

Master of Engineering (MEng) (Research)

Programme description

For the MEng (Research) programme you must complete a thesis with a minimum credit value of 180 on NQF level 9.

Supplementary modules

In the following cases you must normally also complete supplementary modules:

- if you are admitted to any MEng (Research) programme without meeting the admission requirements.
- if supplementary modules are prescribed for all students in some MEng (Research) programmes (refer to the relevant department's website).

Supplementary modules are prescribed by the chairperson of your home department on the basis of:

- the requirements of the specific field of study.
- the specific objectives of your studies, your academic background and your experience.
- the availability of lecturing personnel who can lead students in the specific fields of study and modules.

Supplementary modules are normally taken from MEng (Structured), PGDip (Eng) or even BEng programmes.

Thesis requirements

You must satisfactorily complete a research project that has been approved by the chairperson of the relevant home department and submit a thesis on this project. It must be evident from your thesis that you are capable of independent scientific and technical investigation and interpretation of the results. You must add a declaration to your thesis, stating that the thesis has not been submitted at another university for a degree and that it is your own work. You must write the entire thesis yourself. The body of the thesis must form a coherent whole. This normally comprises an introduction, a background study, one or more chapters where the core contribution is developed or designed, a set of experiments by which the quality of the contribution is tested and a conclusion chapter. The thesis must also include a complete list of the references used.

The thesis has to satisfy the length restrictions imposed by your home department and it will not be submitted to the examiners if it does not comply with these restrictions.

If you want to graduate at the December graduation ceremony, you must submit your thesis for final examination on or before **1 September**, unless your home department specifies differently. If you want to graduate in March, you must normally submit your thesis on or before **1 November**, unless your home department specifies differently.

Examination and requirements to pass

To be awarded the degree MEng (Research), you must:

- attend all classes as required by the chairperson of the relevant home department;
- pass all prescribed and supplementary modules. This may include independent study, assignments and other forms of assessment. To pass you must have achieved a final mark of

at least 50, or a final result of “satisfactorily completed”. These modules must be passed as soon as possible. You cannot submit your thesis to the examiners before you have passed these modules;

- satisfactorily complete an oral examination;
- obtain a final mark of at least 50 for your thesis examination; and
- submit a journal article on your thesis research, which has been approved by your supervisor(s) (or when requested by the departmental chairperson, if the requirement for an oral examination was waived for you). Your supervisor(s) may decide whether or not the article will be submitted to a journal or a conference. Even if the thesis is classified as confidential or secret, you must still submit the article.

You must normally be present at your host department when the oral examination is conducted. Details about the examination process are given in the Faculty’s “Minimum Standards for MEng Examination Procedures” (Section 1.6 above indicates how to access this document).

How your final mark is determined

Only the mark awarded for your thesis is normally used to determine your final mark for the MEng (Research). However, if you required the approval of the Faculty Board for readmission (refer to 3.4.1 above), your final mark may not exceed 70. Your marks for supplementary modules are not used for determining the final mark.