BEngHons Computer Engineering (12240214)

Minimum duration of study	1 year
Total credits	128
NQF level	08

Programme information

The curriculum is determined in consultation with the relevant heads of departments. A student is required to pass modules to the value of at least 128 credits.

The degree is awarded on the basis of examinations only.

Admission requirements

- A BEng degree awarded by the University of Pretoria (or equivalent); or a four-year bachelor's degree in engineering that ECSA regards as acceptable for registration as a candidate engineer and for eventual registration as a professional engineer.
- The departmental Postgraduate Committee reserves the right to make a thorough assessment of the applicant's academic transcript and CV, and to decide if the applicant is suitable for postgraduate studies. This assessment may include an oral or written entrance examination.

Other programme-specific information

Students may take modules to the value of 32 credits from other fields of specialisation or from other departments, with approval of the Coordinator: Postgraduate Studies.

Examinations and pass requirements

i. The examination in each module for which a student is registered, takes place during the normal examination period after the conclusion of lectures (i.e. October/November or May/June).
ii. A student registered for the honours degree must complete his or her studies within two years (full-time), or within three years (part-time) after first registration for the degree: Provided that the Dean, on recommendation of the relevant head of department, may approve a stipulated limited extension of this period.
iii. A student must obtain at least 50% in an examination for each module where no semester or year mark is required. A module may only be repeated once.
iv. In modules where semester or year marks are awarded, a minimum examination mark of 40% and a final mark of 50% is required.
v. No supplementary or special examinations are granted at postgraduate level.

Pass with distinction

A student passes with distinction if he or she obtains a weighted average of at least 75% in the first 128 credits for which he or she has registered (excluding modules which were discontinued timeously). The degree is not awarded with distinction if a student fails any one module (excluding modules which were discontinued timeously).

Curriculum: Final year

Minimum credits: 128

EIN 732 is a compulsory module. With permission from the department it may be substituted with:

EPT 732 OR

EPT 733

EIN 732 is 'n verpligte module. Met toestemming van die departement mag dit vervang word met:

EPT 732 OF

EPT 733

Core modules

Intelligent systems 732 (EAI 732)

Module credits	32.00
Prerequisites	No prerequisites.
Contact time	10 lectures per week
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Electrical, Electronic and Computer Engineering
Period of presentation	Semester 1

Module content

This module provides the theoretical background necessary to understand, research and develop real-world software and hardware systems that incorporate and exhibit intelligent behaviour. The module incorporates advanced theory from fields such as Artificial Intelligence, Computational Intelligence, Machine Learning, Pattern Recognition and Signal Processing. Core topics of the module include: Bayesian Theory, Neural Networks, Kernel Methods, Graphic Models, and Numerical Bayesian Methods.

Advanced topics in intelligent systems 733 (EAI 733)

Module credits	32.00
Prerequisites	EAI 732
Contact time	10 lectures per week
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Electrical, Electronic and Computer Engineering
Period of presentation	Semester 1 or Semester 2

Module content

The aim of the module is to augment the general background provided by the EAI 732 module with the specific theoretical background required for MEng. The module will, depending on the intended research field of the student, incorporate advanced theory from fields such as: Digital Image Processing, Computer and Robotic Vision, Probabilistic Robotics, Data Fusion, Hardware and Software Parallel Processing, Real-Time and Reactive Systems.

Introduction to research 732 (EIN 732)

Module credits	32.00
Prerequisites	No prerequisites.
Contact time	16 contact hours per semester
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Electrical, Electronic and Computer Engineering
Period of presentation	Semester 1 or Semester 2

Module content

*This is a compulsory module.

The aim of this module is to teach students to critically evaluate research literature, including conference papers and journal articles, in order to determine the current state of knowledge in a particular specialist area. It will also provide students with the principles of research to enable them to conduct research and prepare an original project in their particular specialist area.

Wireless sensor networks 732 (EKS 732)

Module credits	32.00
Prerequisites	ERN 780
Contact time	32 contact hours per semester
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Electrical, Electronic and Computer Engineering
Period of presentation	Semester 1 or Semester 2

Module content

WSN consist of individual nodes interacting with their environment by sensing or controlling physical parameters; these nodes have to collaborate (using wireless communication) to fulfil their tasks. The course can be structured in two parts: architectures covering single node and network architectures, and communication protocols focusing on algorithms and protocols relevant to wireless sensor networks. The latter include the physical layer, MAC protocols, link-layer, naming and addressing, time synchronisation, localisation and positioning, topology control, routing protocols, data-centric and content-based networking, transport layer an QoS, and advanced application support (e.g. security).

