

TO: The Engineering Faculty

FROM: The Faculty of the School of Mechanical Engineering

DATE: August 23, 2000

RE: ME 290 Course Description Changes

The Faculty of the School of Mechanical Engineering has approved the following change in course title and description effective Spring Semester 2001. This action is now submitted to the Engineering Faculty with a recommendation for approval.

FROM:

ME 290 Mechanical Engineering Seminar Sem 1 and 2. Class 1, cr. 1. Prerequisite: ME 3 standing.

An orientation course to introduce students to the mechanical engineering curriculum, including integrated courses sequences and specialization areas in ME. Lectures emphasizing the professional engineering practice, pertinent technical-social-economic issues, and the importance of communications are provided by faculty and staff as well as by invited speakers from industry. Approximately half the course is used to establish a foundation for the School's program in technical communications.

TO:

ME 290 Mechanical Engineering Professional Seminar Sem.1 and 2. Class 1, cr. 1. ME standing required.

The Seminar provides a forum for contemporary issues in the profession of mechanical engineering and includes an introduction to professionalism and ethics. Students interact with engineering professionals from outside the University as well as with Faculty in the School. Additionally, students complete a sequence of communications assignments that are submitted at the close of the term as a Professional Portfolio. The communications assignments are designed to support the acquisition of skills important in the successful practice of mechanical engineering. The Seminar also provides an introduction to the undergraduate curriculum in the School. Students complete an individual Plan of Study for meeting the requirements of the Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering as part of their Seminar participation.

REASON: The updated description more accurately describes the current content of the course. The changes are largely editorial with some slight changes in emphasis because of the evolution of the course. Specifically, there is an expanded emphasis on professionalism and ethics to better align this course with the ME Program Objectives.

APPROVED FOR THE FACULTY
OF THE SCHOOLS OF ENGINEERING
BY THE COMMITTEE ON
FACULTY RELATIONS

E. Daniel Hirleman
E.D. Hirleman, Head
School of Mechanical Engineering

CFR Minutes # 929

Date 10/11/00

Chairman CFR C.D. Sutton