MECHANICAL ENGINEERING, B.S. (BEHREND)

Begin Campus: Any Penn State Campus
End Campus: Erie

Program Description

Built upon a broad foundation in physics, chemistry, and mathematics, this major has the objective of educating graduates to be problem solvers. Graduates of this program will have had opportunities to learn about applying scientific principles, engineering analysis, and engineering design to solve unstructured problems that are typical of those found in mechanical engineering. The major helps prepare graduates for a lifelong productive career, whether they choose professional practice, graduate school, or some other career path. Graduates will have had opportunities to learn how to work with others toward a common goal, to clearly express their ideas in written and verbal form, and to be independent and capable of adapting to the continuously changing technology of the work environment.

After completing the fundamental science core, students may pursue their interest in mechanical engineering by studying fluid and solid mechanics, engineering materials and their properties, thermodynamics and heat transfer, computer-aided design, kinematics and dynamics of machine elements, machine design, finite elements, control systems, electricity, and electronic instrumentation and machinery. The students will be required to analyze and solve a significant mechanical engineering design problem during their senior year.

What is Mechanical Engineering?

Mechanical engineering is the largest and broadest engineering discipline. It uses a combination of physics, chemistry, mathematics, and materials science to study mechanical, fluid, and thermal systems. Mechanical engineers are problem solvers: They use their foundational knowledge to apply scientific and engineering methods to the design, construction, and testing of products and components to ensure that they are safe, reliable, and cost effective. Mechanical engineering differs from mechanical engineering technology in that it emphasizes the math and science behind the theoretical development of engineering analysis and design process principles rather than the application of these principles. Mechanical engineers design everything from athletic equipment, medical devices, theme park rides, and personal computers to engines and power plants.

You Might Like This Program If...

- You are a curious, creative problem solver.
- You are interested in engineering, math, chemistry, and physics.
- You are looking for a broad discipline with career flexibility.
- You enjoy working on team-based projects.

Entrance to MAJOR

In addition to the Carnegie unit and minimum GPA requirements described by University policies, all students applying for entrance to any of the engineering majors at Behrend, Berks, or Capital college must have at least a 2.0 cumulative GPA by the end of the semester prior to applying for entrance to the major and have completed, with a minimum grade of C: CHEM 110, MATH 140, MATH 141, and PHYS 211. These courses must be completed by the end of the semester during which the admission to major process is carried out.

1 In the event that the major is under enrollment control, a higher minimum cumulative grade-point average is likely to be needed.

Degree Requirements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>For the Bachelor of Science degree in Mechanical Engineering, a minimum of 131 credits is required:</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>General Education</th>
<th>45</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Requirements for the Major</td>
<td>107-108</td>
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</table>

General Education

Connecting career and curiosity, the General Education curriculum provides the opportunity for students to acquire transferable skills necessary to be successful in the future and to thrive while living in interconnected contexts. General Education aids students in developing intellectual curiosity, a strengthened ability to think, and a deeper sense of aesthetic appreciation. These are requirements for all baccalaureate students and are often partially incorporated into the requirements of a program. For additional information, see the General Education Requirements (http://bulletins.psu.edu/undergraduate/general-education/baccalaureate-degree-general-education-program) section of the Bulletin and consult your academic adviser.

The keystone symbol appears next to the title of any course that is designated as a General Education course. Program requirements may also satisfy General Education requirements and vary for each program.

Foundations (grade of C or better is required.)
- Quantification (GQ): 6 credits
- Writing and Speaking (GWS): 9 credits

Knowledge Domains
- Arts (GA): 6 credits
- Health and Wellness (GHW): 3 credits
- Humanities (GH): 6 credits
- Social and Behavioral Sciences (GS): 6 credits
- Natural Sciences (GN): 9 credits

Integrative Studies (may also complete a Knowledge Domain requirement)
- Inter-Domain or Approved Linked Courses: 6 credits

21 of these 45 credits are included in the Requirements for the Major.

University Degree Requirements

First Year Engagement

All students enrolled in a college or the Division of Undergraduate Studies at University Park, and the World Campus are required to take 1 to 3 credits of the First-Year Seminar, as specified by their college First-Year Engagement Plan.

Other Penn State colleges and campuses may require the First-Year Seminar; colleges and campuses that do not require a First-Year Seminar provide students with a first-year engagement experience.

