

**CARLETON UNIVERSITY**  
Department of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering

**Wind Engineering**  
(MECH 5206F)

**Fall 2021**

**Instructor:** Dr. A. Hemami,  
**Lecture sessions:** Friday 14:35 – 17:25 (Remote, via Zoom or BBB meeting)  
**Office Hours:** Friday, 17:45 - 18:50 (Remote, via Zoom or BBB meeting)

**Course Objective**

This course is designed to cover the theoretical and practical areas pertinent to the operation of wind turbines. After completing the course, a student is expected to have gained the knowledge to (a) be considered as a wind energy engineer and (b) be prepared to work in any company engaged in designing, manufacturing or utilization of wind turbines and the associated components or in utility companies

---

**Course Outline:      Lectures, 3 hours/week**

**Session 1: Introduction & Fundamental**

- World energy needs
- Importance of renewable energy
- Status of wind energy in the world
- Wind farms, comparison of a wind farm with a traditional power plant
- Air foil, geometry and fundamental aerodynamics
- Drag and lift forces on an air foil
- Drag and lift coefficients

**Session 2: Wind characteristics**

- Energy in the wind, actuator disk theory, Betz limit,
- Wind flow variation (minutely, hourly, daily, seasonal)
- Wind speed calculations, Wind atlas
- Small scale and large scale use of wind energy

**Session 3: Wind turbine basic types and characteristics**

- Propeller turbine: Horizontal-Axis Wind Turbine (HAWT),
- Darrieus machine, Savonius Rotor: Vertical-Axis Wind Turbine (VAWT)
- Variations in basic design, Capabilities of newer industrial turbines

**Session 4: Propeller turbine**

- (most common turbine type)**
- Description of turbine components

Yaw system and blade pitch  
Industrial wind turbine classes

**Session 5: Propeller turbine analysis**

Analysis of the forces on a blade  
Torque and power  
Torque and power coefficients  
Turbine characteristic curve  
Tip speed ratio (TSR) and blade pitch control

**Session 6: Example of energy yield**

Calculation of daily and yearly energy production  
Power curve and how it is constructed  
Array loss in wind farms  
Other matters influencing the annual production

**Session 7: Fundamental of electricity and 3-phase systems**

DC and AC electricity, voltage, current and power  
Power relationships in DC and AC, Active and reactive power in AC,  
power factor and pf correction definition  
3-phase AC electricity, delta and star connection, power relationships

**Session 8: Electric Generators**

Explanation of DC and AC motors and generators  
Construction differences of AC generators  
Synchronous machines and induction machines  
Variation of induction machines  
Permanent magnet generators

**Session 9: Wind turbine control**

Protective control, Safe operation, Safe to the neighborhood  
Blade pitch control effects  
Performance control (speed, productivity, matching to grid)  
Power quality control (flawless production)

**Session 10: Modes of operation**

Isolated application and grid connection  
Voltage and frequency requirement  
Fixed speed operation  
Variable speed design  
Direct drive turbines  
Turbine type classification by wind energy industry  
Examples of commercial wind turbines

**Session 11: Mechanical Design**

Variation in tower design  
Analysis of loads on blade and tower

Wind turbine gearbox and loads in gearbox  
Structure of turbine blades  
Sources of vibration  
Turbine braking

**Session 12: Wind energy economics**

Initial cost (Turbine manufacturing, transportation, installation and grid connection)  
Operating cost (Running cost and maintenance)  
Typical breakdown of costs  
Comparison with other power plants

**Session 13: Environmental concerns**

Issues related to onshore wind farms  
Issues related to offshore wind farms  
Noise, shadow flicker, flashing  
Effects on birds and marine animals  
Effects on radio frequency communication waves

**Session 14: Wind projects assessment**

Wind forecasting for power generation  
Introduction to forecasting methods  
Uncertainties in power generation calculations  
Uncertainty in financial assessment  
P50 and P90 and application to wind energy projects risk assessment

