CIT Interdisciplinary Courses

About Course Numbers:
Each Carnegie Mellon course number begins with a two-digit prefix that designates the department offering the course (i.e., 76-xxx courses are offered by the Department of English). Although each department maintains its own course numbering practices, typically, the first digit after the prefix indicates the class level: xx-1xx courses are freshmen-level, xx-2xx courses are sophomore level, etc. Depending on the department, xx-6xx courses may be either undergraduate senior-level or graduate-level, and xx-7xx courses and higher are graduate-level. Consult the Schedule of Classes (https://enr-apps.as.cmu.edu/open/50C/SOCServeIt) each semester for course offerings and for any necessary pre-requisites or co-requisites.

39-109 Grand Challenge Freshman Seminar: Climate Change
Fall and Spring: 9 units
Climate change is considered by many the most serious social, political, and environmental issue of the 21st century. As human activities increase the level of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere, scientists have established the reality of climate change and have estimated its impacts on human society and the natural world. Despite the scientific consensus on its existence, causes, and consequences, a substantial number of Americans and citizens of other countries still question these conclusions and a small but vocal group of doubters continue to challenge the science and scientific consensus on climate change. In spite of some social division over these issues, governments at local, national, and international levels have made concerted efforts to craft policies to address climate change. These policies have shifted over time as the information, attitudes, and technology associated with climate change have evolved. In this course, we will explore the challenges and complexities of climate change by investigating the subject from a variety of angles: scientific, political, rhetorical, cultural, economic, technological, and ethical. Over the course of the semester, we will inquire: What is climate change? How do scientists know it is happening? Why is there public debate over it? What solutions are available? And what are the pros and cons of the different solutions?

39-210 Experiential Learning I
Fall and Spring: 3 units
The engineer of the 21st century will need to operate effectively in many settings and often with a global perspective. Being curious and constantly looking for inspiration are critical for lifelong learning. This course, designed for all CIT sophomores, requires the student to choose and experience activities for development and growth that are not part of formal course work. Acceptable experiences are listed in the course syllabus on Canvas.

39-220 Experiential Learning II
Fall and Spring: 3 units
The engineer of the 21st century will need to operate effectively in many settings and often with a global perspective. Being curious and constantly looking for inspiration are critical for lifelong learning. This course, designed for all CIT sophomores, requires the student to choose and experience activities for development and growth that are not part of formal course work. Acceptable experiences are listed in the course syllabus on Canvas. Prerequisite: 39-210

39-245 Rapid Prototype Design
All Semesters: 9 units
This course provides an introduction to rapid design through virtual and physical prototyping. The class covers the engineering design process, problem solving methods, interdisciplinary team work, current industrial practice, and manufacturing process capabilities. The course emphasizes hands on learning. Sophomores have priority while registering for this course. Juniors and seniors will be put on the waitlist, then released once sophomores have registered.

39-250 CIT Undergraduate Projects
Fall: 3 units
This course number is to be used for Fall CIT freshman research projects only. Student must complete a CIT Undergraduate Project Approval form (located in Scaife Hall 110) and submit for approval. The form must include a complete description and a signature approval from the research advisor/instructor. If the project is approved, the CIT Undergraduate Studies Office will add the course to the student’s fall schedule.

39-251 CIT Undergraduate Projects
Spring: 3 units
This course number is to be used for Spring CIT freshman research projects only. Student must complete a CIT Undergraduate Project Approval form (located in Scaife Hall 110) and submit for approval. The form must include a complete description and a signature approval from the research advisor/instructor. If the project is approved, the CIT Undergraduate Studies Office will add the course to the student’s fall schedule.

