MECH4305

FUNDAMENTAL AND ADVANCED VIBRATION ANALYSIS
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1. Staff contact details

Contact details and consultation times for course convenor

Name: Dr Danielle Moreau  
Office location: Ainsworth Building (J17), Level 4, Room 408E  
Tel: (02) 9385 5428  
Email: d.moreau@unsw.edu.au  

Please contact Dr Moreau by email to arrange an appointment outside of scheduled teaching times.

Contact details and consultation times for additional lecturers/demonstrators/lab staff

Katherine Lam  
kath.lam@outlook.com

Michael Ling  
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Jeremy Low  
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Awiruth Piboonkanokpong  
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Sonny Wong Ko Nang  
sonny_wkn@hotmail.com

Please see the course Moodle.

2. Important links

- Moodle
- UNSW Mechanical and Manufacturing Engineering
- Course Outlines
- Student intranet
- UNSW Mechanical and Manufacturing Engineering Facebook
- UNSW Handbook
3. Course details

Credit Points

This is a 6 unit-of-credit (UoC) course, and involves 3 hours per week (h/w) of face-to-face contact.

The UNSW website states "The normal workload expectations of a student are approximately 25 hours per semester for each UoC, including class contact hours, other learning activities, preparation and time spent on all assessable work. Thus, for a full-time enrolled student, the normal workload, averaged across the 16 weeks of teaching, study and examination periods, is about 37.5 hours per week."

This means that you should aim to spend about 9 h/w on this course. The additional time should be spent in making sure that you understand the lecture material, completing the set assignments, further reading, and revising for any examinations.

Contact hours

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lectures</td>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>9am – 11am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>12pm – 1pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>1pm – 2pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>1pm – 2pm</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Please refer to your class timetable for the learning activities you are enrolled in and attend only those classes.

Summary and Aims of the course

This course is a sequel to an introductory course in Vibrations (such as MMAN2300) where you will have studied oscillatory systems under a number of simplifying assumptions – linearity, sinusoidal forcing, constant coefficients, simple boundary conditions, etc. In this course, you will examine systems that are not so nicely behaved. As such, you will be exposed to new techniques for seeing, measuring, thinking about, analysing, designing and controlling oscillatory systems.

The aim of this course can be stated simply: For everyone involved (staff, students and demonstrators) to progress further towards becoming exceptional engineers. Our field of endeavour will be the concepts and applications of Vibration Analysis. Additionally, we will not measure our progress as the number of equations or facts or theories that we know. Rather we will undertake to measure our degree of transformation into someone who sees, understands, can make relevant and accurate predictions, and communicates about the world around us through the lens of Vibration Analysis.
Student learning outcomes

This course is designed to address the learning outcomes below and the corresponding Engineers Australia Stage 1 Competency Standards for Professional Engineers as shown. The full list of Stage 1 Competency Standards may be found in Appendix A.

After successfully completing this course, you should be able to:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Learning Outcome</th>
<th>EA Stage 1 Competencies</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Explain and describe principles and components of Vibration Analysis and their inter-relationships formally and informally, in writing and verbally, to technical experts, peers and lay people.</td>
<td>1.1, 1.2, 1.3 2.2 3.2, 3.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Model, approximate, analyse and simulate vibratory systems that include general forcing, general boundary conditions, and nonlinearities using appropriate computational tools as necessary.</td>
<td>1.1, 1.2, 1.3 2.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Discern the relevant principles that must be applied to describe or measure the equilibrium or motion of vibratory systems and discriminate between relevant and irrelevant information in the context.</td>
<td>1.1, 1.2, 1.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Demonstrate an ability to communicate clearly and precisely about technical matters related to Vibration Analysis.</td>
<td>1.2, 1.3 2.1 3.2, 3.4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

4. Teaching strategies

This course will be delivered both in the classroom and online. Full participation in the class means that you will participate fully in both arenas. That is, you will be held accountable for all content, instructions, information, etc. that is delivered either in class or online.

**Online:** The online forum for participation in this class is the Moodle Platform, specifically the MECH4305 course at [http://moodle.telt.unsw.edu.au/](http://moodle.telt.unsw.edu.au/). All official online interactions will take place or be linked clearly and appropriately from this site.

