ensure that the project is submitted by the published submission date. If a student misses the deadline they will forfeit all the marks associated with the final submission element of the project.

The following points should be noted:

- The Programme Advisor of Studies will remind students of the deadlines and terms of submission at the start of project
- If the student adhered to earlier deadlines for draft submissions which comprised part of the final mark, those marks will be retained
- The procedure for final submission must be followed (for example via MyPlace). Draft submissions will not be considered as the final version, and therefore will not be marked accordingly
- If a project is submitted late, it will be marked as normal and the late submission noted. It can then be considered by the Faculty's Personal Circumstances Board, if personal circumstances have been lodged, and a recommendation made to the Board of Examiners.
- The department will, in the event, of late submission affecting the entire cohort, make a logical and local decision

Please note this does not apply to coursework submitted as part of the assessment for a 10 or 20 credit taught module. In this case, the department will apply local rules on penalties for late submissions.

LEARNING RESOURCES

MYPLACE

The University's virtual learning environment (VLE) is called MyPlace. It is accessed using your DS credentials via the Strathclyde homepage, or directly from: <http://classes.myplace.strath.ac.uk/>

All class resources will be available from MyPlace, however individual class tutors will inform you regarding the level of class engagement with the VLE.

The only way to submit assignments will be on MyPlace. Furthermore, it will contain important course information so it is important for students to check that they have access to their classes after registration. Please note that your classes will not appear on here until after registration (and your curriculum has been agreed in the case of courses which have module choice). If you do not see any of your classes listed in MyPlace, you should first check that you are registered and that your classes are listed in Pegasus.

Please note that it will take a few days after registration for your classes to be added and the systems to update so that your classes appear in MyPlace. If you are not registered for a class and you think you should be you should contact your programme advisor.

STUDENT SELF-DEVELOPMENT

The University provides a range of handouts that guide you through some common tasks at university. For example, reading and writing tips, grammar and language help, time management, avoiding plagiarism, making presentations and critical thinking.

These can be accessed here: <http://www.strath.ac.uk/studyskills/>

The University also provides online IT training for common software packages including Microsoft Office (Word, Excel, Powerpoint) and for University systems (Pegasus, Nemo, webdrives, MyPlace etc).

Staff will assume that all students are familiar with Microsoft Office to a basic level, and can engage with all University systems.

LIBRARY

We expect students to use the library independently as part of their daily study routine. Independent study using books and journal articles will augment class notes and facilitate a deeper understanding. As a distance learning student you can access the University library online services. You can borrow online books and download academic papers and journals.

The library also offers a postal service for distance learning students.

The University of Strathclyde uses an integrated search service called SUPrimo. This service allows students to access online journals, reports, articles, books, exam papers and

other relevant materials. Additionally, students have access to a wide selection of databases subscribed to by The University of Strathclyde.

A guide on how to use the library is here:

<http://www.strath.ac.uk/library/usingthelibrary/libraryusers/postgradguide/>

IT SERVICES

All registered students in the University will be issued with a user ID and password, which allows access to the computing facilities in the Andersonian Library. Students are also issued with University e-mail addresses for the duration of their registration.

Students will also require to use their user ID and password to access Moodle, the University's PEGASUS system (Portal Engine Giving Access to Strathclyde University Systems), many of the electronic Library resources and to remotely access University e-mail addresses.

More information on IT Services is available at:

<http://www.strath.ac.uk/it/>

MAC users: Students should contact the IT Helpdesk as soon as possible following registration to ensure that they have access to all the necessary IT facilities for the course.

REGISTRATION

All students who are undertaking full or part-time study in the University are required to register at the start of each academic year. Registration combines a number of procedures which it is convenient to ask students to complete at the same time.

- Personal Details are updated. These include addresses and telephone numbers.
- Course and year of study will be confirmed for the new session.
- The Finance Office will need to know how tuition fees will be paid.
- Issue of Student Identity Card.

