University of Pretoria Yearbook 2023

BEng (Mechanical Engineering) (12130004)

Department	Mechanical and Aeronautical Engineering
Minimum duration of study	4 years
Total credits	579
NQF level	08

Programme information

All fields of study of the BEng degree have been accredited by the Engineering Council of South Africa (ECSA), and comply with the academic requirements for registration as a professional engineer. The programmes are designed in accordance with the outcomes-based model as required by the South African Qualifications Authority (SAQA). The learning outcomes and contents of the programmes have been compiled in accordance with the latest accreditation standards (PE-60 and PE-61) of ECSA, which also comply with the SAQA requirements, and which are summarised as follows:

Learning outcomes of the BEng degree:
A graduate in engineering should be able to apply the following skills on an advanced level:

a. Engineering problem solving.
b. Application of specialist and fundamental knowledge, with specific reference to mathematics, basic sciences and engineering sciences.
c. Engineering design and synthesis.
d. Investigation, experimentation and data analysis.
e. Engineering methods, skills, tools and information technology.
f. Professional and general communication.
g. Awareness and knowledge of the impact of engineering activity on society and the physical environment.
h. Work in teams and in multidisciplinary environments.
i. An awareness and ability for lifelong learning.
j. An awareness and knowledge of principles of professional ethics and practice.
k. Awareness and knowledge of engineering management principles and economic decision-making.

Learning contents of the BEng programmes:
Six essential knowledge areas are included in the syllabi of the programmes. The typical representation of each knowledge area as a percentage of the total contents of an undergraduate programme is given in brackets ( ) in the list below. This percentage varies for the different study directions, but conforms in all instances to the minimum knowledge area content as stipulated by ECSA.
Knowledge areas:

a. Mathematics, including numerical methods and statistics (13%)
b. Basic sciences: the natural sciences essential to the programme (15%)
c. Engineering sciences (40%)

d. Engineering design and synthesis (16%)
e. Computing and information technology (5%)
f. Complementary studies: communication, economy, management, innovation, environmental impact, ethics, engineering practice (11%).

Admission requirements

Important information for all prospective students for 2023

The admission requirements below apply to all who apply for admission to the University of Pretoria with a **National Senior Certificate (NSC) and Independent Examination Board (IEB) qualifications. Click here for this Faculty Brochure.**

Minimum requirements: 4-year programme			
Achievement level English Home Language or English First Additional Language	**Mathematics**	**Physical Sciences**	**APS**
NSC/IEB	NSC/IEB	NSC/IEB	
5	6	6	**35**

The suggested second-choice programmes for BEng (Mechanical Engineering) are BSc (Chemistry), BSc (Mathematics) and BSc (Physics) if your APS and subject requirements of your first-choice programme are not obtained.

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Minimum requirements: ENGAGE 5-year programme			
Achievement level English Home Language or English First Additional Language	**Mathematics**	**Physical Sciences**	**APS**
NSC/IEB	NSC/IEB	NSC/IEB	
5	5	5	**30**

Life Orientation is excluded when calculating the APS.

Conditional admission to the four-year programmes in the School of Engineering is guaranteed only if a prospective student complies with ALL the requirements as indicated in the table "Minimum requirements: 4-year programme".

Admission to the Engineering Augmented Degree Programme (ENGAGE) in the School of Engineering will be determined by the NSC results, achievement levels of 5 for Mathematics, Physical Sciences and English, and an APS of 30.

Students may apply directly to be considered for the ENGAGE programme.

You will be considered for final admission to degree studies if space allows, and if you have a National Senior Certificate (NSC) or equivalent qualification with admission to bachelor's degree studies, and comply with the minimum subject requirements as well as the APS requirements of your chosen programme.

Applicants with qualifications other than the abovementioned should refer to the Brochure: Undergraduate Programme Information 2023: Qualifications other than the NSC and IEB, available at click here.

International students: Click here.