**In class:** There are two in-class activities in a typical week which we refer to as the Lecture and Problem Solving Class based on the timetable in Section 3. Both the online and in-class segments of this course are organised on the following principles:

1. **Learning:** Student learning is the first priority - teaching and assessment are secondary concerns. Learning here is defined as gaining new ways of understanding the field of vibration analysis; not as simply memorising information. We are trying to transform you into engineers and critical thinkers in the discipline.
2. **Peer Interaction**: Learning is a social activity, and research shows that you will learn most and best when you are actively taught by your peers and, in turn, when you teach them.

3. **Authenticity**: We will have as much authenticity of engineering practice as is possible within the constraints of the course and where it does not restrain your learning.

4. **High standards**: We will have high standards for achievement in the course, and everyone (including staff) will be accountable for putting in the effort to get you to the standard.

5. **Openness**: As much as possible, this course will be conducted in the open where all participants can be aware of it and can comment upon it.

6. **Process**: The focus of the course will be on processes, not outcomes. The right outcomes will be a by-product of following the correct processes.

The lectures in this course will cover core concepts and background theory in Vibration Analysis. The lecture material is available to students electronically before each class via Moodle.

The Problem Solving Classes are designed to provide you with feedback and discussion on the assignments (referred to as Problem Sets (PS)). Students are required to work through the Problems Sets during the Problem Solving Class and also during their own personal study time.

## 5. Course schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Time and location</th>
<th>Problem solving class content</th>
<th>Assessment due</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 1    | • Introduction and a review of fundamental concepts  
|      |       | Old Main Building 149  
|      |       | 9am – 11am          |                 |               |
|      | • Fourier Analysis                  |                   |                               |               |
| 2    | • Convolution                         | Old Main Building 149  
|      |       | 9am – 11am          | Introduction to MATLAB, PS 1  |               |
|      | • Free vibration in beams in flexure  |                   |                               |               |
| 3    | • Orthogonality of Eigensolutions, Forced response in beams  
|      |       | Old Main Building 149  
|      |       | 9am – 11am          | PS 1                 |               |
|      | • Hamilton’s Principle and Lagrange's Equations |                   |                               |               |
| 4    | • Hamilton’s Principle and Lagrange's Equations (continued)  
|      |       | Old Main Building 149  
|      |       | 9am – 11am          | PS 2                 | PS 1 due      |
|      | • Approximation Methods: Rayleigh’s Quotient |                   |                               |               |
| 5    | • Rayleigh-Ritz Method  
|      |       | Old Main Building 149  
|      |       | 9am – 11am          | PS 2                 |               |
|      | • Selection of trial vectors          |                   |                               |               |

Mid semester break
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Topics</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Assignments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>• Assumed modes&lt;br&gt;• Measuring vibration: Data acquisition, transducers, charge amplifiers, calibration</td>
<td>Old Main Building 149 9am – 11am</td>
<td>PS 3&lt;br&gt;PS 2 due</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>• Mid semester test</td>
<td>Old Main Building 149 9am – 11am</td>
<td>PS 3&lt;br&gt;In class test</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>• Measuring vibration: Excitation, signal types and classification, errors</td>
<td>Old Main Building 149 9am – 11am</td>
<td>PS 4&lt;br&gt;PS 3 due</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>• Measuring vibration: Signal processing (autocorrelation, frequency domain analysis)</td>
<td>Old Main Building 149 9am – 11am</td>
<td>PS 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>• Introduction to vibration control, guidelines and standards, human response to vibration</td>
<td>Old Main Building 149 9am – 11am</td>
<td>PS 4&lt;br&gt;PS 4 due</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>• Passive control</td>
<td>Old Main Building 149 9am – 11am</td>
<td>PS 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>• Active control</td>
<td>Old Main Building 149 9am – 11am</td>
<td>PS 5&lt;br&gt;PS 5 due</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>• Revision (if needed)</td>
<td>Old Main Building 149 9am – 11am</td>
<td>Revision</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### 6. Assessment

