

MODULE DESCRIPTION FORM

DEPARTMENT OF MECHANICAL AND AEROSPACE ENGINEERING

ME929 Electrical Power Systems

Module Registrar: Dr N Kelly nick@esru.strath.ac.uk	Taught To (Course): MSc Renewable Energy Systems and the Environment (compulsory); MSc Offshore Renewable Energy; MSc Advanced Mechanical Engineering / with Energy Systems / with Aerospace	
Other Lecturers Involved:	Credit Weighting: 10	Semester: 1
Compulsory/ optional/ elective module	Academic Level: 5	Suitable for Exchange: Y

Required prerequisites

Note: It is the responsibility of ALL students to ensure that they satisfy the prerequisite knowledge for this module BEFORE adding as part of curriculum selection. If unsure, please contact the Module Registrar or discuss with your Programme/Year Adviser of Studies.

Maths skills: good maths skills required as classwork includes calculations using complex numbers, vector arithmetic, differentiation and integration and manipulation of algebraic expressions.

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

Lecture	Tutorial	Laboratory	Groupwork	External	Online	Project	Assignments	Private Study	Total
20	10						12	58	100

Educational Aim

This module aims to provide students with an understanding of the operation of modern electrical power systems featuring renewable and low carbon generation, along with the techniques to undertake a basic technical analysis and design of key electrical devices and systems.

Learning Outcomes

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

LO1 Explain the basis of operation of modern electrical power systems incorporating renewable energy technologies and the consequences for the environment and energy security.

LO2 Apply complex numbers and fundamental analysis techniques such as Kirchhoff's current and voltage laws to solve power flow problems and analyse equivalent circuits of electrical systems and devices.

Syllabus

The module will teach the following:

The fundamentals of electrical power: direct current (DC) and voltage, alternating current (AC) and voltage. For AC systems: converting time varying, fixed frequency quantities to phasor form.

The basics of circuit analysis: basic circuit elements (resistor, inductor and capacitor) and their effect on current and voltage in DC and AC systems.

Power in DC and AC systems: looking at the concepts of real, reactive, apparent power and impedance.

An overview of the demand for electricity, looking at the aggregate characteristics of electricity demand and giving a specific example of demand for electricity in a dwelling.

An overview of electricity generation and distribution within the UK, along with a detailed overview of the growth of renewable electricity generation in the context of the UK's Net Zero targets.

Microgeneration, storage and power conversion.

The basics of electromagnetism, specifically focusing on how it underpins the operation of electrical equipment.

An overview of electrical machines including the transformer, synchronous generator and induction machines (used as both motors and generators). For each, an equivalent circuit will be developed and used to illustrate the operational characteristics of these devices in power systems.

Power conversion and protection in power systems.

Assessment of Learning Outcomes

Criteria

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

LO1 Explain the basis of operation of modern electrical power systems incorporating renewable energy technologies and the consequences for the environment and energy security.

In their exam the students will be expected to:

C1 Explain the principles behind the operation of different electrical devices or systems.

C2 Correctly identify in which context it is appropriate to apply different of electrical devices.

LO2 Apply complex numbers and fundamental analysis techniques such as Kirchhoff's current and voltage laws to solve power flow problems and analyse equivalent circuits of electrical systems and devices.

To gauge the ability of students to apply analysis techniques introduced in class to basic electrical design problems, the assignment and exam will include components in which students will:

C1 Solve basic problems in circuit analysis and power flow.

C2 Analyse the behaviour of electrical technologies.

C3 Use calculations to support their findings and conclusions.

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/>)

Assessment of student performance within the module will be based on a combination of a short assignment and a class exam. The assignment will test the students' understanding of basic electrical circuit and power theory. The 2-hour exam will primarily assess the student's understanding of the operation of modern power systems and the challenges posed by decarbonisation of electricity. Students will also be expected to apply analysis techniques learned in class to a variety of electrical power systems technologies.

Multiple feedback mechanisms will be employed.

Formal feedback: the assignment will be returned to students with comments on performance and understanding. Additionally, clear guidance will be provided in class as to what constitutes an acceptable level of performance in the assignment.

Informal feedback: the tutorial class will also be used to provide feedback on the development of a student's technical analysis skills. This will be achieved through direct observation of a student's efforts to tackle technical problems followed by appropriate mentoring. Additionally, peer-peer feedback will be employed in that students will be expected to discuss with their peers on how they set about tackling a tutorial problem.

Students can self-test their knowledge with a short quiz provided at the end of each block of teaching.

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	2hrs	80%	1	20				
LO1 LO2 (C2,3)				LO2 (C1)		*		*	

* **L/Os:** Indicate which Learning Outcomes (L01, L02, etc) are to be assessed by exam/coursework/practical/project as required.

Coursework / Submission deadlines (academic weeks):**Resit Assessment Procedures:**

Submission of alternate ^^coursework(s) prior to commencement of the July/August exam diet.

^^Students must contact the module Registrar for details as soon as results confirm that a resit is required

PLEASE NOTE:

Students must gain a summative mark of 50% to pass the module. Students who fail the module at the first attempt will be reassessed prior to the July/August exam diet. This reassessment will consist entirely of coursework assessing all LOs. No marks from any previous attempts will be transferred to a new resit attempt.

Recommended Reading

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

*Wildi T, Electrical Machines Drives and Power Systems, International Edition, Prentice Hall, New Jersey.

Extra reading material provided on class Myplace page.

Additional Student Feedback

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

Date	Time	Room No
By Arrangement	By arrangement	JW814c

Session: 2025/26

Approved:

Programme Lead/Director Signature: Dr Andrew McLaren

Date of Last Modifications: 12 August 2025

MODULE TIMETABLE

Module Code:

ME929

Module Title:

Electrical Power Systems

Brief Description of Assessment:

End of semester exam covering all LOs (80% of mark) and an assignment (20% of mark) testing basic understanding of circuit and power flow theory LO2.

Assessment Timing

Indicated on the table below are 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.	Choose an item. Choose an item.	Choose an item. Choose an item.	Choose an item. Choose an item.	Course work Set	Choose an item. Choose an item.	Choose an item. Choose an item.	Course work Submit	Choose an item. Choose an item.	Choose an item. Choose an item.	Choose an item. Choose an item.	Exam

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