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Foreword

This Handbook contains detailed information on the taught postgraduate programmes offered by the Department of Electrical and Electronic Engineering.

The missions of the Department are to produce the highest quality of graduates to satisfy the society needs, to advance the bounds of scholarship and to conduct leading edge research. The goals of the Department are to strive for excellence in teaching, research and in professional service.

The philosophy of education in the Department is to provide you with a life-long learning capability. The curricular for different programmes, although emphasis has been placed on different aspects of electrical and electronic engineering, do have a common thread in providing you with a fundamental understanding as well as an up-to-date grasp of cutting edge advanced technologies of this important field.

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1. Introduction to the Department of Electrical and Electronic Engineering (EEE)

1.1 The Department

The Department of Electrical and Electronic Engineering (EEE) was established in the late fifties as a major department in the Faculty of Engineering at the University of Hong Kong. Its graduates served the society since 1961 and have been making tremendous impact to the well-being and development of Hong Kong in her infancy years. Over the years, power systems, electronic, computers and information processing have evolved at dazzling speed, and have permeated to every aspect of life and the society at large.

EEE has naturally progressed with time and has grown from the relatively obscured location along Pokfulam Road to the current modern high rise of the Chow Yei Ching Building with numerous satellite laboratories located as well at the Haking Wong Building, Yam Pak Building and Composite Building. It is located on LG2, LG3, 1st, 2nd, 5th, 6th, 7th and 8th floor of the Chow Yei Ching Building, 3rd floor of the Haking Wong Building, 4th floor of the Yam Pak Building and CP-1 of the Composite Building.

EEE offers the Bachelor of Engineering (BEng) degree in Electronic and Communications Engineering, BEng degree in Electronic Engineering, BEng degree in Electronic Engineering, BEng degree in Information Engineering, BEng degree in Electrical Engineering, BEng degree in Computer Engineering (jointly run with the Department Computer Science) and BEng degree in Medical Engineering (jointly run with the Department Mechanical Engineering). These programmes are accredited by the Hong Kong Institution of Engineers (HKIE). EEE also offers the degree of Master of Science in Engineering (MSc(Eng.)) in Electrical and Electronic Engineering and jointly offers the degrees of MSc(Eng.) in Building Services, MSc(Eng.) in Energy Engineering and MSc in Electronic Commerce and Internet Computing with the other Engineering Departments in the Faculty. These courses have well-structured programmes of study spanning over twenty-four months.

Currently over 100 research students are studying for the Ph.D and M.Phil degrees in EEE and most of them are financially supported through Postgraduate Studentships, Teaching Assistantships or Research Assistantships. Currently, there are a total of 50 academic staff and 30 supporting staff.

1.2 Teaching Staff

Among the 46 teaching staff of the Department, there are 5 Chair Professors, 8 Professors, 27 Associate Professors/Assistant Professors/Principal Lecturers/Lecturers, and 6 Research Assistant Professors. Professor V.O.K. Li is the Chair of Information Engineering and Head of the Department, Professor D.J. Hill is the Chair of Electrical Engineering, Professor R.S.Y. Hui is the Chair of Power Electronics, Professor N.C. Tien is the Chair Professor and Dean of Engineering and Professor E.X. Wu is the Chair of Biomedical Engineering. The teaching staff members are:
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2. Taught Postgraduate Programme Syllabuses

2.1 Master of Science in Engineering in Electrical and Electronic Engineering (EEE)
(applicable to students admitted to the curriculum in the academic year 2015-2016 and thereafter)

The Master of Science in Engineering in Electrical and Electronic Engineering curriculum has three different streams: General Stream, Communications Engineering, and Power Engineering. Each candidate is required to follow a prescribed curriculum comprising 12 modules, out of which the candidate has to pass at least 9 discipline modules selected from the three subject groups A-C. To qualify as a graduate of the Communications Engineering Stream, the candidate must pass at least 6 discipline modules in the Communications Engineering subject group. To qualify as a graduate of the Power Engineering Stream, the candidate must pass at least 6 discipline modules in the Power Engineering subject group. For General Stream, the candidate can freely choose from the three subject groups A-C. Subject to approval, candidates can select to undertake a dissertation (ELEC7021) and in which case, General Stream candidates are required to pass at least 5 discipline modules selected from the three subject groups A-C, while candidates pursuing Communications Engineering and Power Engineering Streams are required to pass at least 5 discipline modules in their respective subject groups. The candidate can select Taught Postgraduate level modules offered by other curricula in the Faculty of Engineering as electives. The Department also offers an optional module, ELEC7900 Engineering and society, in the Professional Development subject group. However, this module will not be counted as one of the 12 modules in the prescribed curriculum.