First-year baccalaureate students entering Penn State should consult their academic adviser for these requirements.
Cultures Requirement
6 credits are required and may satisfy other requirements
- United States Cultures: 3 credits
- International Cultures: 3 credits

Writing Across the Curriculum
3 credits required from the college of graduation and likely prescribed as part of major requirements.

Total Minimum Credits
A minimum of 120 degree credits must be earned for a baccalaureate degree. The requirements for some programs may exceed 120 credits. Students should consult with their college or department adviser for information on specific credit requirements.

Quality of Work
Candidates must complete the degree requirements for their major and earn at least a 2.00 grade-point average for all courses completed within their degree program.

Limitations on Source and Time for Credit Acquisition
The college dean or campus chancellor and program faculty may require up to 24 credits of course work in the major to be taken at the location or in the college or program where the degree is earned. Credit used toward degree programs may need to be earned from a particular source or within time constraints (see Senate Policy 83-80). For more information, check the Suggested Academic Plan for your intended program.

Requirements for the Major
This includes 21 credits of General Education courses: 9 credits of GN courses; 6 credits of GQ courses; 3 credits of GS courses; 3 credits of GWS courses.

Each student must earn at least a grade of C in each 300- and 400-level course in the major field.

To graduate, a student enrolled in the major must earn a grade of C or better in each course designated by the major as a C-required course, as specified by Senate Policy 82-44 (http://senate.psu.edu/policies-and-rules-for-undergraduate-students/82-00-and-83-00-degree-requirements/#82-44). For more information, check the Suggested Academic Plan for your intended program.

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Code
Title
Credits
Prescribed Courses
EDSGN 100S Introduction to Engineering Design 3
EE 211 Electrical Circuits and Power Distribution 3
MATH 230 Calculus and Vector Analysis 4
PHYS 212 General Physics: Electricity and Magnetism 4
CMPSC 200 Programming for Engineers with MATLAB 3
ENGL 202C Effective Writing: Technical Writing 3
Prescribed Courses: Require a grade of C or better
CHEM 110 Chemical Principles I 3
EMCH 211 Statics 3
EMCH 212 Dynamics 3
EMCH 213 Strength of Materials 3
ME 300 Engineering Thermodynamics I 3
MATH 140 Calculus With Analytic Geometry I 4
MATH 141 Calculus with Analytic Geometry II 4
MATH 220 Matrices 2-3
MATH 251 Ordinary and Partial Differential Equations 4
PHYS 211 General Physics: Mechanics 4
ME 320 Fluid Flow 3
ME 345W Instrumentation, Measurements, and Statistics 4
ME 349 Intermediate Mechanics of Materials 3
ME 357 System Dynamics 3
ME 365 Materials Testing Laboratory 1
ME 367 Machine Design 3
ME 380 Machine Dynamics 3
ME 410 Heat Transfer 3
ME 448 Engineering Design Concepts 3
ME 449 Mechanical Design Projects 3
ME 468 Engineering for Manufacturing 3
MATSE 259 Properties and Processing of Engineering Materials 3
Additional Courses
ECON 102 Introductory Microeconomic Analysis and Policy 3
or ECON 104 Introductory Macroeconomic Analysis and Policy 3
Select one of the following:
CHEM 111 & PHYS 214 Experimental Chemistry I and General Physics: Wave Motion and Quantum Physics 3
CHEM 112 Chemical Principles II 3
BIOL 141 Introductory Physiology 3
Supporting Courses and Related Areas
Supporting Courses and Related Areas: Require a grade of C or better
Select 13 credits of program elective courses from school-approved list 1

1 These credits must be selected to fulfill the thematic requirements of the major.

Academic Advising
The objectives of the university’s academic advising program are to help advisees identify and achieve their academic goals, to promote their intellectual discovery, and to encourage students to take advantage of both in-and out-of class educational opportunities in order that they become self-directed learners and decision makers.

Both advisers and advisees share responsibility for making the advising relationship succeed. By encouraging their advisees to become engaged in their education, to meet their educational goals, and to develop the habit of learning, advisers assume a significant educational role. The advisee’s unit of enrollment will provide each advisee with a primary academic adviser, the information need to plan the chosen program of study, and referrals to other specialized resources.