#### Assessment overview

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assessment</th>
<th>Length</th>
<th>Weight</th>
<th>Learning outcomes assessed</th>
<th>Assessment criteria</th>
<th>Due date and submission requirements</th>
<th>Deadline for absolute fail</th>
<th>Marks returned</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Problem Sets</td>
<td>5 (as per Section 5)</td>
<td>55%</td>
<td>1, 2, 3, 4</td>
<td>Lecture material from weeks 1 – 12 inclusive</td>
<td>Friday 5pm of week nominated in Section 5 via both Moodle and assignment submission box</td>
<td>Monday 5pm following Friday submission</td>
<td>Two weeks after submission</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Test</td>
<td>1 (as per Section 5) of 1.5 hours</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>1, 2, 3</td>
<td>Lecture material from weeks 1 – 6 inclusive</td>
<td>In class during week 7 lecture</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>Two weeks after submission</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final exam</td>
<td>2 hours</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>1, 2, 3</td>
<td>All course content</td>
<td>Exam period, date TBC</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>Upon release of final results</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Problem Sets will be placed on the course Moodle page on the Friday of the week prior to their discussion in the Problem Solving Class nominated in Section 5. The test will be provided in class during the week 7 lecture.
Assignments

Presentation

All non-electric submissions should have a standard School cover sheet which is available from this course’s Moodle page.

All submissions are expected to be neat and clearly set out. Your results are the pinnacle of all your hard work and should be treated with due respect. Presenting results clearly gives the marker the best chance of understanding your method; even if the numerical results are incorrect.

Submission

Late submissions will be penalised 5 marks per calendar day (including weekends). An extension may only be granted in exceptional circumstances. Special consideration for assessment tasks must be processed through student.unsw.edu.au/special-consideration.

It is always worth submitting late assessment tasks when possible. Completion of the work, even late, may be taken into account in cases of special consideration.

Where there is no special consideration granted, the ‘deadline for absolute fail’ in the table above indicates the time after which a submitted assignment will not be marked, and will achieve a score of zero for the purpose of determining overall grade in the course.

Marking

Marking guidelines for assignment submissions will be provided at the same time as assignment details to assist with meeting assessable requirements. Submissions will be marked according to the marking guidelines provided.

Examinations

You must be available for all tests and examinations. Final examinations for each course are held during the University examination periods, which are June for Semester 1 and November for Semester 2.

Provisional Examination timetables are generally published on myUNSW in May for Semester 1 and September for Semester 2.

For further information on exams, please see the Exams section on the intranet.

Calculators

You will need to provide your own calculator, of a make and model approved by UNSW, for the examinations. The list of approved calculators is shown at student.unsw.edu.au/exam-approved-calculators-and-computers
It is your responsibility to ensure that your calculator is of an approved make and model, and to obtain an “Approved” sticker for it from the School Office or the Engineering Student Centre prior to the examination. Calculators not bearing an “Approved” sticker will not be allowed into the examination room.

Special consideration and supplementary assessment

For details of applying for special consideration and conditions for the award of supplementary assessment, see the School intranet, and the information on UNSW’s Special Consideration page.

7. Attendance

You are required to attend a minimum of 80% of all classes, including lectures, labs and seminars. It is possible to fail the course if your total absences equal to more than 20% of the required attendance. Please see the School intranet and the UNSW attendance page for more information.

8. Expected resources for students

Recommended textbook (available through the UNSW bookshop):
   Rao, S.S. Mechanical Vibrations, 6th Edition in SI Units, Pearson

Other suggested books:
   Timoshenko, Young, Weaver, Vibration Problems in Engineering, 1975, Wiley
   Thomson & Dahleh, Theory of Vibrations with Applications, 2013, Pearson
   Den Hartog, Mechanical Vibration, Dover
   Fuller, Elliott and Nelson, Active control of vibration, Academic Press

UNSW Library website: https://www.library.unsw.edu.au/

9. Course evaluation and development

Feedback on the course is gathered periodically using various means, including the UNSW myExperience process, informal discussion in the final class for the course, and the School’s Student/Staff meetings. Your feedback is taken seriously, and continual improvements are made to the course based, in part, on such feedback.