Transferring students

A transferring student is a student who, at the time of applying at the University of Pretoria (UP) is/was a registered student at another tertiary institution. A transferring student will be considered for admission based on NSC or equivalent qualification and previous academic performance. Students who have been dismissed from other institutions due to poor academic performance will not be considered for admission to UP.

Closing dates: Same as above.

Returning students

A returning student is a student who, at the time of application for a degree programme is/was a registered student at UP, and wants to transfer to another degree at UP. A returning student will be considered for admission based on NSC or equivalent qualification and previous academic performance.

Note:

- Students who have been excluded/dismissed from a faculty due to poor academic performance may be considered for admission to another programme at UP, as per faculty-specific requirements.
- Only ONE transfer between UP faculties and TWO transfers within a faculty will be allowed.
- Admission of returning students will always depend on the faculty concerned and the availability of space in the programmes for which they apply.

Closing date for applications from returning students

Unless capacity allows for an extension of the closing date, applications from returning students must be submitted before the end of August via your UP Student Centre.

Other programme-specific information

Please note: For the Aeronautical Option, the themes of both the Design and the Project must be aeronautical-related.

With a few exceptions, most modules offered at the School of Engineering are semester modules having credit values of either 8 or 16.
A student may be permitted by the Dean, on recommendation of the relevant head of department, to register for an equivalent module in an alternate semester, although the module is normally offered to the student's group in another semester, and providing that no timetable clashes occur.

Please note:

1. All students are required to successfully complete JCP 203, Community-based project 203, as part of the requirements for the BEng degree. A student may register for the module during any of the years of study of the programme, but preferably not during the first or the final year of study.
2. Students registered for Chemical Engineering who have passed CBI 311 or CBI 410, receive credit for CBI 310.
3. Mechanical Engineering: For the Aeronautical Option, the themes of both the Design and the Project must be aeronautical-related.
4. Offering of electives depends on the availability of resources and industry support.

Promotion to next study year

Promotion to the second semester of the first year and to the second year of study

a. A new first-year student who has failed in all the prescribed modules of the programme at the end of the first semester, is excluded from studies in the School of Engineering. A student who is registered for the Engineering Augmented Degree Programme and has passed only 8 credits will also be excluded.
b. A student who complies with all the requirements of the first year of study, is promoted to the second year of study.
c. A student who has not passed at least 70% of the credits of the first year of study after the November examinations, must reapply for admission should he/she intend to proceed with his/her studies. Application on the prescribed form must be submitted to the Student Administration of the School of Engineering not later than 11 January. Late applications will be accepted only in exceptional circumstances after approval by the Dean. Should first-year students be readmitted, conditions of readmission will be determined by the Admissions Committee.
d. Students who have not passed all the prescribed modules at first-year level (level 100), as well as students who are readmitted in terms of Faculty Regulations must register for the outstanding first-year level (level-100) modules.
e. A student who is repeating his or her first year, may, on recommendation of the relevant heads of department and with the approval of the Dean, be permitted to enrol for modules of the second-year of study in addition to the first-year modules which he or she failed, providing that he or she complies with the prerequisites for the second-year modules and no timetable clashes occur. Students on the ENGAGE programme may, following the same procedure, be permitted to enrol for level-200 modules in addition to the level-100 modules which he/she failed providing that he/she complies with the prerequisites for the modules at 200-level and no timetable clashes occur. On recommendation of the relevant head of department and with special permission from the Dean, permission may be granted to exceed the prescribed number of credits. The total number of credits which may be approved may not exceed the normal number of credits per semester by more than 16 credits.
f. Students in Computer, Electrical and Electronic Engineering, who fail a first-year module for the second time, forfeit the privilege of registering for any modules of an advanced year of study.

Please note:

i. From the second year of study each student should be in possession of an approved calculator. It is assumed that each student will have easy access to a laptop computer.
ii. Students who intend transferring to Mining Engineering, must familiarise themselves with the stipulations set out in the syllabi of PWP 121 Workshop practice 121.

