ME 4634  Introduction to Computer Aided Design and Manufacturing
Syllabus • Spring 2012 • CRN 14514

LECTURE: Mondays / Wednesdays • 10:10AM - 11:00AM • 129 Randolph Hall
LABORATORY: 114-E Randolph Hall (VT CAD Laboratory) see timetable for times

Occasionally, the Friday 10:10AM – 11:00AM timeslot will be used to make up cancelled classes.

Audience

• 2nd semester Juniors; seniors; and beginning graduate students in engineering
• This course is an approved ME design technical elective, and it is approved for graduate credit
• Pass/Fail or audits are not allowed

Prerequisites

General engineering design background and an interest in applying this knowledge using state-of-the-art, commercial CAD/CAM software systems

Course Professor

Dr. Jan Helge Bøhn
Office: 114-H Randolph Hall (inside the VT CAD Laboratory)
Telephone: 231-3276
E-mail: bohn@vt.edu
Office Hours: Mondays and Wednesdays, 11:00 AM – 12:00 noon, and by appointment

Textbooks and Study Materials


Laboratory manuals are available online on the Apple iMac workstations in the VT CAD Laboratory; or, for paper-only manuals, for checkout in the VT CAD Laboratory

Multimedia lecture notes are available on the Apple iMac workstations in the VT CAD Laboratory

Course information and most course materials will be made available online at http://www.cadlab.vt.edu/ME4634/
Overall Learning Objectives

At the successful completion of this course, the students should have:

1. Developed a general understanding of fundamental CAD/CAM concepts;
   
   **DELIVERY METHOD:** Course lectures

2. Learned how to use commercial CAD/CAM software for engineering design; and
   
   **DELIVERY METHOD:** Laboratory workshops

3. Learned how CAD/CAM can be used in the different stages of design and manufacture of a product.
   
   **DELIVERY METHOD:** Homework assignments and term project

Major Measurable Learning Objectives

Having successfully completed this course, the student will be able to:

1. Describe what constitutes a CAD/CAM system, and what elements and factors that are important in the creation of CAD/CAM software;

2. Describe the history of and current industrial uses of CAD/CAM;

3. Describe the various standards pertaining to computer graphics and CAD/CAM software;

4. Explain the mathematical formulations, characteristics, and properties of popular parametric geometric curves and surfaces, including Hermite, Bézier, B-spline, and NURBS curves, and ruled, Coons, Hermite, Bézier, and B-spline surfaces;

5. Explain and demonstrate the basic use and operation of a major commercial PDM software system in a team design and development environment; and

6. Carry out all phases of the design of a mechanical assembly using a major commercial CAD/CAM software system in a team environment.

Course Format

- Two one-hour lecture meetings and one three-hour laboratory meeting per week. The students must sign up for the lecture section and for one of the laboratory sections. The emphasis of the lectures will be on the fundamental and theoretical issues of CAD/CAM. The emphasis of the laboratories will be on the practical exposure to high-end CAD/CAM/CAE (NX, CATIA, and Creo Elements/Pro) and PDM systems (Teamcenter Engineering). The majority of the laboratory work will involve the use of the NX8 CAD/CAM/CAE software system.

- The laboratory sections will meet during the first week of classes to start the first NX8 workshop and to have photographs taken for the class roster. Students that register late for the course (or have a Monday or Tuesday laboratory session) and thus miss their first week’s laboratory should attend another laboratory section’s meeting that week to have their photograph taken at that time.

- A written, comprehensive final exam as scheduled by the registrar (see timetable). This exam is required, with the exception for those students that are excused by the Dean of Engineering. The emphasis of this exam will be on the lecture material and the reading assignments.
• An applied midterm exam that is to be taken in the VT CAD Laboratory during the designated regular scheduled laboratory section meeting. The emphasis of this exam will be on the use of NX8 to generate a solid model of a mechanical device and to generate the corresponding 2D standard drawing for this device. Each student must complete this exam in its entirety in the VT CAD Laboratory during the student’s regularly scheduled laboratory section period.

