

Subject Description Form

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| Subject Code | ME578 |
| Subject Title | Aircraft Design |
| Credit Value | 3 |
| Level | 5 |
| Pre-requisite/ Co-requisite/ Exclusion | Exclusion: AAE5203 Aircraft Design and Certification |
| Objectives | To provide students with the key knowledge relevant to the process and principle of flight vehicle design, and the capacity to formulate the design requirements for a flight vehicle using modern engineering tools; to provide students with the opportunity to conduct flight vehicle system design studies from aerodynamics, propulsion, structure, stability, and performance perspectives; to develop management skills in teamwork and develop skills in carrying out detailed design tasks. |
| Intended Learning Outcomes | <p>Upon completion of the subject, students will be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> understand fundamental concepts and constraints during a flight vehicle design process; evaluate common flight vehicle configurations; design and layout flight vehicle major components; understand aerodynamic, structural and engine characteristics; identify key design features of different types of flight vehicles; design and sizing flight vehicles that meets certain requirements; develop a simple design program; understand airworthiness and safety; |
| Subject Synopsis/ Indicative Syllabus | <p><i>Introduction to Aircraft Design:</i> Design method and basic requirements. Evolution of aircraft design and its performance: a brief history. Overview of aircraft design cycle and process.</p> <p><i>Aircraft Configuration:</i> Advantages and drawbacks of conventional and alternative configurations. Considerations for special aircraft. Primary considerations for fuselage, wing, and tail design.</p> <p><i>Jet propulsion:</i> Basic considerations in the analysis of jet propulsion. Gas-turbine engines. Inter-cooling. Reheating. Regeneration. Ideal jet-propulsion cycles. Modifications to turbojet engines.</p> <p><i>Aerodynamic consideration of aircraft design:</i> Fundamentals of aerodynamics. Flow separation. Friction and pressure drag. Parallel flow over flat plate and wings. Airfoils. Finite wings. Drag and lift. Lift-to-drag ratio. Dependence of lift and drag on the angle of attack. Flapped airfoils. End effects of wing tips. Induced drag.</p> <p><i>Structural consideration of aircraft design:</i> Fundamentals of aerospace structures. Airframe basics. Aerospace materials. Stiffened panels. Trusses. Buckling.</p> <p><i>Sizing and Costing:</i> Internal layout. Structures and weight. Geometry constraints. Sizing equation. Weight fraction method. Weight and balance. Cost analysis. Elements of life-cycle cost. Cost-estimating methods. Operations and maintenance costs. Cost measures of merit.</p> <p><i>Main Components Selection and Design:</i> Selection and design of main components such as fuselage, wing, tail, and landing gear. Calculation and design of control surfaces such as aileron, elevator, and rudder.</p> <p><i>Airworthiness and Safety:</i> Airworthiness requirements. Load factor determination. Aircraft safety. Airframe loads. Designing against fatigue. Prediction of aircraft fatigue life.</p> <p><i>Project practice:</i> A design project will be carried out for students to learn the aircraft</p> |

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| | design process through practice. | | | | | | | | | |
| Teaching/Learning Methodology | Lectures are used to deliver the fundamental knowledge in relation to aircraft design (outcomes a to h). | | | | | | | | | |
| | Tutorials are used to illustrate the application of fundamental knowledge to practical situations (outcomes a to h). | | | | | | | | | |
| | Teaching/Learning Methodology | Intended subject learning outcomes | | | | | | | | |
| | | a | b | c | d | e | f | g | h | |
| | Lecture | √ | √ | √ | √ | √ | √ | √ | √ | |
| | Tutorial | √ | √ | √ | √ | √ | √ | √ | √ | |
| | Final examination | √ | √ | | √ | √ | | | √ | |
| | Design project | √ | √ | √ | √ | √ | √ | √ | √ | |
| Assessment Methods in Alignment with Intended Learning Outcomes | Specific assessment methods/tasks | % weighting | Intended subject learning outcomes to be assessed | | | | | | | |
| | | | a | b | c | d | e | f | g | h |
| | 1. Design project 1 | 25 % | √ | √ | | | √ | | √ | |
| | 2. Design project 2 | 25 % | | | √ | √ | | √ | | √ |
| | 3. Design project presentation | 10 % | √ | √ | √ | √ | √ | √ | √ | √ |
| | 4. Final examination | 40 % | √ | √ | | √ | √ | | | √ |
| | Total | 100 % | | | | | | | | |
| | Overall Assessment: 0.6 x Continuous Assessment + 0.4 x End of Subject Examination | | | | | | | | | |
| | The group project is used to assess all aspects of the course content as well as the students’ capacities of self-learning and problem-solving and effective communication skill in English so as to fulfill the requirements of being aircraft design engineers. | | | | | | | | | |
| | Student Study Effort Expected | Class contact: | | | | | | | | |
| ▪ Lecture | | | | | 24 Hrs. | | | | | |
| ▪ Tutorial/Case Study | | | | | 15 Hrs. | | | | | |
| Other student study effort: | | | | | | | | | | |
| ▪ Course work | | | | | 42 Hrs. | | | | | |
| ▪ Self-study | | | | | 25 Hrs. | | | | | |
| Total student study effort | | | | | 106 Hrs. | | | | | |
| Reading List and References | 1. D. Raymer, Aircraft Design: A Conceptual Approach. American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics, Inc., 2018. 2. S.A. Brandt, <i>et al.</i> , Introduction to Aeronautics: A Design Perspective, American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics Inc., 2015. 3. J. Anderson, Introduction to Flight. McGraw Hill. 2015. | | | | | | | | | |