

MECHENG 4Y03
Internal Combustion Engines
Undergraduate Studies
Fall 2026/27
Course Outline

CALENDAR/COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course focuses on internal combustion engines (ICE), including operations, thermodynamics, combustion, and characteristics of gasoline and diesel engines, as well as hybrid powertrains

PRE-REQUISITES AND ANTI-REQUISITES

Prerequisite(s): Registration in any Mechanical Engineering program
Antirequisite(s): None

INSTRUCTOR OFFICE HOURS AND CONTACT INFORMATION

Dr. Fengjun Yan
ITB-161
yanfeng@mcmaster.ca
ext. 21525

Office Hours:

Tuesday – 10:00 am
Or by appointment

TEACHING ASSISTANT OFFICE HOURS AND CONTACT INFORMATION

Razmjooei, Hamid Sr. Pourhajiaghashahti, Amir
(razmjooeh@mcmaster.ca) (pourhaja@mcmaster.ca)

For any issues related to assignments, please contact Hamid
For any issues related to Midterm Exam, please contact Amir
For any other issues, please contact either of them or Dr. Yan

COURSE WEBSITE/ALTERNATE METHODS OF COMMUNICATION

<http://avenue.mcmaster.ca/>

Avenue to Learn (A2L) is used for all formal communication, lecture notes, assignments, and announcements.

COURSE INTENDED LEARNING OUTCOMES

By the end of this course, students should be able to:

- Demonstrate understanding of basic concepts of internal combustion engines.
- Demonstrate understanding of advantage and disadvantage of different type of engines.
- Calculate the relevant operating parameters of a Diesel engine based on the given information.
- Calculate the parameter and maximal brake power of spark ignition engines based on given information.
- Understand the energy distributions and energy loss of internal combustion engines.

- Demonstrate understanding that the exhaust gas composition calculation of an internal combustion engine
- Demonstrate understanding of the HEV configurations, components distributions, and energy flow in different operating conditions.

MATERIALS AND FEES

Required Texts:

[Course notes \(posted on Avenue\).](#)

Recommended Additional Texts:

[None.](#)

Calculator:

Only the McMaster Standard Calculator will be permitted in tests and examinations. This is available at the Campus Store.

Other Materials:

[None.](#)

COURSE FORMAT AND EXPECTATIONS

The course is organized as follows:

- Monday & Thursday: HH 302, 9:30am–10:20am; Tuesday: HH 302, 10:30am–11:20am
- No separate tutorial section
- 5 assignments (average counts 10% of overall grade)
- 2 in-class midterm tests (25% each)
- Final exam (40%).

COURSE SCHEDULE

Lecture	Topic	Readings
Lecture 01	Introduction	
Lecture 02	Engine Operating Parameters (1)	Lecture note 1
Lecture 03	Engine Operating Parameters (2)	Lecture note 1
Lecture 04	Engine Operating Characteristics	Lecture note 1
Lecture 05	Engine Cycle Analysis (1)	Lecture note 2
Lecture 06	Engine Cycle Analysis (2)	Lecture note 2
Lecture 07	Engine Cycle Analysis (3)	Lecture note 2
Lecture 08	Gas and fuel Properties	Lecture note 3
Lecture 09	Intake and Exhaust Processes	Lecture note 3
Lecture 10	Mixture in SI Engines	Lecture note 4
Lecture 11	SI Engine Combustion (1)	Lecture note 4
Lecture 12	SI Engine Combustion (2)	Lecture note 4
Lecture 13	Knock and Fuel Requirement	Lecture note 4
Lecture 14	Diesel Engine Characteristics	Lecture note 5
Lecture 15	Diesel Engine Injection, Ignition, and Combustion	Lecture note 5
Lecture 16	Emissions in SI Engines (1)	Lecture note 6

Lecture 17	Emissions in SI Engines (2)	Lecture note 6
Lecture 18	Emissions in Diesel Engine (1)	Lecture note 6
Lecture 19	Emissions in Diesel Engine (2)	Lecture note 6
Lecture 20	Diesel Engine Emission Control (1)	Lecture note 6
Lecture 21	Diesel Engine Emission Control (2)	Lecture note 6
Lecture 22	Comparison between SI and CI engines	
Lecture 23	Operating Variables That Affect Engine Performance	
Lecture 24	Supercharging and Turbocharging	
Lecture 25	Hybrid Powertrain Architecture Introduction	Lecture note 7
Lecture 26	Hybrid Powertrain Performance - Series architecture	Lecture note 7
Lecture 27	Hybrid Powertrain Performance - Parallel architecture	Lecture note 7
Lecture 28	Hybrid Powertrain Performance - Other architectures	Lecture note 7
Lecture 29	Hybrid Power System Components - Motor /	Lecture note 7
	Generator	
Lecture 30	Hybrid Power System Components - DC-DC Converter and Inverter	Lecture note 7
Lecture 31	Hybrid Power System Components - Regenerative Breaking	Lecture note 7
Lecture 32	Hybrid Power System Components – Battery	Lecture note 7
Lecture 33	Hybrid Powertrain Energy Management	Lecture note 7
Lecture 34	Vehicle Power System Comparison	Lecture note 7
Lecture 35	Future Research on Hybrid Powertrain	Lecture note 7
Lecture 36	Summary and Revision	

