



Mechanical Engineering

“Scientists discover the world that exists;
engineers create the world that never was.”

Theodore von Karman

Mechanical Engineering at WPI

John M. Sullivan, Jr.

Associate Department Head

Mechanical Engineering

<http://www.wpi.edu/~sullivan>

<http://www.me.wpi.edu/>



Mechanical Engineering at WPI Statistics

WPI was established in 1868.

31 Full-time faculty plus several adjunct faculty in ME

700+ Undergraduate students in Mechanical Engineering (in 4 yrs)

200+ Graduate students (full and part-time)

Undergraduate Degrees awarded in
Mechanical Engineering
Aerospace Engineering
Robotics Engineering

Within Mechanical Engineering Degree can Concentrate in:
Aerospace, Biomechanical, Design, Manufacturing,
Material Science, Mechanics, Thermo-fluids



Mechanical Engineering at WPI

Flexible Curriculum

- Need 45 courses minimum to graduate from WPI.
What does this entail?

- (6) – Humanities Component (All majors)
- (2) – Social Science Courses (All majors)
- (3) – Interactive Qualifying Project (IQP) (All majors)
- (3) – Major Qualifying Project (MQP) (All majors)
- (1) – Physical Education (All majors)
- (12) – Math and Science Component (Required)
- (9) – Required ME Core Component (Required)
- (6) – Your Choice of ME Courses (Elective)
- (3) – Free Electives (Elective)



Mechanical Engineering at WPI

Flexible Curriculum

- (6) – Humanities Component (All majors)
 - <http://www.wpi.edu/academics/Depts/HUA/Requirements/index.html>
 - Breadth = select one course from 2 of the 3 intellectual clusters:
 - art/art history, drama/theatre, and music (AR, MU, TH);
 - languages, literature, and writing/rhetoric (EN, WR, RH, SP, GN);
 - history, philosophy and religion (HI, HU, PY, RE).
 - Depth = three courses in an area of focus that includes an inquiry seminar.
 - Inquiry Seminar = culmination of the H&A Requirement.
 - The Seminar explores a particular topic or theme in the humanities in greater depth. The Seminar has two primary goals: A) Foster independence of student thought, and B) Encourage a cooperative, dialogic approach to inquiry.
 - Setting is a small, intensive classroom setting (12 students or less).
 - <http://www.wpi.edu/academics/hua/course-sequence.html>



Mechanical Engineering at WPI

Flexible Curriculum

■ (6) – Humanities Component

(All majors)

Term:	A	B	C	D
1 st Yr.	HU-1	HU-2	HU-3	HU-4
2 nd Yr.		HU-5		HU-6

■ (2) – Social Science Courses

(All majors)

- Social science is the scientific study of human thought and behavior, interpersonal relationships, and the institutional structure and functioning of human society.
- System Dynamics, Economics, Sociology, Psychology, and Political Science
- IQPs abroad requires ID/SS 2050. Social Science Research for the IQP.



Mechanical Engineering at WPI Flexible Curriculum

- (6) – Humanities Component (All majors)
- (2) – Social Science Courses (All majors)

Term:	A	B	C	D	Notes
1 st Yr.	HU-1	HU-2	HU-3	HU-4	
2 nd Yr.		HU-5		HU-6 SS-1	Wait SS-2 for IQP
3 rd Yr.					
4 th Yr.					

- (3) – Interactive Qualifying Project (IQP) (All majors)
 - More than 60% of students do an IQP off campus (term abroad). Excellent opportunity to experience a different culture. It requires a course to expose you to the culture and/or social norms expected of the site. This also satisfies a SS requirement.



