Industrial & Manufacturing Engineering

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Academic Programs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program name</th>
<th>Program type</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Industrial Engineering</td>
<td>BS, MS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manufacturing Engineering</td>
<td>BS</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The mission of the Industrial Engineering and Manufacturing Engineering programs at Cal Poly is "to educate students for successful and distinguished careers in industrial engineering, manufacturing engineering, and related fields using a learn-by-doing approach that stresses integrated processes, appropriate technologies, and enterprise competitive advantage."

The Department focuses on programs that integrate engineering with a real concern for people. Our students study topics that lead to satisfying and productive careers, and also provide strong preparation for graduate work in many fields. Programs reflect the traditional strengths of Cal Poly through close interaction between students and faculty in classroom, laboratory, and other activities. The programs use a project based learning approach where students work on multiple real life projects. Students often present results to industry representatives.

Department and university laboratories and computers are integrated into coursework to investigate, test, and apply theoretical principles learned in the classroom. The descriptions below provide details of the various programs.

Undergraduate Programs

BS Industrial Engineering

Industrial Engineering is the profession concerned with solving integrated engineering and management problems. The definition by the Institute of Industrial Engineers is as follows: "Industrial Engineering is concerned with the design, installation, and improvement of integrated systems of people, material, information, equipment, and energy by drawing upon specialized knowledge and skills in the mathematical, physical, and social sciences, together with the principles and methods of engineering analysis and design to specify, predict, and evaluate the results to be obtained from such systems." Key objectives of industrial engineering are to improve the quality and productivity of creating and delivering goods and services and to act as the interface between technology and humans. Engineering methods and practical knowledge are used in formulating decision models for the optimum application of engineering and management principles.

BS Manufacturing Engineering

Manufacturing Engineering is the profession that applies engineering analysis and methods to the production of all manufactured goods and services. The manufacturing engineer plans, develops, and optimizes the processes of production including methods of manufacture, and designs of tools and equipment for manufacturing. The emphasis is on both development and sustained operation of manufacturing systems, including computer-aided methods, automation, design for manufacture, production tooling, and material handling, as well as the processes and ancillary support systems of modern manufacturing.

The Bachelor of Science program in Manufacturing Engineering is accredited by the Engineering Accreditation Commission of ABET, http://www.ABET.org. The following objectives have been set for students completing the Industrial Engineering program:

1. **Immediate Practice** – Graduates will make immediate contributions to the practice of industrial engineering or a related field by their demonstrated knowledge of contemporary issues and direct, hands-on experience with the modern tools and techniques of the discipline.

2. **Solid Engineering Foundations** – Graduates will have successful careers based on their ability to solve problems and make improvements through engineering design, experimentation, and application of scientific principles as well as their ability to analyze and critically evaluate solutions.

3. **Broad Education** – Graduates will have careers of distinction and leadership based on their ability to communicate effectively, to contribute meaningfully to a team effort, and to understand the economic, societal, and ethical impacts of their decisions.

4. **Life-Long Learning** – Graduates will demonstrate the ability and desire to follow a life-long pursuit of personal fulfillment through education.

Our main focus is to prepare graduates for practice in professional engineering. Thus, our “learn by doing” philosophy is emphasized in the curriculum by the large number of design-centered laboratories, integrating design throughout the curriculum, and the senior design project experience. In the required senior design project, students demonstrate their understanding of engineering knowledge and their ability to apply that knowledge creatively to practical problems. Graduates can choose from a challenging range of career activities: operations research and analysis, production planning and scheduling, plant design, management, human factors engineering design, data processing and analysis, measurement, quality control and reliability assurance, technical economic planning, resource conservation, productivity measurement, increasing productivity using computer integrated manufacturing techniques, robotics, and, in general, systems analysis and design. The physical, engineering, and social sciences form the broad base for these endeavors.

The program is oriented to provide graduates with the capability of producing results with a minimum of additional training. Computer and hi-tech firms, health care and biomedical industries, aerospace/defense, entertainment, retail chains, farms, airlines, automotive, as well as government, service firms, traditional manufacturing industries, and consulting firms all employ graduates of this discipline. Graduates also are well prepared for successful graduate study.
for students completing the Manufacturing Engineering Program at Cal Poly:

1. **Immediate Practice.** Graduates will make immediate contributions to the practice of manufacturing engineering or a related field by their demonstrated knowledge of contemporary issues and direct, hands-on experience with the modern tools and techniques of the discipline.

2. **Solid Engineering Foundations** – Graduates will have successful careers based on their demonstrated ability to solve problems and make improvements through engineering design, experimentation, and application of scientific principles as well as their ability to analyze and critically evaluate their decisions.

3. **Broad Education** – Graduates will have careers of distinction and leadership based on their ability to communicate effectively, to contribute meaningfully to a team effort, and to understand the economic and ethical impacts of their decisions.

4. **Life-Long Learning** – Graduates will demonstrate the ability and desire to follow a life-long pursuit of personal fulfillment through education.

In the required senior design project, students demonstrate their understanding of engineering knowledge and their ability to apply that knowledge creatively to practical problems.

Graduates typically work more directly with the manufacturing processes than do industrial engineers.

Emphasis is placed upon application of the basic sciences and engineering fundamentals. Knowledge of basic processes, tool design, automation, and computer-aided manufacturing are applied directly to the problems of development and sustained operation of manufacturing systems.

Graduates are prepared for job-entry at the professional level in the areas of CAD/CAM, process engineering, automation, quality assurance, and production engineering. They also are well prepared for successful graduate study.

**Graduate Program**

**MS Industrial Engineering**

[www.ime.calpoly.edu/programs/graduate/](http://www.ime.calpoly.edu/programs/graduate/)

**General Characteristics**

The Master of Science in Industrial Engineering (MS IE) program is designed to prepare students for a successful career in industry as well as a further study in a Ph.D. program, building on its strength in learn-by-doing and project-based engineering education and focusing on applied research. Through the MS IE program, students will sharpen both technical skills and non-technical skills required for success in their careers.

**Blended BS+MS Engineering Program**

Students must be prepared for engineering practice via the curriculum which culminates in a major design experience based on the knowledge and skills acquired in earlier coursework and incorporating engineering standards and realistic constraints, as listed in the ABET Engineering Criteria. Therefore, “Blended BS + MS Program” students must complete a senior project with this major design experience requirement in order to complete the undergraduate degree.

Students may be eligible to pursue the blended program toward the MS in Industrial Engineering or the MS Engineering with a specialization in Integrated Technology Management. Please refer to the MS Engineering ([http://catalog.calpoly.edu/collegesandprograms/collegeofengineering/#graduate](http://catalog.calpoly.edu/collegesandprograms/collegeofengineering/#graduate)) section of this catalog for more information and [General Policies Governing Graduate Studies](http://catalog.calpoly.edu/graduateeducation/#generalpoliciesgoverninggraduatestediext) for eligibility criteria for blended programs.