

MECH 4002 COMPUTER AIDED ENGINEERING

Credit Points 10

Legacy Code 301000

Coordinator Leo Zhang ([https://directory.westernsydney.edu.au/search/name/Leo Zhang/](https://directory.westernsydney.edu.au/search/name/Leo%20Zhang/))

Description This subject describes the basics and fundamentals of computer aided engineering focusing on the advanced topics of finite element methods, which is a powerful numerical tool for analysing a wide range of engineering problems. Through applied projects students will apply the finite element method (FEM)-based computer aided engineering (CAE) and its applications in the fields of solid mechanics, fluid mechanics, thermodynamics and heat transfer and product design and development as well. The development of students' academic skills in research and communication are also achieved through the completion of FEM-based CAE projects.

School Eng, Design & Built Env

Discipline Mechanical Engineering

Student Contribution Band HECS Band 2 10cp

Check your fees via the Fees (https://www.westernsydney.edu.au/currentstudents/current_students/fees/) page.

Level Undergraduate Level 4 subject

Pre-requisite(s) ENGR 3020

Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of this subject, students should be able to:

1. Apply the basic and fundamental principles of finite element method on solving typical engineering problems with aids from computer modelling and simulation
2. Investigate and explain boundary conditions, mesh generation, error control and other practical considerations in finite element models for conducting finite element analyses for different types of problems
3. Implement finite element method into design process for optimal solution
4. Apply commonly-used finite element programs to solve practical engineering problems in solid mechanics
5. Apply commonly-used finite element programs to solve practical engineering problems in fluid mechanics and thermodynamics and heat transfer

Subject Content

Review on fundamentals of finite element method
 3-D finite element methods (solid, shell and plate elements)
 Boundary conditions, mesh generation, error control and other practical considerations
 Finite element analysis on Solid Mechanics Problems (Linear and Nonlinear Finite Element Analysis)
 Finite element analysis on Fluid Mechanics Problems
 Finite element analysis on Heat Transfer Problems
 FEA-based design optimisation
 Computer aided engineering and product design and development

Assessment

The following table summarises the standard assessment tasks for this subject. Please note this is a guide only. Assessment tasks are regularly updated, where there is a difference your Learning Guide takes precedence.

| Type | Length | Percent | Threshold | Individual/ Group Task | Mandatory |
|---------------------------|--|---------|-----------|---------------------------|-----------|
| Numerical Problem Solving | 3 × approximately 1000 words each | 30 | N | Individual | Y |
| Practical | 4 × approximately 1,000 words each | 20 | N | Individual | Y |
| Quiz | 1 hour (per Quiz) | 15 | N | Individual | Y |
| Report | 3 minutes (presentations) 8,000-10,000 words | 35 | Y | Group/ Individual | Y |

Teaching Periods

Sydney City Campus - Term 2 (2025)

Sydney City

On-site

Subject Contact Peter Lendrum ([https://directory.westernsydney.edu.au/search/name/Peter Lendrum/](https://directory.westernsydney.edu.au/search/name/Peter%20Lendrum/))

View timetable (https://classregistration.westernsydney.edu.au/odd/timetable/?subject_code=MECH4002_25-SC2_SC_1#subjects)

Spring (2025)

Penrith (Kingswood)

Hybrid

Subject Contact Leo Zhang ([https://directory.westernsydney.edu.au/search/name/Leo Zhang/](https://directory.westernsydney.edu.au/search/name/Leo%20Zhang/))

View timetable (https://classregistration.westernsydney.edu.au/odd/timetable/?subject_code=MECH4002_25-SPR_KW_3#subjects)

Parramatta City - Macquarie St

Hybrid

Subject Contact Leo Zhang ([https://directory.westernsydney.edu.au/search/name/Leo Zhang/](https://directory.westernsydney.edu.au/search/name/Leo%20Zhang/))

View timetable (https://classregistration.westernsydney.edu.au/odd/timetable/?subject_code=MECH4002_25-SPR_PC_3#subjects)