Mechanical Engineering at WPI

Flexible Curriculum

- (6) – Humanities Component (All majors)
- (2) – Social Science Courses (All majors)
- (3) – Interactive Qualifying Project (IQP) (All majors)
- (3) – Major Qualifying Project (MQP) (All majors)

Term:	A	B	C	D	Notes
1 st Yr.	HU-1	HU-2	HU-3	HU-4	
2 nd Yr.		HU-5		HU-6 SS-1	Wait SS-2 for IQP
3 rd Yr.		SS-2 (ID 2050)		IQP	
4 th Yr.	MQP	MQP	MQP		



Mechanical Engineering at WPI

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- (2) – Social Science Courses (All majors)
- (3) – Interactive Qualifying Project (IQP) (All majors)
- (3) – Major Qualifying Project (MQP) (All majors)
- (12) – Math and Science Component (Required)

Term:	A	B	C	D	Notes
1 st Yr.	HU-1 Calc-1 Phys-1	HU-2 Calc-2	HU-3 Calc-3	HU-4 Calc-4 Phys-2	
2 nd Yr.	Diff Eqns	HU-5	MS-(Lin Alg) Chem-1	HU-6 SS-1	Wait SS-2 for IQP
3 rd Yr.	MS-(Stats.)	SS-2 (ID 2050)	MS	IQP	
4 th Yr.	MQP	MQP	MQP	MS	



Mechanical Engineering at WPI

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- (3) – Major Qualifying Project (MQP) (All majors)
- (12) – Math and Science Component (Required)
- (9) – Required ME Core Component (Required)

Term:	A	B	C	D	Notes
1 st Yr.	HU-1 Calc-1 Phys-1	HU-2 Calc-2	HU-3 Calc-3	HU-4 Calc-4 Phys-2	
2 nd Yr.	Diff Eqns ES-2501	HU-5 EE-2010 ES-2502	MS-(Lin Alg) Chem-1 ES-2001	HU-6 SS-1 ES-2503	Wait SS-2 for IQP
3 rd Yr.	MS-(Stats.) ES-3001	SS-2 (ID 2050) ES-3004	MS ES-3003	IQP	
4 th Yr.	MQP ME-3901	MQP	MQP	MS	



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- (3) – Major Qualifying Project (MQP) (All majors)
- (12) – Math and Science Component (Required)
- (9) – Required ME Core Component (Required)
- (6) – Your Choice of ME Courses (Elective)

Term:	A	B	C	D	Notes
1 st Yr.	HU-1 Calc-1 Phys-1	HU-2 Calc-2	HU-3 Calc-3	HU-4 Calc-4 Phys-2	
2 nd Yr.	Diff Eqns ES-2501	HU-5 EE-2010 ES-2502	MS-(Lin Alg) Chem-1 ES-2001	HU-6 SS-1 ES-2503	Wait SS-2 for IQP
3 rd Yr.	MS-(Stats.) ES-3001 ME-3XXX	SS-2 (ID 2050) ES-3004 ME-3XXX	MS ES-3003 ME-3XXX	IQP	
4 th Yr.	MQP ME-3901 ME-4XXX	MQP ME-4XXX	MQP	MS ME-4XXX	



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- (12) – Math and Science Component (Required)
- (9) – Required ME Core Component (Required)
- (6) – Your Choice of ME Courses (Elective)
- (3) – Free Electives (Elective)

Term:	A	B	C	D	Notes
1 st Yr.	HU-1 Calc-1 Phys-1	HU-2 Calc-2 ES-1310	HU-3 Calc-3 ME-1800	HU-4 Calc-4 Phys-2	Physical Education Distributed
2 nd Yr.	Diff Eqns OPEN ES-2501	HU-5 EE-2010 ES-2502	MS-(Lin Alg) Chem-1 ES-2001	HU-6 SS-1 ES-2503	Wait SS-2 for IQP
3 rd Yr.	MS-(Stats.) ES-3001 ME-3XXX	SS-2 (ID 2050) ES-3004 ME-3XXX	MS ES-3003 ME-3XXX	IQP	
4 th Yr.	MQP ME-3901 ME-4XXX	MQP ME-4XXX OPEN	MQP Elective OPEN	MS OPEN ME-4XXX	

Five-year BS/MS program

- A MS in Mechanical Engineering requires 30 credits
- The BS/MS allows 12 credits to count in both degrees
- The WPI undergraduate degree requires 45 courses or 135 credits, yet 144 credits are within the 4 years
- Using only the 12 credits double counted, a MS degree can be completed in the 5th year.
- Alternately, using the additional 9 credits within the 4 year UG schedule, a MS can be completed in 1 subsequent semester.

Questions?

