

MODULE DESCRIPTION FORM

DEPARTMENT OF MECHANICAL AND AEROSPACE ENGINEERING

ME217 MATERIALS ENGINEERING FOR DESIGN

Module Registrar: Dr A McLaren andrew.mclaren@strath.ac.uk	Taught To (Course): Cohorts for whom module is compulsory		
Other Lecturers Involved: Mr Chris Cameron (Lab)	Credit Weighting: 10 (ECTS 5)	Semester: 1 and 2	
Assumed Prerequisites: None	Compulsory module	Academic Level: 2	Suitable for Exchange: N

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

Lecture	Tutorial	Laboratory	Groupwork	External	Online	Project	Assignments	Private Study	Total
	10	10			40			40	100

Educational Aim

The module aims to provide a grounding in concepts of materials science and engineering with reference to mechanical design and material selection.

Learning Outcomes

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

- LO1 Understand crystal structure, deformation mechanisms and strengthening mechanisms in metals
- LO2 Understand the use of phase diagrams to predict the equilibrium structure of metals and alloys
- LO3 Develop a basic knowledge of heat treatment of metals
- LO4 Understand the properties on non-metallic materials
- LO5 Appreciate the importance of environmental factors and sustainability

Syllabus

The module will be delivered through blended online learning. This will consist of short, pre-recorded videos and directed reading and study, supported by fortnightly face-to-face tutorials and online quizzes. The module will teach the following, divided in two semesters.

Semester 1

- Measurement of mechanical properties of materials
- Atomic bonding and crystal structure of solids
- Crystal defects and effects on properties
- Strengthening mechanisms and heat treatment

Semester 2

- Phase diagrams and microstructure of metals and alloys
- Engineering metals and alloys
- Heat Treatment and non-equilibrium transformations
- Non-metallic materials including ceramics, polymers and composites
- Sustainability and natural materials
- Laboratory on the experimental measurement of mechanical properties of materials

Assessment of Learning Outcomes

Criteria

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

LO1

- C1 demonstrate knowledge in strengthening and deformation processes with respect to metals and alloys
- C2 demonstrate understanding of atomic structure, packing density and slip planes in crystals
- C3 demonstrate understanding of the influence of crystal structure in terms of physical and mechanical properties

LO2

- C1 demonstrate knowledge using different types of phase diagram
- C2 understand the difference between phases and weight composition
- C3 demonstrate knowledge in recognizing steels and cast iron microstructure

LO3

- C1 demonstrate knowledge of heat treatment methods and applications
- C2 demonstrate understanding of the role of phase diagrams in determining heat treatment procedure
- C3 demonstrate knowledge in hardening and tempering, annealing, stress relieving and normalising

LO4

- C1 demonstrate knowledge of a range of non-metallic materials
- C2 describe the relationship between processing, structure and properties in ceramics, polymers and composites

LO5 Appreciate the importance of environmental factors and sustainability

- C1 demonstrate understanding of sustainability in material supply and use
- C2 demonstrate understanding of the use of natural and bio materials

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

Principles of Assessment and Feedback

(within Assessment and Feedback Policy at: <https://www.strath.ac.uk/professionalservices/staff/policies/academic/>)

Formal, summative feedback will be provided by the return of examination marks to students after assessment. A general feedback session on the December examination will form part of the first tutorial of semester two.

Informal feedback will be provided at regular on-campus tutorial sessions primarily through verbal discussion with individuals or groups on tutorial exercises attempted in advance by students (note:- to receive this feedback students should participate in these tutorials but attendance is not mandatory).

Fortnightly online quizzes will provide formative feedback on each student's learning and may be reviewed in tutorial sessions.

A first exam at the end of Semester 1 will be used to assess the students' understanding of the concepts inherent in Semester 1.

A second exam at the end of Semester 2 will be used to assess the students' understanding of the concepts inherent in Semester 2.

General feedback on the laboratory assessment will be provided through the results of the post-laboratory quiz.

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

Examination				Coursework		Practical		Project	
Number	Month(s)	Duration	Weighting	Number	Weighting	Number	Weighting	Number	Weighting
1	Dec	1hr	45%			1	10%		
1	Apr/May	1hr	45%						
* Dec: LO1 – LO2; * Apr/May: LO3 - LO5				*		*Lab: LO1, LO4		*	

* **LOs:** Indicate which Learning Outcomes (LO1, LO2, etc) are to be assessed by exam/coursework/practical/project as required.

Coursework / Submissions deadlines (academic weeks):

There will be an online quiz each fortnight. These will take place in weeks 2, 4, 6, 8 and 10 of each semester. These will not contribute to the marks for the module but will provide individual feedback and help prepare each student for the end of semester exam.

The materials characterisation lab will take place in semester 2. The lab will be preceded by an online pre-lab lesson, completion of which is mandatory. If a student has not completed the pre-lab, they will not be permitted to attend the lab session. After the lab each student will complete a short multiple-choice quiz to test their understanding of the concepts of the lab.

Resit Assessment Procedures:

2hr written examination in July/August diet

PLEASE NOTE:

Students must gain a summative mark of 40% to pass the module. Students who fail the module at the first attempt will be re-assessed during the July/August diet. This re-assessment will consist entirely of an exam. No marks from any previous attempts will be transferred to a new resit attempt.

Recommended Reading

***Purchase recommended **Highly recommended reading *For reference

** "Materials Science and Engineering: an Introduction" by Wm D Callister, John Wiley & Sons, 2003, ISBN 0-471-22471-S

** Additional online textbooks will be referenced through Myplace.

Additional Student Feedback

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

Date	Time	Room No
		Check timetable webpages for details

Session: 2025/26

Approved:

Programme Lead/Director Signature: Dr G Houston-Scott

Date of Last Modifications: 11 August 2025

MODULE TIMETABLE

Module Code:

ME217

Module Title:

MATERIALS ENGINEERING FOR DESIGN

Brief Description of Assessment:

Semester 1 Exam (1 hour)

Semester 2 Exam (1 hour)

Lab lesson and quiz semester 2

Formative online quizzes each fortnight (shown as 'Formative Online Test' below). These will not contribute to the marks for the module but will provide individual feedback and help prepare each student for the end of semester exam.

Assessment Timing

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

Please note: Timings could change during unforeseen periods of disruption; this should only be used as a guide.

Semester One	W&D Wk	WK1	WK2	WK3	WK4	WK5	WK6	WK7	WK8	WK9	WK10	WK11	Exam Period
	Choose an item. Choose an item.	Choose an item. Choose an item.	Formative Online Test	Choose an item. Choose an item.	Formative Online Test	Choose an item. Choose an item.	Formative Online Test	Choose an item. Choose an item.	Formative Online Test	Choose an item. Choose an item.	Formative Online Test	Choose an item. Choose an item.	Exam

Semester Two	C&D Wk	WK1	WK2	WK3	WK4	WK5	WK6	WK7	WK8	WK9	WK10	WK11	Exam Period
	Choose an item. Choose an item.	Choose an item. Choose an item.	Formative Online Test	Choose an item. Choose an item.	Formative Online Test	Choose an item. Choose an item.	Formative Online Test	Choose an item. Choose an item.	Formative Online Test	Choose an item. Choose an item.	Formative Online Test	Choose an item. Choose an item.	Exam

Note that the timings of the materials lab will be announced towards the end of semester 1.