POSTAL REGISTRATION

Students should return the Registration form, corrected as necessary, to the Engineering section of Registry - this is an important document which must be signed and returned to Registry. In signing this, students are agreeing to be bound by the terms listed thereon. The forms and more information on the services offered by Student Experience can be found at:

<http://www.strath.ac.uk/registration/>

STUDENT IDENTITY CARD

Student ID Cards will be issued at Registration of year 1. New Students must enclose two recent colour photographs, one of which will be kept by Registry. This will be scanned onto the student record for production of their student identity card, which will be sent to them. The image, together with personal and course data, will be printed onto the card. The Student Identity Card allows access to the University Library (using the printed barcode) and the Sports Centre. The ID card should be kept safely as it may be necessary to produce it at any time as proof of status.

FINANCE OFFICE

The payment of tuition fees is an essential part of the process, and registration is not complete until tuition fees are paid.

Online Payment of Tuition Fees

The University has developed a facility to allow students to pay amounts due by credit/debit card quickly and efficiently. More information on this facility is available from the Finance Office website at:

<http://www.mis.strath.ac.uk/finance/>

STUDENT AFFAIRS

ACADEMIC DISHONESTY

The University regards academic dishonesty as a serious offence. Allegations of academic dishonesty will be fairly assessed and appropriate action will then be taken. An allegation that has been dismissed as a disciplinary offence may still incur an academic penalty for poor scholarship.

The University is aware that there are a variety of temptations for students to engage in academically doubtful or dishonest activities during formal examinations, or in relation to assignments, practical work, dissertations or thesis preparation. In setting assessed assignments of whatever form, all teaching staff actively consider how to minimise the opportunities for students to cheat. Promoting a general climate of academic integrity within the student body is important.

Please read the "[Academic Dishonesty Guide](#)" for Examples of Academic Dishonesty.

PLAGIARISM AND COLLUSION

Plagiarism is taking the work of others and presenting it as your own. Collusion is using the work of a fellow student, with his or her knowledge, and presenting it as your own.

You could be accused of plagiarism if you:

- hand in (as your own) work that was written by someone else
- copy out someone else's work and hand it in
- copy out sections of someone else's work and include it in your own submitted work without acknowledging it
- use someone else's work in any of the above ways with a few words changed

That "someone else" might be the writer of a journal article, a textbook or an internet site. It could be a fellow student, though you might then be accused of collusion. The "work" could be a whole essay, paragraph or even sentence; i.e. copying (or altering in a minor way) a complete paragraph or sentence constitutes plagiarism.

You could be accused of collusion if:

- you and another student submit identical or almost identical work

Any work submitted for assessment, e.g. essays, laboratory reports, homework and tutorial assignments, must be solely the work of the individual student or group (if a group assignment is set).

If there is evidence of plagiarism or collusion, penalties may be imposed ranging from a reduction in marks, to resubmission of work or, if particularly severe, to disciplinary action. Each case of plagiarism/collusion will be discussed by an adjudication panel who will recommend an appropriate course of action. The University's guidance on plagiarism can be found using the url below. If you are in any doubt as to what constitutes plagiarism, please read this document.

The University has a formal policy for dealing with possible instances of academic dishonesty. A copy of the full document, University Procedures and Guidelines for Dealing with Instances of Possible Academic Dishonesty by Students, is available from the University website at:

<http://www.strath.ac.uk/plagiarism>

This is also dealt with under points 3.16 and 9.7 of the University Policy and Procedure for Postgraduate Instructional Programmes.

ABSENCE AND VOLUNTARY SUSPENSION

Voluntary Suspension (VS) is normally intended as a method for students to apply in advance for a complete suspension of study of an entire semester or year. The most common reasons distance learning students give for applying for VS is work, personal or family health issues and bereavement. Note that in all circumstances there is a requirement for evidence to be provided along with the form.

Further full information on Absence and Voluntary Suspension, please visit the Student Experience and Enhancement Services webpage:

<http://www.strath.ac.uk/sees/studentpolicies/policies/attendance/absenceandvoluntarysuspension/>

PERSONAL CIRCUMSTANCES

It is important that you familiarise yourself with the University's full [Personal Circumstances Procedure](#).