Promotion to the third year of study of the Four-year Programme, as well as to the third and the fourth years of study of the ENGAGE Programme. In case of the fourth year of study of the ENGAGE Programme, the words "first", "second" and "third" must be substituted with the words "second", "third" and "fourth" respectively.

a. A student who complies with all the requirements of the second year of study, is promoted to the third year of study.
b. A student must pass all the prescribed modules at first-year level (level 100) before he or she is admitted to any module at third-year level (level 300).

c. A student who is repeating his or her second year must register for all the second-year modules still outstanding. Such a student may, on recommendation of the relevant head of department and with the approval of the Dean, be permitted to enrol for modules of the third year of study in addition to the second-year modules which he or she failed, providing that he or she complies with the prerequisites for the third-year modules and no timetable clashes occur. On recommendation of the relevant head of department, and with special permission from the Dean, permission may be granted to exceed the prescribed number of credits. The total number of credits which may be approved may not exceed the normal number of credits per semester by more than 16 credits.
d. Students in Computer, Electrical and Electronic Engineering who fail a second-year module for the second time forfeit the privilege of registering for any modules of the third year of study.
e. Students who intend transferring to Mining Engineering must familiarise themselves with the stipulations set out in the syllabi of PWP 120 Workshop practice 120, as well as PPY 317 Practical training 317.

Promotion to the fourth year of study of the Four-year Programme, as well as to the fifth year of study of the ENGAGE Programme. In case of the fifth year of study of the ENGAGE Programme, the words "second", "third" and "fourth" must be substituted with the words "third", "fourth" and "fifth" respectively.

a. A student who complies with all the requirements of the third year of study is promoted to the fourth year of study. A student who does not comply with all the requirements but who is able to register for all outstanding modules in order to complete the degree programme, may at registration be promoted to the fourth year of study.
b. A student must pass all the prescribed modules of the second year of study, before he or she is admitted to any module of the fourth year of study.
c. A student who has not passed all the prescribed modules of the third year of study, must register for the outstanding modules. A student may be admitted by the Dean, on the recommendation of the relevant head of department, to modules of the fourth year of study, in addition to the outstanding third-year modules, provided that he or she complies with the prerequisites of the fourth-year modules and no timetable clashes occur. The total number of credits per semester for which a student registers may not exceed the normal number of credits per semester by more than 16 credits. In exceptional cases, the Dean may, on recommendation of the relevant head of department, permit a student to exceed the above limit.
d. Students in Computer, Electrical and Electronic Engineering who fail a third-year module for the second time, forfeit the privilege of registering for any modules of the fourth year of study.

Pass with distinction

a. A student graduates with distinction if:

i. no module of the third or fourth year of study of the four-year programme or of the fourth or fifth year of the ENGAGE programme was repeated and a weighted average of at least 75% (not rounded) was obtained in one year in all the modules of the final year of study; and
ii. the degree programme was completed within the prescribed four years for the four-year programme and within the prescribed five years of the ENGAGE programme.

b. Exceptional cases to the above will be considered by the Dean.

General information

University of Pretoria Programme Qualification Mix (PQM) verification project

The higher education sector has undergone an extensive alignment to the Higher Education Qualification Sub-Framework (HEQF) across all institutions in South Africa. In order to comply with the HEQSF, all institutions are legally required to participate in a national initiative led by regulatory bodies such as the Department of Higher Education and Training (DHET), the Council on Higher Education (CHE), and the South African Qualifications Authority (SAQA). The University of Pretoria is presently engaged in an ongoing effort to align its qualifications and programmes with the HEQSF criteria. Current and prospective students should take note that changes to UP qualification and programme names, may occur as a result of the HEQSF initiative. Students are advised to contact their faculties if they have any questions.