READ SENATE POLICY 32-00: ADVISING POLICY (http://senate.psu.edu/policies-and-rules-for-undergraduate-students/32-00-advising-policy)

Erie
Elisa Wu
Associate Professor of Mechanical Engineering
240 AMIC
Erie, PA 16563
814-898-6559
### Suggested Academic Plan

#### Mechanical Engineering at Erie Campus

The course series listed below provides only one of the many possible ways to move through this curriculum. The University may make changes in policies, procedures, educational offerings, and requirements at any time. This plan should be used in conjunction with your degree audit (accessible in LionPATH as either an Academic Requirements or What If report). Please consult with a Penn State academic adviser on a regular basis to develop and refine an academic plan that is appropriate for you.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>First Year</th>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>Spring</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<td>MATH 230</td>
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<td>EMCH 212*</td>
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<td>PHYS 212†</td>
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<td>ME 300*</td>
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<td>ME 320†</td>
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<td><strong>16.5</strong></td>
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* Course requires a grade of C or better for the major
‡ Course requires a grade of C or better for General Education
# Course is an Entrance to Major requirement
† Course satisfies General Education and degree requirement

### University Requirements and General Education Notes:

US and IL are abbreviations used to designate courses that satisfy University Requirements (United States and International Cultures).

W, M, X, and Y are the suffixes at the end of a course number used to designate courses that satisfy University Writing Across the Curriculum requirement.

GWS, GQ, GHW, GN, GA, GH, and GS are abbreviations used to identify General Education program courses. General Education includes Foundations (GWS and GQ) and Knowledge Domains (GHW, GN, GA, GH, GS, and Integrative Studies). Foundations courses (GWS and GQ) require a grade of 'C' or better.

Integrative Studies courses are required for the General Education program. N is the suffix at the end of a course number used to designate an Inter-Domain course and Z is the suffix at the end of a course number used to designate a Linked course.

1. The following course is only offered in the FALL semester: ME 448
2. The following courses are only offered in the SPRING semester: ME 449 and EE 211
3. Course will satisfy First-Year Seminar requirement.
4. Course will satisfy Writing Across the Curriculum requirement.

### Program Notes:

- Students starting at a location other than Penn State Behrend must take EDSGN 100 plus a seminar course.
- Interested students may substitute BIOL 141 (spring only) or CHEM 112 for both CHEM 111 and PHYS 214.

### School-Approved Electives for Mechanical Engineering

Mechanical Engineering students at Behrend are required to take four 3-credit courses and one 1-credit lab (13 total credits) of technical electives. The courses must be selected from one of the following two thematic areas:
Technical

Take one Lab Course:

- ME 308  Fluid Flow and Heat Transfer Laboratory (fall and spring)
- ME 465  Introduction to Manufacturing Laboratory (fall and spring)
- ME 497A Dynamic Systems and Vibrations Lab (fall)
- ME 497B Rapid Prototyping Lab (fall and spring)

Take two courses from Group 1:

- ME 370  Vibration of Mechanical Systems (fall and spring)
- ME 401  Refrigeration and Air Conditioning (fall)
- ME 408  Energy Systems (spring)
- ME 427  Aerodynamics for Mechanical Engineers (fall)
- ME 428  Applied Computational Fluid Dynamics (spring)
- ME 467  Applied Finite Element Analysis (fall and spring)
- ME 469  Metallic Manufacturing Processes (spring)
- ME 491  Bioengineering Applications of Mechanical Engineering (spring)

Take one course from Group 2:

Any course in Group 1 or 2

- IE 302  Engineering Economy (spring preferred)
- IE 405  Deterministic Models in Operations Research (spring only)
- MATH 412  Fourier Series and PDE’s (fall only, odd years)
- MATH 449  Applied Ordinary Differential Equations (spring only, odd years)
- MATH 455  Introduction to Numerical Analysis (fall only)
- MATH 456  Introduction to Numerical Analysis (spring only, even years)
- MATH 482  Mathematic Methods of Operations Research (spring only, even years)
- PHYS 400  Intermediate Electricity and Magnetism (fall only, even years)
- PHYS 419  Theoretical Mechanics (spring only, even years)
- PHYS 458  Intermediate Optics (spring only, odd years)
- STAT 414  Introduction to Probability Theory (fall only, odd years)