Examples of personal circumstances could be for example where there has been a bereavement, or illness that has prevented you attending, or affected your performance in an exam or other form of assessment. Personal Circumstances normally require evidence of some form such as medical or death certificates.

We wish to draw your attention to a few particular points relating to Personal circumstances:

You should back up your work, and this should not be on a memory stick or external hard drive only, as these possibly could be stolen, perhaps with the laptop. Therefore we strongly advise students to use an online storage system which provide appropriate protection of data. The University provides an optional storage service called **One Drive** which is available to students.

Full details of how to access, this can be found at:

<https://www.strath.ac.uk/ithelpdesk/helptopics/email/office365/>

Reminder

The University Personal Circumstances and Academic Appeals Procedure do **NOT** accept computer failure and lack of back up as grounds for discounting attempts or appealing:

Circumstances that will **NOT** be considered:

Students should note that the Faculty's Personal Circumstances Board will not consider circumstances which students are expected to cope with as part of a properly managed workload, or would not normally have a significant impact on academic performance. Boards will also normally disregard circumstances which the student could reasonably have avoided, where the student could have taken measures to reduce their impact, or are no different from the circumstances facing a significant number of other students. The following are examples of circumstances which would **not** normally be considered:

- Inadequate planning to cope with last-minute delays and missing deadlines because of computer difficulties, or transport difficulties;
- Losing work not backed up, failure of a single data source;

IMPORTANT:

The above Student Affairs Information is a brief guide to some of the important Policies and Procedures information, which will assist you during your study at Strathclyde.

Please familiarize yourself with the University and course handbooks. You may also wish to refer to the relevant University and Course Regulations for postgraduate study:

<https://www.strath.ac.uk/sees/educationenhancement/qualityassurance/universityregulations/>

THE ONUS IS ON THE STUDENT TO READ ALL UNIVERSITY COMMUNICATIONS. FAILURE TO DO SO COULD POSSIBLY HAVE AN IMPACT ON YOUR STUDIES, IF YOU HAVE NOT READ INFORMATION PARTICULARLY RELATED TO [POLICIES AND PROCEDURES](#).

APPEALS

Appeals can only be made after you have been officially informed of a result in Pegasus and there will be a link in Pegasus to indicate when and how to make an appeal, and when the deadlines are. Appeals go to the faculty rather than the department, although the department will be asked for a response to any appeal that will be considered alongside the student submission, by the appeals board. Note that any appeal must have grounds, rather than for example a feeling that you should have received a better mark. You may wish to discuss this with the course director before making a formal appeal.

Appeals information can be found on the following website:

<https://www.strath.ac.uk/staff/policies/academic/>

COMMUNICATION

Students are required to communicate with the Department through e-mail, and are also encouraged, wherever possible, to submit courseworks electronically. Students are, therefore, expected to purchase or have access to a suitable computer (with internet access) and printer. This should also prove useful at a later stage for project work.

Students **MUST** access their emails on a regular basis so that all communications are received and responded to in a timely fashion.

Important updates will be given through MyPlace and students will receive an email through their Strathclyde email addresses to let them know, for example, of a marked assignment or a posting on a class forum. Students are encouraged to use their Strathclyde email address so that they receive these notifications.

If you think that you may have issues meeting the computing requirements of the course or will not have access to a reliable internet connection, you should contact the programme advisor before the start of the course. Students who are not able to access a suitable personal computer may be advised to delay or cancel starting the course as inability to access a suitable computer or internet connection may make it difficult or impossible to complete the course.

Please note that while we will try to be reasonable and help wherever we can, computing issues such as erratic or slow internet connections, inability to access VPNs, install software or upload/download files due to country or company restrictions, issues relating to non 'IBM PC type' computers and outdated software/operating systems cannot be considered reasons for non-completion or submission of coursework.

If in any doubt about this, you should contact the course manager prior to beginning the course.