

SHORT DESCRIPTION OF MODULES

Honours in Engineering and Technology Management (ETM)

Maintenance and Asset Management IMC 780 (16 credits)

Every man-made component, spare part, equipment, system or infrastructure has an inherent reliability that is determined by design, construction, installation, manufacture or how it is built. This inherent reliability is influenced by both organisational and physical conditions under which, for example, an item of equipment operates. The operational reliability significantly determines the availability of the equipment. A primary objective of maintenance intervention is to eliminate the operating environment hazards which reduce the operational reliability of equipment and consequently, the availability of equipment for use. In the event of malfunction or failure, the goal of maintenance is to restore the operational reliability and availability of an item of equipment. Irrespective of whether a maintenance activity is intervening or restorative, it needs to be properly planned, scheduled and executed towards achieving the highest levels of operational reliability and availability, whilst concurrently minimising the expenditure of time and resources. Organisational systems of work (which encompass business processes, culture, and information technology) greatly influence the planning, scheduling and execution of maintenance activities. Furthermore, knowledge of technologies embedded, as well as how various items of equipment malfunction or fail in operation, determines how well the maintenance activities are planned, scheduled and executed. The content of the module not only covers strategies, technical principles, practical processes and systems but also includes standards (e.g., CEN13306) and legislative guidelines that influence the management of maintenance in all industrial sectors. The content will also include an introduction to the ISO 5500x asset management standards.

Engineering Techno Economics IKN 780 (16 credits)

A research term paper will be prepared. Engineering Economy assists the engineer in making a wide range of decisions. These decisions involve the fundamental elements of monetary cash flow, time, value of money, project life and the interest rate. Engineering Economy calculates the net present worth, future worth, annual equivalent worth and the internal rate of return of the cash flows of the alternatives under consideration. By applying these values in different ways, the most economical alternative can be identified. Calculation of these values for a cash flow takes into account the effective interest rate, inflation and the income tax payable.

Technology and innovation management (INV 780) (16 credits)

A research term paper will be prepared. In an increasingly competitive and fast changing business world the management of technological innovation is a key function of organisations that want to prosper. It is therefore important that engineers, scientists and managers understand the fundamental principles of technology and innovation. This module addresses aspects such as the activities and tools of technology management and the processes and dynamics of innovation as important contributors to the creation of new knowledge, products and processes.

Operations Management IVV 781 (16 credits)

A research term paper will be prepared. Operations management develops the ability of students to think about the transformation processes in organisations in a global way. The emphasis is on learning how to improve operating systems significantly through maximising throughput and minimising costs. The understanding of operating systems is developed from a flow- as well as an effect-cause-effect perspective.

Project Management IPK 780 (16 credits)

A research term paper will be prepared. This module addresses basic project management concepts, principles and techniques. The module is aligned with both the U.S. Project Management Institute's Project Management Body of Knowledge (PMBOK) as well as PRINCE2 methodology developed in the UK. Scheduling of projects is a core element of project management and IPK780 covers project scheduling in somewhat more detail and at a more advanced level than the other topics.

The aim of the module is to develop the learner's ability to identify and solve problems in a way that display critical thinking and the application of quantitative methods. The module focuses on project initiation, planning, monitoring and control. Specifically the development of a project plan, different scheduling techniques, earned value, decision making and basic risk management. A deliverable of the module is a project plan (including project scope, WBS, schedule, risk management plan and cash flow) for a project in the learner's work environment.

Systems Thinking and Engineering ISE 780 (16 credits)

The modern world is made up of "systems". This is evident from everyday discussions amongst even the general public. Statements such as "The system failed us", or "The national energy system is under pressure" abound. Unfortunately most people have little or no understanding what a system is, or how to deal with it. Digging deeper into the concept of "system" leads one to realise that engineers and scientists without any working knowledge of "systems thinking" cannot succeed when attempting to solve complex problems. The module will equip students with the ability to solve problems from a "whole", "big picture" or holistic perspective. Students will develop a range of critical skills allowing them to successfully function in a complex world made up of many interrelated systems. The module will also provide students with an overview of systems engineering resulting from systems thinking, including the requisite tools and processes. This module will challenge much about a students' work environment, but it also will be unlike any other module a student has ever completed, mostly presented independent of any traditional engineering discipline.

A company's ability to remain competitive in modern times hinges increasingly on its ability to perform systems engineering. The technology and complexity of a company's products appears to steadily increase and with it, the risks that need to be managed. This module provides specialised knowledge to apply systems engineering by understanding the tools, processes and management fundamentals.

Technological Entrepreneurship IEE 780 (16 credits)

A research term paper will be prepared. Technical solutions can overcome various problems confronting the world, but new business leaders need to emerge by identifying these potential

opportunities that can lead to sustainable enterprises with more employment opportunities. The module highlights the role of technology innovation and strategy in entrepreneurship, the development of business models and plan, the lean start-up principle, legal aspects and venture leadership. Entrepreneurship is an intellectual discipline in its own right with its own systematic methods and techniques that can be learned and mastered through professional practice and hard work. This module will equip you with the fundamentals of technological entrepreneurship that can be applied in new ventures or your existing career.

Research Project IGB/ISC 780 (32 credits)

The research project is the capstone of the ETM programme. It comprises an independent research study into an area of technology management, applying the principles learned during the programme. Although this is a research project of limited breadth and scope, it nonetheless has to comply with the requirements of scientific research on post-graduate level. The total volume of work that is to be invested in this module by an average student must be 320 hours. Normal requirements for assessment that include the use of an external examiner apply to this module.