Subject Groups
The list below is not final and some modules may not be offered every year.

A. General
ELEC6008 Pattern recognition and machine learning
ELEC6027 Integrated circuit systems design
ELEC6036 High performance computer architecture
ELEC6043 Digital image processing
ELEC6049 Digital system design techniques
ELEC6063 Optoelectronics and lightwave technology
ELEC6067 Magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) technology and applications
ELEC6079 Biomedical ultrasound
ELEC6081 Biomedical signals and systems
ELEC6092 Green project management
ELEC6601 Industrial marketing
ELEC6602 Business venture in China
ELEC6603 Success in industrial entrepreneurship
ELEC6604 Neural networks, fuzzy systems and genetic algorithms
ELEC7078 Advanced topics in electrical and electronic engineering
2.2 Master of Science in Engineering in Energy Engineering (EnergyE)

(applicable to students admitted to the curriculum in the academic year 2015-2016 and thereafter)

Each candidate is required to follow a prescribed curriculum comprising 12 modules, out of which the candidate has to pass at least 9 discipline modules selected from the List of Discipline Modules (including the 2 core modules). The candidate can select to undertake a dissertation in lieu of 4 modules, and has to pass at least 5 discipline modules (including the 2 core modules). The candidate can select Taught Postgraduate level modules offered by other curricula in the Faculty of Engineering as electives.

List of Discipline Modules for MSc(Eng.) in Energy Engineering

The list below is not final and some modules may not be offered every year.

- ELEC7402  Advanced electric vehicle technology
- EMEE6002  Sustainability and climate change (core)
- EMEE6003  Nuclear energy
- EMEE6004  Energy conservation and management
- EMEE6005  Renewable energy technology I: Fundamental (core)
- EMEE6006  Renewable energy technology II: Advanced
- EMEE6007  Energy and carbon audit
- EMEE6008  Green project management
- EMEE6009  Green facilities management
- EMEE6010  Electricity quality and energy efficiency
- EMEE6011  Energy saving lighting
- EMEE7001  Dissertation (4 modules)
- MEB6016  Energy performance of buildings
- MECH7011  Applied thermodynamics and power plant technology
3. Assessment

The components for assessment normally include the coursework and examination and the passing marks is 50%. The weighting of components is however different for individual courses. Details are available on Departmental Intranet (student) at:


A student who passes in less than two modules in an academic year may be recommended for discontinuation of studies. A student who has failed to satisfy the examiners in his/her dissertation may be required to submit or resubmit a dissertation on the same subject within a specified period. If a student has failed to satisfy the examiners at a second attempt in his/her dissertation within the specified period shall be recommended for discontinuation of studies.

The official degree regulations for the MSc programmes are available at:
http://engg.hku.hk/faculty_msc/structure.htm

4. Dissertation

4.1 Enrollment

Students interested in taking MSc dissertations offered by the EEE Department are invited to visit the following link:
http://intranet.eee.hku.hk/mscproject/projectlist.asp
which will be updated by approximately September 16 each year.

Students can then contact directly appropriate colleagues for more details. Alternatively, they can contact directly potential colleagues for self proposed dissertations.

If both the supervisor and student agree to work on a given dissertation, the student should complete and return an application form it to the Department.

Students can also enroll the “dissertation” course online at the second semester, if they happen to miss the add-drop period.

The dissertation may last for one year or slightly longer time. They are required to submit two hardcopies of the thesis and upload the softcopy to
http://appsvr.eee.hku.hk/mscproj/default.htm
and HKU Moodle (Maximum File Size: 20MB). Moreover, it is required to give an oral presentation at the end of the dissertation for assessment. (normally, the dissertation marks will be considered immediately after the teaching period at each semester.)
4.2 Assessment

The dissertation is assessed by the supervisor and a second examiner. To improve the assessment process of dissertation, the following measures will be implemented:

1. Students are encouraged to show initiatives in their dissertation work with constant feedback from supervisors.
2. Students are not able to change of supervisor after one semester unless there was a special reason which would be considered on a case-by-case basis.
3. The minimum duration for a student to complete a MSc dissertation should be two semesters.
4. There will be a compulsory mid-term review for each MSc dissertation student:
   a) It should be taken place three months after he/she had submitted an application for taking a dissertation; and the earliest time for a student to submit his/her dissertation was three months after the completion of the mid-term review.
   b) Marks should be given for the mid-term review and it would weight a maximum of 20 marks out of 100 towards the whole dissertation.
   c) Students should not be allowed to drop the dissertation after the mid-term review.

