

Hindusthan College of Engineering and Technology,

(An Autonomous Institution Affiliated to Anna University, Chennai-600025, Approved by All India Council for Technical Education, New Delhi)

Coimbatore-Pollachi Road, Othakkalmandapam, Coimbatore- 641032. Tamil Nadu. India

Website: hindusthan.net; Email: mohanrajrac@yahoo.co.in. Phone: +919486411896

Dr. M. MOHANRAJ, M.E., Ph.D.

Professor in Mechanical Engineering,

Review of Program curriculum on Bachelors in Mechanics

The four year Bachelors syllabus developed by Department of Mechanics, al Farabi Kazakh National University (KAZNU) seems to be comprehensive by covering major topics in the field of Science, Engineering and Technology, which are in need for present scenario. The curriculum is evenly distributed in the major disciplines such as, Mathematics, Physics and Applied Mechanics, which fulfills the requirements in Industries and also in higher education. Total credits to be earned for getting a Bachelors degree is finalized as 154. Hope, the students undergoing this course will have good opportunities in higher education and also in the public sector. I suggest following points, which may be given due consideration in future:

1. The credits for the general language subjects (like Humanitics and Social Science courses) may be reduced as 2 credits. The number of language courses may be reduced (Example three language course may be reduced as 2 language courses). The credits for these courses may be shared to other core subjects. So that the core subjects may be given special consideration.
2. All the general humanitics and social science subjects are to be scheduled in the first year itself. Since, the first year Bachalors curriculum is a foundation program for the course. From second yerar

(3rd Semester onwards, all the courses should be closely related to the Mechanics program).

3. The subjects with laboratory courses may be given 4 credits, which includes 3 credits for theory and 1 credit for laborator practical course. More importance shall be given for the laboratory courses to improve the understanding capability.
4. The fundamental subjects may be scheduled in 3rd and 4th semester (II year of the program), so that the students have better understanding of the fundamentals at the end of 2nd year and they are ready to pursue the applied courses in the 3rd and 4th year courses.
5. Electives subject list are to be finalized based on the industrial needs and faculty field of specialization. Elective subject list should be prepared according to the current industrial scenario.
6. Energy and Environment subject may be given preference to create awareness on energy usage and environmental impacts with the students.
7. The selection of elective courses may be given atleast three options, so that the student can choose any one based on his/her interest.
8. One or two management courses may be introduced in the curriculum to improve the leadership qualities and also to improve the managerial skills and inter-personal skills.
9. The elective subjects should be updated frequently according to the feedbacks from the employers and also feedbacks from the alumini students.
10. I suggest to have the technical writing course in the seventh semester itself, so that, the students have one full semester for preparing their dissertations.
11. Additional credits for Publication in Journals/Conferences may be given due consideration for evaluation of project dissertation.

12.I appreciate that, due considerations have been given to the student interactions with other institutions in terms of internships, refreshment programs, works shops etc. conducted by other universities in the field of study.

In conclusion, I recommend that, the planned curriculum has good prespective in the scope of higher education, employment in industry and in public sectors.



Dr. M. Mohanraj, Ph.D

Professor, Department of Mechanical Engineering,
Hindusthan College of Engineering and Technology,
Coimbatore -641032. India.

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