The University of Southern Queensland

Course specification

This version produced 20 Dec 2007.
The current and official versions of the course specifications are available on the web at <http://www.usq.edu.au/coursespecification/current>.
Please consult the web for updates that may occur during the year.

Description: Mechatronic Practice

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Academic group: FOENS
Academic org: FOES02
Student contribution band: 2
ASCED code: 030799

STAFFING
Examiner: John Billingsley
Moderator: Bob Fulcher

SYNOPSIS
In mechatronics, mechanical, electrical and computing elements are combined to form an integrated whole. This course draws together mechanical, electrical, software and interfacing aspects of a mechatronic system through a progressive sequence of experiments. A motor is connected to a computer through a power amplifier, while another motor in tandem is monitored through an analogue interface to determine its speed. A line or two of code makes speed control possible. A belt drives a 'trolley' of which the position is monitored and some more effort including some nonlinear strategies results in a 'crisp' position controller of an industrial standard. An inverted pendulum is added to the trolley and the student devises a control scheme to keep it balanced. Several other brief experiments give familiarity with pneumatic positioning and vision interfacing. This course will round off the formation of a mechatronics engineer.

OBJECTIVES
The course objectives define the student learning outcomes for a course. The assessment item(s) that may be used to assess student achievement of an objective are shown in parenthesis. On completion of this course, students should be able to:

1. devise or select sensors for measuring the motion of a dynamic system;
2. describe and be familiar with the operation of an analogue interface;
3. select sensors for system control and interface them;
4. understand and write programs for the application of on-line digital control;
5. analyse a dynamic system in terms of discrete time equations;
6. devise and apply on-line control algorithms and test them.
TOPICS

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Description</th>
<th>Weighting (%)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Analogue to digital interfacing</td>
<td>20.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>2. Computer controlled velocity</td>
<td>20.00</td>
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<td>3. Nonlinear computer position control</td>
<td>20.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>4. Computer control of an inverted pendulum</td>
<td>20.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>5. Familiarisation with pneumatic control, simple vision systems and a multi-axis hydraulic robot. (See Practice Book for further details for all topics listed.)</td>
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TEXT and MATERIALS required to be PURCHASED or ACCESSED

ALL textbooks and materials are available for purchase from USQ BOOKSHOP (unless otherwise stated). Orders may be placed via secure internet, free fax 1800642453, phone 07 46312742 (within Australia), or mail. Overseas students should fax +61 7 46311743, or phone +61 7 46312742. For costs, further details, and internet ordering, use the 'Textbook Search' facility at http://bookshop.usq.edu.au click 'Semester', then enter your 'Course Code' (no spaces).

Nil.

REFERENCE MATERIALS

Reference materials are materials that, if accessed by students, may improve their knowledge and understanding of the material in the course and enrich their learning experience.


Billingsley, J. 2006, _Essentials of Mechatronics_, John Wiley & Sons,

STUDENT WORKLOAD REQUIREMENTS

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<tr>
<th>ACTIVITY</th>
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<td>Directed Study</td>
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<td>Laboratory or Practical Classes</td>
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<td>Private Study</td>
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ASSESSMENT DETAILS

<table>
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IMPORTANT ASSESSMENT INFORMATION

1 Attendance requirements:
   This course requires attendance at a residential school. It is the students' responsibility to
   attend and participate appropriately in all activities (such as lectures, tutorials, laboratories
   and practical work) scheduled for them, and to study all material provided to them or
   required to be accessed by them to maximise their chance of meeting the objectives of
   the course and to be informed of course-related activities and administration. Students
   must attend and complete the requirements of the Workplace Health and Safety training
   program for this course before they are able to undertake any practical work in the electrical
   laboratories.

2 Requirements for students to complete each assessment item satisfactorily:
   To satisfactorily complete an individual assessment item a student must achieve at least
   50% of the marks or a grade of at least C-. (Depending upon the requirements in Statement
   4 below, students may not have to satisfactorily complete each assessment item to receive
   a passing grade in this course.)

3 Penalties for late submission of required work:
   Practical reports submitted after the due date will not be assessed.

4 Requirements for student to be awarded a passing grade in the course:
   To be assured of receiving a passing grade students must complete at least 80% of the
   practical and other activities at a satisfactory standard at the Residential School for the
   course, as stated in 2 above.

5 Method used to combine assessment results to attain final grade:
   As P is the only passing grade available for this course, all students who are qualified for
   a passing grade, under the requirements in 4 above, will be given a grade of P. Other
   students will be given either a Failing grade or an Incomplete grade.

6 Examination information:
   There is no examination in this course.

7 Examination period when Deferred/Supplementary examinations will be held:
   Not applicable.

8 University Regulations:
   Students should read USQ Regulations 5.1 Definitions, 5.6. Assessment, and 5.10
   Academic Misconduct for further information and to avoid actions which might contravene
   University Regulations. These regulations can be found at the URL
   http://www.usq.edu.au/corporateservices/calendar/part5.htm or in the current USQ
   Handbook.