**Workload:** Assignments, project, quiz and exam

**Prerequisites:** Dynamics, Fluid dynamics, Electric Machinery (or equivalents)

**Marking Scheme:**

Assignments	10% (8 assignments, electronic submission)
Midterm	20% (1 midterm remote exam, electronic submission)
Quizzes	20% (About 5 quizzes, via CUlearn)
Final exam	35% (remote exam, electronic submission)
Project	15% (Group of 2 people submitting an electronic report)

**Project:** Each group of 2 students takes a project which implies a complete design and/or investigation of a practical or simulated scenario on one related topic. Example topics are (But not limited to):

- (1) Mechanical design of the tower or another component
- (2) Design of electrical components (Transformer, generator, etc)
- (3) A detailed study of a pertinent topic (design, economics, etc)
- (4) A case study of a wind farm installation
- (5) Characteristics of various available turbines of a particular category

### **Course material resources (Texts or reference books):**

No particular required book is assigned for the course. Students are expected to take notes. Power points for the course notes will be available to the students through Moodle. Since the course is conducted remotely, lectures are available with prerecorded sound. A number of books are recommended as references for the course material. The lectures are not necessarily in the same sequence as any book in the references.

### **References: (Alphabetical)**

#### **Wind Power Plants, Fundamentals, Design, Construction and Operation**

By R Gasch and J. Twele, 2002

#### **Wind Turbines Fundamentals, Technologies, Application, Economics,**

By Erich Hau, 2000, Springer

#### **Wind Turbine Technology**

By Ahmad Hemami, 2012, ISBN 1435486463, Cengage Learning

#### **Wind Energy Engineering**

By Pramid Jain, 2011, ISBN 978-0-07-171477-8, McGraw-Hill

#### **Wind Energy Explained: Theory, Design and Application**

By J. F. Manwell, J. G. McGowan, A. L. Rogers, Second edition, 2008  
ISBN: 0-471-49972-2

### **Notes:**

To pass the course one must get:

- a) a passing mark
- b) at least 50% from each component of the course (assignments, quizzes, midterm, final, project)

The relationship between marks and letter grades is based on the university standards  
Participation in the course is necessary

**Note: This year the course is remotely and through internet. You need to be sure about the sufficiency and reliability of your hardware, software and the internet accessibility for all lectures, quizzes, midterm and final exam.**

**Important: All materials created for this course (particularly, presentations and posted notes, assignments, quizzes and exams) remain the intellectual property of the instructor. They are intended for personal use and may not be reproduced or redistributed without prior written consent of Dr. Ahmad Hemami.**

## **“Academic Accommodation**

You may need special arrangements to meet your academic obligations during the term. For an accommodation request the processes are as follows:

*Pregnancy obligation:* write to me with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist. For more details see the Student Guide (<http://www2.carleton.ca/equity/accommodation/academic/students/>).

*Religious obligation:* write to me with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist. For more details see the Student Guide (<http://www2.carleton.ca/equity/accommodation/academic/students/>).

*Academic Accommodations for Students with Disabilities:* The Paul Menton Centre for Students with Disabilities (PMC) provides services to students with Learning Disabilities (LD), psychiatric/mental health disabilities, Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD), chronic medical conditions, and impairments in mobility, hearing, and vision. If you have a disability requiring academic accommodations in this course, please contact PMC at 613-520-6608 or [pmc@carleton.ca](mailto:pmc@carleton.ca) for a formal evaluation. If you are already registered with the PMC, contact your PMC coordinator to send me your Letter of Accommodation at the beginning of the term, and no later than two weeks before the first in-class scheduled test or exam requiring accommodation (if applicable). After requesting accommodation from PMC, meet with me to ensure accommodation arrangements are made. Please consult the PMC website for the deadline to request accommodations for the formally-scheduled exam (if applicable).”