ASSESSMENT

- Five assignments will be provided. The full mark for each assignment is 10 points. The average marks of the assignments will count as 10% of the overall score.
- Midterm 1 will cover the content of the first 9 lectures and count as 25% of overall score.
- Midterm 2 will cover the content of the lectures from 10 to 18 and count as 25% of overall score.
- Final exam will cover the entire course content and count as 40% of overall score.

Component	Due Date	Weight
Assignments (average of 5)	see Avenue	10%
Mid-Term 1	TENTATIVE Oct 6, 2026	25%
Mid-Term 2	TENTATIVE Nov 10, 2026	25%
Final Exam	TBD (Dec 11–23 exam period)	40%
Total		100%

ACCREDITATION LEARNING OUTCOMES

The Learning Outcomes defined in this section are measured for Accreditation purposes only and will not be directly taken into consideration in determining a student's grade in the course.

Outcomes	Indicators
Knowledge base for Engineering (Indicator 4)	1,2,3,4,6
Problem Analysis (Indicator 2)	5,7

For more information on Accreditation, please visit: <https://www.engineerscanada.ca>

EQUITY, DIVERSITY, AND INCLUSION

Every registered student belongs in this course. Diversity of backgrounds and experiences is expected and welcome. You can expect your instructor to be respectful of this diversity in all aspects of the course, and the same is expected of you.

McMaster University is committed to creating an environment in which students of all genders, cultures, ethnicities, races, sexual orientations, abilities, and socioeconomic backgrounds have equal access to education and are welcomed and treated fairly. If you have any concerns regarding inclusion in our department, in particular if you or one of your peers is experiencing harassment or discrimination, you are encouraged to contact the Chair, Associate Chair (Undergraduate), Academic Advisor or the [Equity and Inclusion Office](#).

MENTAL HEALTH & WELLNESS

For a list of McMaster University's resources, please refer to the [Student Wellness Centre](#). [Talkspot](#) is a non-crisis mental health resource specifically for students in the Faculty of Engineering.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

You are expected to exhibit honesty and use ethical behaviour in all aspects of the learning process. Academic credentials you earn are rooted in principles of honesty and academic integrity. **It is your responsibility to understand what constitutes academic dishonesty.**

Academic dishonesty is to knowingly act or fail to act in a way that results or could result in unearned academic credit or advantage. This behaviour can result in serious consequences, e.g. the grade of zero on an assignment, loss of credit with a notation on the transcript (notation reads: "Grade of F assigned for academic dishonesty"), and/or suspension or expulsion from the university. For information on the various types of academic dishonesty please refer to the [Academic Integrity Policy](#), located at <https://secretariat.mcmaster.ca/university-policies-procedures-guidelines/>

The following illustrates only three forms of academic dishonesty:

1. plagiarism, e.g. the submission of work that is not one's own or for which other credit has been obtained.
2. improper collaboration in group work.
3. copying or using unauthorized aids in tests and examinations.

AUTHENTICITY / PLAGIARISM DETECTION

Some courses may use a web-based service (Turnitin.com) to reveal authenticity and ownership of student submitted work. For courses using such software, students will be expected to submit their work electronically either

directly to Turnitin.com or via an online learning platform (e.g. A2L, etc.) using plagiarism detection (a service supported by Turnitin.com) so it can be checked for academic dishonesty.

Students who do not wish their work to be submitted through the plagiarism detection software must inform the Instructor before the assignment is due. No penalty will be assigned to a student who does not submit work to the plagiarism detection software. **All submitted work is subject to normal verification that standards of academic integrity have been upheld** (e.g., on-line search, other software, etc.). For more details about McMaster's use of Turnitin.com please go to www.mcmaster.ca/academicintegrity.

COURSES WITH AN ON-LINE ELEMENT

McMaster is committed to sustaining an inclusive and respectful community. These principles and expectations extend to online activities including electronic chat groups, video calls and other learning platforms.