In this course, recent improvements resulting from student feedback include:
• A more detailed introduction and fundamental review of vibration concepts
• More worked examples provided in class
• A review of the number of assessment items leading to consolidation of test 1 and 2.
• More detailed supplementary information to mathematical content given in lecture notes

10. Academic honesty and plagiarism

UNSW has an ongoing commitment to fostering a culture of learning informed by academic integrity. All UNSW students have a responsibility to adhere to this principle of academic integrity. Plagiarism undermines academic integrity and is not tolerated at UNSW. **Plagiarism at UNSW is defined as using the words or ideas of others and passing them off as your own.**

Plagiarism is a type of intellectual theft. It can take many forms, from deliberate cheating to accidentally copying from a source without acknowledgement. UNSW has produced a website with a wealth of resources to support students to understand and avoid plagiarism: [student.unsw.edu.au/plagiarism](http://student.unsw.edu.au/plagiarism) The Learning Centre assists students with understanding academic integrity and how not to plagiarise. They also hold workshops and can help students one-on-one.

You are also reminded that careful time management is an important part of study and one of the identified causes of plagiarism is poor time management. Students should allow sufficient time for research, drafting and the proper referencing of sources in preparing all assessment tasks.

If plagiarism is found in your work when you are in first year, your lecturer will offer you assistance to improve your academic skills. They may ask you to look at some online resources, attend the Learning Centre, or sometimes resubmit your work with the problem fixed. However, more serious instances in first year, such as stealing another student’s work or paying someone to do your work, may be investigated under the Student Misconduct Procedures.

Repeated plagiarism (even in first year), plagiarism after first year, or serious instances, may also be investigated under the Student Misconduct Procedures. The penalties under the procedures can include a reduction in marks, failing a course or for the most serious matters (like plagiarism in an honours thesis) even suspension from the university. The Student Misconduct Procedures are available here: [www.gs.unsw.edu.au/policy/documents/studentmisconductprocedures.pdf](http://www.gs.unsw.edu.au/policy/documents/studentmisconductprocedures.pdf)

Further information on School policy and procedures in the event of plagiarism is available on the [intranet](http://intranet).

11. Administrative matters and links
All students are expected to read and be familiar with School guidelines and polices, available on the intranet. In particular, students should be familiar with the following:

- Attendance, Participation and Class Etiquette
- UNSW Email Address
- Computing Facilities
- Assessment Matters (including guidelines for assignments, exams and special consideration)
- Academic Honesty and Plagiarism
- Student Equity and Disabilities Unit
- Health and Safety
- Student Support Services
## Program Intended Learning Outcomes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Knowledge and Skill Base</th>
<th>PE1: Knowledge and Skill Base</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PE1.1</td>
<td>Comprehensive, theory-based understanding of underpinning fundamentals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PE1.2</td>
<td>Conceptual understanding of underpinning maths, analysis, statistics, computing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PE1.3</td>
<td>In-depth understanding of specialist bodies of knowledge</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PE1.4</td>
<td>Discernment of knowledge development and research directions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PE1.5</td>
<td>Knowledge of engineering design practice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PE1.6</td>
<td>Understanding of scope, principles, norms, accountabilities of sustainable engineering practice</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Engineering Application Ability</th>
<th>PE2: Engineering Application Ability</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PE2.1</td>
<td>Application of established engineering methods to complex problem solving</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PE2.2</td>
<td>Fluent application of engineering techniques, tools and resources</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PE2.3</td>
<td>Application of systematic engineering synthesis and design processes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PE2.4</td>
<td>Application of systematic approaches to the conduct and management of engineering projects</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Professional and Personal Attributes</th>
<th>PE3: Professional and Personal Attributes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PE3.1</td>
<td>Ethical conduct and professional accountability</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PE3.2</td>
<td>Effective oral and written communication (professional and lay domains)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PE3.3</td>
<td>Creative, innovative and pro-active demeanour</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PE3.4</td>
<td>Professional use and management of information</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PE3.5</td>
<td>Orderly management of self, and professional conduct</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PE3.6</td>
<td>Effective team membership and team leadership</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>