• A series of laboratory assignments, and affiliated out-of-class homework assignments tied to the term project, aimed at familiarizing students with the CAD/CAM software that will be used in completing the term project.

• The laboratory assignments (workshops) are designed and intended to be completed during the assigned laboratory period. During these laboratory periods, the students will have first-rights to a workstation, and a graduate teaching assistant (GTA) will be on hand for assistance and for having the completed work checked off. Students must complete and have their laboratory assignments checked off by the course GTA during their assigned laboratory period; or, if they attend the entire laboratory period, by the beginning of the following laboratory the next week. To accommodate illnesses, scheduling conflicts, etc., a student may miss up to three (3) laboratory assignments, provided that they are completed and checked off by the beginning of the following laboratory period. This is a fixed deadline without exception. It is the student’s responsibility to ensure that their work is checked off by the deadline; no credit will be given for work shown after that deadline.

• A mechanical design and manufacturing term project with objectives including some or all of the following: design for Six Sigma, assembly, and manufacturing; conceptual design; cost estimation; preliminary design and design analysis; solid modeling; final design; process planning; numerical control part programming; and documentation. Students will work in teams of five or six and choose their own projects, subject to approval of the course professor. The team members do not all need to be enrolled in the same laboratory section.

• Students that believe they have extenuating circumstances that should be considered (e.g., why a particular piece of work should be considered after its deadline) may submit to the course professor a typed memorandum explaining the situation. This memorandum will be placed in The Folder for consideration at the end of the semester when letter grades are assigned. Students with large numbers of memoranda, “collective catch-up” memorandum, or memoranda submitted weeks after the deadline, are generally afforded diminished consideration.

• No work will be accepted after 5:00PM Wednesday, May 2, 2012. This includes memoranda intended for The Folder.

• Siemens offers an exam for NX Designer Certification. Students with this certification for NX8 may replace their applied midterm exam score with a perfect score, provided proof of this certification is provided to the course professor by the final exam. This NX Designer Certification exam is typically only offered off-campus. There is a very small, remote possibility that this exam will be offered on-campus and at a reduced cost to students in this course during the Spring 2012 semester.

As of January 13, 2012, this course is not yet available for NX8.
The Honor Code

The Honor Code will be strictly enforced in this course. All assignments submitted shall be considered graded work, unless otherwise noted. All aspects of your course work are covered by the Honor System. Any suspected violations of the Honor Code will be promptly reported to the Honor System. Honesty in your academic work will develop into professional integrity. The faculty and students of Virginia Tech will not tolerate any form of academic dishonesty.

Each assignment description will state if the assignment is to be an individual or a team effort. In the case of individual assignments, it is expected that the work submitted is yours alone. In the case of team assignments, it is expected that the work submitted is that of the team members listed on that assignment; furthermore, each team member is equally responsible for that no other team member committed plagiarism. However, with the exception of the midterm and final examinations, you are strongly encouraged to discuss freely with others the concepts involved.

In the case of uncertainty on how the Honor Code applies in this course, the student is responsible for securing a clarification on the matter from the course professor prior to it becoming an issue.

Grading Policy

- Written comprehensive final exam ................................................................. 30%
  Friday, May 4, 2012, 1:05PM-3:05PM,
  129 Randolph Hall (see timetable for possible changes)

- Term project ........................................................................................................ 20%

- Applied in-laboratory midterm proficiency exam ........................................... 20%
  (waived for students with NX Designer Certification)

- Laboratory assignments (workshops) .............................................................. 10%

- Out-of-class homework (mostly term-project related) ................................. 20%

Attendance

Attendance is important and expected, but not required. Students are responsible for material issued or covered during the lecture meetings and/or laboratory section meetings. Students that miss these meetings are expected to consult their classmates for material covered and for copies of materials issued.

In-Lecture Technology Use

Electronic devices, including computers and telephones, may not be used during lectures for anything but note taking and activities specifically permitted and requested by the instructor.