Some courses may use on-line elements (e.g. e-mail, Avenue to Learn (A2L), LearnLink, web pages, capa, Moodle, ThinkingCap, etc.). Students should be aware that, when they access the electronic components of a course using these elements, private information such as first and last names, user names for the McMaster e-mail accounts, and program affiliation may become apparent to all other students in the same course. The available information is dependent on the technology used. Continuation in a course that uses on-line elements will be deemed consent to this disclosure. If you have any questions or concerns about such disclosure, please discuss this with the course instructor.

CONDUCT EXPECTATIONS

As a McMaster student, you have the right to experience, and the responsibility to demonstrate, respectful and dignified interactions within all of our living, learning and working communities. These expectations are described in the [Code of Student Rights & Responsibilities](#) (the "Code"). All students share the responsibility of maintaining a positive environment for the academic and personal growth of all McMaster community members, **whether in person or online**.

It is essential that students be mindful of their interactions online, as the Code remains in effect in virtual learning environments. The Code applies to any interactions that adversely affect, disrupt, or interfere with reasonable participation in University activities. Student disruptions or behaviours that interfere with university functions on online platforms (e.g. use of Avenue 2 Learn, WebEx or Zoom for delivery), will be taken very seriously and will be investigated. Outcomes may include restriction or removal of the involved students' access to these platforms.

ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATION OF STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

Students with disabilities who require academic accommodation must contact [Student Accessibility Services](#) (SAS) at 905-525-9140 ext. 28652 or sas@mcmaster.ca to make arrangements with a Program Coordinator. For further information, consult McMaster University's [Academic Accommodation of Students with Disabilities](#) policy.

COURSE POLICY ON MISSED WORK, EXTENSIONS, AND LATE PENALTIES

1. It is the students' responsibility to regularly check the course webpage (ex. Avenue to Learn) for updates and announcements.
2. ...

SUBMISSION OF REQUEST FOR RELIEF FOR MISSED ACADEMIC WORK

In the event of an absence for medical or other reasons, students should review and follow the Academic Regulation in the Undergraduate Calendar "Requests for Relief for Missed Academic Term Work".

1. **Relief for missed academic work worth less than 25% of the final grade resulting from medical or personal situations lasting up to three calendar days:**

- Use the [McMaster Student Absence Form](#) (MSAF) on-line self-reporting tool. No further documentation is required.
- Students may submit requests for relief using the MSAF once per term.
- An automated email will be sent to the course instructor, who will determine the appropriate relief. Students must immediately follow up with their instructors. Failure to do so may negate the opportunity for relief.
- The MSAF cannot be used to meet a religious obligation or to celebrate an important religious holiday.
- The MSAF cannot be used for academic work that has already been completed attempted.
- An MSAF applies only to work that is due within the period for which the MSAF applies, i.e. the 3-day period that is specified in the MSAF; however, all work due in that period can be covered by one MSAF.
- The MSAF cannot be used to apply for relief for any final examination or its equivalent. See *Petitions for Special Consideration* above.

2. **For medical or personal situations lasting more than three calendar days, and/or for missed academic work worth 25% or more of the final grade, and/or for any request for relief in a term where the MSAF has been used previously in that term:**

- Students must report to their Faculty Office to discuss their situation and will be required to provide appropriate **supporting documentation**.
- If warranted, the Faculty Office will approve the absence, and the instructor will determine appropriate relief.

ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATION FOR RELIGIOUS, INDIGENOUS OR SPIRITUAL OBSERVANCES (RISO)

Students requiring academic accommodation based on religious, indigenous or spiritual observances should follow the procedures set out in the [RISO](#) policy. Students should submit their request to their Faculty Office **normally within 10 working days** of the beginning of term in which they anticipate a need for accommodation or to the Registrar's Office prior to their examinations. Students should also contact their instructors as soon as possible to make alternative arrangements for classes, assignments, and tests.

COPYRIGHT AND RECORDING

Students are advised that lectures, demonstrations, performances, and any other course material provided by an instructor include copyright protected works. The Copyright Act and copyright law protect every original literary, dramatic, musical and artistic work, **including lectures** by University instructors

The recording of lectures, tutorials, or other methods of instruction may occur during a course. Recording may be done by either the instructor for the purpose of authorized distribution, or by a student for the purpose of personal study. Students should be aware that their voice and/or image may be recorded by others during the class. Please speak with the instructor if this is a concern for you.

EXTREME CIRCUMSTANCES

The University reserves the right to change the dates and deadlines for any or all courses in extreme circumstances (e.g., severe weather, labour disruptions, etc.). Changes will be communicated through regular McMaster communication channels, such as McMaster Daily News, A2L and/or McMaster email.