Curriculum: Year 1

Minimum credits: 145

Fundamental modules

Academic orientation 112 (UPO 112) - Credits: 0.00

Core modules

General chemistry 172 (CHM 172) - Credits: 16.00
Electricity and electronics 111 (EBN 111) - Credits: 16.00
Physics 116 (FSK 116) - Credits: 16.00
Humanities and social sciences 110 (HAS 110) - Credits: 8.00
Humanities and social sciences 120 (HAS 120) - Credits: 8.00
Graphical communication 110 (MGC 110) - Credits: 16.00
Materials science 123 (NMC 123) - Credits: 16.00
Statics 122 (SWK 122) - Credits: 16.00
Calculus 158 (WTW 158) - Credits: 16.00
Mathematics 164 (WTW 164) - Credits: 16.00
Workshop practice 121 (WWP 121) - Credits: 1.00

Curriculum: Year 2

Minimum credits: 144

Core modules

Engineering statistics 220 (BES 220) - Credits: 8.00
Community-based project 203 (JCP 203) - Credits: 8.00
Professional and technical communication 210 (MJJ 210) - Credits: 8.00
Manufacturing and design 217 (MOW 217) - Credits: 16.00
Structural design 227 (MOW 227) - Credits: 16.00
Programming and information technology 213 (MPR 213) - Credits: 16.00
Dynamics 210 (MSD 210) - Credits: 16.00
Thermodynamics 221 (MTX 221) - Credits: 16.00
Mathematics 238 (WTW 238) - Credits: 16.00
Differential equations 256 (WTW 256) - Credits: 8.00
Calculus 258 (WTW 258) - Credits: 8.00
Numerical methods 263 (WTW 263) - Credits: 8.00

Curriculum: Year 3

Minimum credits: 145

Core modules

Engineering management 310 (BSS 310) - Credits: 8.00
Electrical engineering 221 (EIR 221) - Credits: 16.00
Engineering activity and group work 320 (MIA 320) - Credits: 8.00
Solid mechanics 321 (MKM 321) - Credits: 16.00
Machine design 312 (MOW 312) - Credits: 16.00
Simulation-based design 323 (MOW 323) - Credits: 16.00
Practical training 315 (MPY 315) - Credits: 1.00
Structural mechanics 310 (MSY 310) - Credits: 16.00
Fluid mechanics 310 (MTV 310) - Credits: 16.00
Thermodynamics 311 (MTX 311) - Credits: 16.00
Vibration and noise 320 (MVR 320) - Credits: 16.00

Curriculum: Final year

Minimum credits: 145

Core modules: 129 credits
Elective modules: 16 credits

Core modules

Engineering professionalism 410 (IPI 410) - Credits: 8.00
Mechatronics and control 410 (MBB 410) - Credits: 16.00
Computational fluid dynamics 411 (MKM 411) - Credits: 16.00
Design project 410 (MOX 410) - Credits: 16.00
Practical training 415 (MPY 415) - Credits: 1.00
Research project 412 (MRN 412) - Credits: 16.00
Research project 422 (MRN 422) - Credits: 24.00
Heat transfer 410 (MTV 410) - Credits: 16.00
Thermal and fluid machines 420 (MTV 420) - Credits: 16.00

Elective modules

Heat and mass transfer 420 (MHM 420) - Credits: 16.00
Maintenance engineering 420 (MII 420) - Credits: 16.00
Nuclear engineering 420 (MKI 420) - Credits: 16.00
Aeronautics 420 (MLV 420) - Credits: 16.00
Optimum design 420 (MOO 420) - Credits: 16.00
Vehicle engineering 420 (MVE 420) - Credits: 16.00

Regulations and rules

The regulations and rules for the degrees published here are subject to change and may be amended after the publication of this information.

The General Academic Regulations (G Regulations) and General Student Rules apply to all faculties and registered students of the University, as well as all prospective students who have accepted an offer of a place at the University of Pretoria. On registering for a programme, the student bears the responsibility of ensuring that they familiarise themselves with the General Academic Regulations applicable to their registration, as well as the relevant faculty-specific and programme-specific regulations and information as stipulated in the relevant yearbook. Ignorance concerning these regulations will not be accepted as an excuse for any transgression, or basis for an exception to any of the aforementioned regulations.

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