Research project: Theory 732 (EPT 732)

Module credits	32.00
Prerequisites	No prerequisites.
Contact time	10 lectures per week
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Electrical, Electronic and Computer Engineering
Period of presentation	Semester 1 or Semester 2

Module content

This module will cover the essential theoretical background of the student's proposed M Eng topic and include inter alia the following:
(i) Field definition and descriptions
(ii) In-depth study into background and theory relevant to the problem to be addressed
(iii) Problem definition and description
(iv) Mathematical simulations of the problem

Research project: Design and laboratory 733 (EPT 733)

Module credits	32.00
Prerequisites	No prerequisites.
Contact time	10 lectures per week
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Electrical, Electronic and Computer Engineering
Period of presentation	Semester 1 or Semester 2

Module content

This module will include extensive laboratory experiments to test the principles and possible solutions of the proposed M Eng research project and will include inter alia the following. These will include hardware and/or software experiments:
(i) Introduction to instrumentation and measuring techniques in general and specifically as applied in the field of research.
(ii) Structured laboratory work to introduce the specific problem investigated for the research undertaken.
(iii) Structured laboratory work to test the proposed solution for the problem addressed.
(iv) Confirmation experiments.

Computer networks 780 (ERN 780)

Module credits	32.00
Prerequisites	No prerequisites.
Contact time	32 contact hours per semester
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Electrical, Electronic and Computer Engineering
Period of presentation	Semester 1

Module content

Review of computer networks infrastructure: The review will cover elementary concepts in computer networks; covering data communications, wide area networks, and local area networks.

Networking protocols: This section will explore both the architectural principles and mechanisms required for the exchange of data among computers, workstations, servers, and other data processing devices. Much of the material in this part relates to the TCP/IP protocol suite. Recent developments and state-of-art issues will also be focused upon.

Applications, service models and convergence of networks: This section will look at the application layer and explore various service models in the context of convergence. Students will be introduced to various Next Generation Networks technologies and issues.

Modelling and simulation: This section will cover research issues in computer networks. Students will be introduced to modelling, simulation techniques and tools.

Digital communications 732 (ETD 732)

Module credits	32.00
Prerequisites	No prerequisites.
Contact time	32 contact hours per semester
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Electrical, Electronic and Computer Engineering
Period of presentation	Semester 1

Module content

Digital Communications ETD 732 is a first semester graduate course in Electronic Engineering, presented by the Signal Processing and Telecommunications Group, in collaboration with the Centre for Radio and Digital Communication (CRDC). The content of the course is as follows: Introduction to digital communications, digital communications applications and services. Review of: probability and stochastic processes, source coding, characterisation of communication signals and systems and optimum receivers for the AWGN channel. Advanced synchronisation systems: Carrier and symbol recovery. Shannon's channel capacity theorem and introduction to coding. Signal design for band-limited channels. Digital modulation techniques. Communication through band-limited linear filter channels. Introduction to adaptive equalisation. Spread spectrum signals for digital communications. Simulation of digital communication systems. Digital realisation of digital communication subsystems. Digital communication laboratory.

Telecommunication systems engineering 732 (ETT 732)

Module credits	32.00
Prerequisites	No prerequisites.
Contact time	32 contact hours per semester
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Electrical, Electronic and Computer Engineering
Period of presentation	Semester 1 or Semester 2

Module content

Telecommunication systems engineering ETT 732 is a first semester graduate course in Electronic Engineering, presented by the Signals and Telecommunications Group. This module provides an Introduction to telecommunication concepts, telecommunication systems, virtual private networks (VPN), advanced intelligent networks (AIN), local number portability (LNP), computer-to-telephony integration (CTI), signalling system 7 (SS7), CTI technologies and application, ISDN, frame relay, ATM, ATM and frame relay internetworking, data over power lines, xDSL, microwave and radio-based systems, local multipoint distribution services (LMDS), specialized mobile radio (SMR), cellular communication, GSM, personal communication services (PCS), wireless data communication (Mobile IP), satellite communication (Networking, LEO), Sonet and SDH, wave division multiplexing (WDM), the internet (TCP/IP, VoIP, networking, management).