Take one course from Group 3:

Any course in Group 1 or 2

- ME 401  Refrigeration and Air Conditioning (spring)
- ME 408  Energy Systems (spring)
- ME 427  Aerodynamics for Mechanical Engineers (fall)
- ME 428  Applied Computational Fluid Dynamics (spring)
- ME 467  Applied Finite Element Analysis (fall and spring)
- ME 469  Metallic Manufacturing Processes (spring)
- ME 491  Bioengineering Applications of Mechanical Engineering (fall)
- MGMT 409  Project Management for Engineers (fall and spring)
- PSYCH 444  Engineering Psychology (fall, NOTE: requires PSYCH 100)
- QC 450  Quality Control and Quality Improvement (spring)

*Selection of ME 494-ME 497 courses require written approval of the program coordinator.

Engineering Management

Take one Lab Course:

- ME 308  Fluid Flow and Heat Transfer Laboratory (fall and spring)
- ME 465  Introduction to Manufacturing Laboratory (fall and spring)
- ME 497A Dynamic Systems and Vibrations Lab (fall)
- ME 497B Rapid Prototyping Lab (fall and spring)

Take the following two courses:

- MGMT 409  Project Management for Engineers (fall and spring)
- IE 302  Engineering Economy (spring preferred)
- IE 405  Deterministic Models in Operations Research (spring only)
- MATH 482  Mathematic Methods of Operations Research (spring only, even years)
- ME 370  Vibration of Mechanical Systems (fall and spring)
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- ME 408  Energy Systems (spring)
- ME 427  Aerodynamics for Mechanical Engineers (fall)
- ME 428  Applied Computational Fluid Dynamics (spring)
- ME 467  Applied Finite Element Analysis (fall and spring)
- ME 469  Metallic Manufacturing Processes (spring)
- ME 491  Bioengineering Applications of Mechanical Engineering (fall)
Students in the Engineering Management thematic who also complete either the Operations and Supply Chain Management minor or the Technical Sales minor may substitute 400-level SCM courses for the additional 6 credits of 400-level IE, MATH or ME courses.

**Advising notes:**
- Only students who have gone through the entrance-to-major process and have been accepted into this major may register for junior and senior-level ME courses.

**Career Paths**
Because every industry values a mechanical engineer’s problem-solving capabilities, you’ll enjoy tremendous career flexibility in disciplines as varied as research, manufacturing, product and systems design and testing, health care, energy, the military, transportation, and consumer products. A mechanical engineering education also is excellent preparation for technical management, business, law, or technical sales.

**Careers**
Typical entry-level careers for mechanical engineering graduates are applications engineer, design engineer and mechanical design engineer, test engineer, equipment installation engineering, facilities technician, stress analysis engineer, product development engineer, and project engineer.

**Opportunities for Graduate Studies**
Graduate programs in mechanical engineering delve more deeply into areas of specialization such as automotive engineering, robotics, advanced manufacturing, thermal science, computational fluid mechanics, combustion modeling, or biomechanical engineering.

**Professional Resources**
- American Society of Mechanical Engineers (https://www.asme.org)
- Society of Women Engineers (http://societyofwomenengineers.swe.org)
- National Society of Black Engineers (http://www.nsbe.org/home.aspx)

**Accreditation**
The B.S. in Mechanical Engineering offered by Penn State Behrend is accredited by the Engineering Accreditation Commission of ABET, abet.org. ABET is a nonprofit, non-governmental accrediting agency for programs in applied and natural science, computing, engineering and engineering technology and recognized as an accreditor by the Council for Higher Education Accreditation. ABET accreditation is voluntary and provides assurance that a college or university program meets the quality standards of the profession for which that program prepares graduates. The School of Engineering at Penn State Behrend consistently places in the Top 50 in U.S. News & World Report’s rankings of the nation’s undergraduate engineering programs.

MORE INFORMATION (http://www.abet.org)

**Contact**
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814-898-6153

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http://behrend.psu.edu/school-of-engineering

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http://berks.psu.edu/bs-mechanical-engineering

**Harrisburg**
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717-948-6116
adj5019@psu.edu

http://harrisburg.psu.edu/science-engineering-technology/me-met/bachelor-science-mechanical-engineering