Moreover, the University and our Department view plagiarism as a serious academic misconduct: the provisions of paragraph 2(1)(g) of Statute XXXI, Powers of the Senate’s Disciplinary Committee, specify the offence while the provisions of paragraph 4 of Statute XXXI empowers the imposition of heavy penalties, including expulsion from the University.

To uphold academic integrity in MSc dissertation in terms of avoiding plagiarism, the Department has adopted the following procedures:

1. Students will be asked to submit their draft dissertation reports to the plagiarism checking system, “Turnitin”, about 2 weeks before the deadline for submission of the final version of their dissertation reports. Students are allowed to submit their reports to “Turnitin” as many times as needed until they consider that there is no plagiarism in the report (e.g., all the similarity scores for individual primary sources were less than 1%).
2. Upon submission of the final version of the dissertation report, if there are any similarity scores exceeding 1%, the Department will examine the highlighted similarities and check whether the sentences concerned are in the main body of the report instead of materials such as titles of papers in the references. The respective dissertation supervisor will also be invited to study the case and to recommend whether the student has really committed plagiarism or the case is just a false alarm. If the student is found to commit plagiarism in the final version of the dissertation report, the student will receive zero mark for his/her final dissertation report.
3. Where the case of repeated plagiarism is substantiated, the student’s name will be forwarded to the University Disciplinary Committee via the Department Head, in addition to the penalty.

4. There will be a compulsory mid-term review for each MSc dissertation student:
   a) It should be taken place three months after he/she had submitted an application for taking a dissertation; and the earliest time for a student to submit his/her dissertation was three months after the completion of the mid-term review.
   b) Marks should be given for the mid-term review and it would weight a maximum of 20 marks out of 100 towards the whole dissertation.
   c) Students should not be allowed to drop the dissertation after the mid-term review.

5. The following procedures and guidelines are drafted to implement the policy with regards to practical work, in-course assessment and examination. These are to be made known to all students at the commencement of the semester.

(a) Procedures
1. Where a teacher/demonstrator/TA suspects plagiarism in any submitted works, be they the plagiarized ones or the source materials, he should notify the lecturer-in-charge who will decide on the available evidence whether plagiarism is seen to be committed.
2. When the lecturer-in-charge is convinced of a likely plagiarism case beyond reasonable doubt, a warning letter will be sent to the student, notifying him of the decision and its consequence, and at the same time advising him of the appeal process. A copy of the warning letter will be kept in the student’s personal file.
3. Cases of repeated plagiarism are to be reported to the Department Head, who may refer the case to the University.
4. Where an appeal is made, a panel consisting of the lecturer-in-charge, a student representative, other Internal Examiners, and if applicable, the demonstrator/TA will be formed. The panel will interview the student concerned and decide on the case.

(b) Penalty Guidelines
1. If a student is found engaged in plagiarism for the first time, then his particular work in question (such as an experiment report, assignment, exercise or examination/test) will be awarded a mark of zero percent.
2. Where the case of repeated plagiarism is substantiated, the student’s name will be forwarded to the University Disciplinary Committee via the Department Head, in additional to the penalty as stated in (1).

Further information regarding the “Turnitin” system and plagiarism can be found at: http://lib.hku.hk/turnitin/
6. Duration of Study

The MSc(Eng.) programme is offered in part-time and full-time modes. For the part-time mode of study, the curriculum shall normally take two academic years of study, and the maximum period of study is three years. For the full-time mode of study, the curriculum shall normally take one academic year of very intensive study and the maximum period of study is two years.

Classes are usually conducted in weekday daytime or evenings from 7.00 p.m., or during weekends.

We have 3 semesters in an academic year, i.e. semester 1: September – December, semester 2: January – May, and the summer semester: June-August.

7. Student Communications and Feedback

Important information to be communicated with students is usually done through emails, letters and the official MSc or departmental webpage. On the other hand, students can download the teaching materials from or upload course assignments to the MOODLE system of the university.

The Department is committed to providing the best possible quality teaching and learning by collecting students’ feedback via the University of Hong Kong Taught Postgraduate Learning Experience Questionnaire (HKU TPgLEQ) conducted for the final-year students of the taught postgraduate programmes and the Student Evaluation of Teaching and Learning (SETL) conducted for all students.

Moreover, student representative(s) from the MSc programmes will be invited to join the Staff-Student Consultative Committee to discuss issues arising in regular meetings. The Department will then discuss these issues at the departmental meetings.

8. Computer Facilities and Common Room

In addition to the computer facilities provided by the University, MSc students are also supported by the Department with computer facilities available in Computing Lab (Room 103, Chow Yei Ching Building) and a common room (Room 205, Chow Yei Ching Building) for students and teachers to come together to interact.