39-310 Experiential Learning III
Fall and Spring: 3 units
The engineer of the 21st century will need to operate effectively in many settings and often with a global perspective. Being curious and constantly looking for inspiration are critical for lifelong learning. This course, designed for all CIT juniors, requires the student to choose and experience activities for development and growth that are not part of formal course work. Acceptable experiences are listed in the course syllabus on Canvas. Prerequisite: 39-220

39-402 Leadership Development Seminar
All Semesters: 9 units
This course is designed for CIT juniors and seniors committed to further developing their leadership skills and potential for sustained impact in the future. The course will be substantive and engaging, while less technically challenging, outright, than thought provoking, edifying, and enjoyable, ideally. The course will build on the foundation of six key leadership pillars, identified by CIT to hone a student’s professional and personal development to serve others, and to seek out and nurture opportunities to heighten one’s capacity as a person and leader who is: VISIONARY, with clear goals for yourself, your organizations and communities, and others in whose lives you are a part, including the broader society; ETHICAL, with core values and steadfastness in the face of competing objectives, and the resilience to deal with conflicts without moral compromise; ENGAGING, with empathy, attentive interpersonal attributes, outstanding formal and informal communication skills, and the capacity to inspire; TACTICAL, with an ability to operationalize big ideas and bring them to fruition, creating the ideal environment for individual and group success; TECHNICAL, based on your own high-level skill set and the ego strength for inclusion of others with complementary realms of expertise; REFLECTIVE, manifesting in the honest appraisal of personal and organizational success against metrics, and the ability to redirect based on assessment.

39-447 CIT Undergraduate Interdisciplinary Design Project
All Semesters: 9 units
This course is designed for undergraduate research projects involving a significant interdisciplinary design component. It can be added by permission only through collaboration with the student, project advisor, and the CIT Dean’s Office. For projects that are not interdisciplinary in nature, students should refer to the unique departmental course number specific to the department in which the research is being completed.

39-499 Summer Curricular Practical Training
Summer: 3 units
The college of engineering at Carnegie Mellon considers experiential learning opportunities important educational options for its undergraduate students. One such option is an internship, normally completed during the summer. Students do not need to officially register for an internship unless they want it listed on their official transcripts. CIT students interested in registering their internship for course credit on their transcript may enroll in this course. To do so, students must complete a CIT Internship form (located in Scaife Hall 110) and submit for approval. The CIT Undergraduate Studies Office will add the course the student’s schedule, and the student will be assessed tuition for 3 units. Upon completion of the internship, students must submit a 1-2 page report of their work experience, and a 1-2 page evaluation from the company supervisor to the CIT Undergraduate Office. After the reports have been reviewed and approved, a “P” grade will be assigned. This process should be used by international students interested in Curricular Practical Training (CPT) or by any other engineering undergraduate wishing to have their internship experience reflected on their official University transcript. International students should also be authorized by the Office of International Education (OIE). More information regarding CPT is available on OIE’s website.
39-500 Honors Research Project

All Semesters

Juniors who have an accumulated QPA of at least 3.5 receive an invitation to participate in the program. This course, open by invitation only, will provide the opportunity for close interaction with a faculty member through independent honors research in a number of disciplinary and interdisciplinary areas, as part of the CIT Honors Research Program. Students will work on their projects during their senior year, earning the equivalent of 18-24 units. Students are required to register for CIT Honor Research Project 39-500. To receive CIT College Honors, a student must complete at least 18 units in 39-500 on the same research topic and submit a 1-page executive summary of your research. Lastly, students must present their research findings at the Undergraduate Research Symposium, “Meeting of the Minds” in May. Although “Meeting of the Minds” is open to any undergraduate research initiatives occurring on campus, it is a requirement for College of Engineering Honors Research students.

Course Website: https://tinyurl.com/cithonorresearch (https://tinyurl.com/cithonorsresearch)

39-601 Special Topics: Additive Manufacturing Processing and Product Development

Fall: 12 units

Introduction to additive manufacturing (AM) processing fundamentals and applications using Solidworks 3-D CAD software and a variety of polymer and metal AM machines. Includes a brief history of AM processing, a review of and technical fundamentals of current AM processes, a study of the current AM market, and future directions of the technology. Lab Sessions will support an open-ended product development project. Lectures on metals AM will address current research impacting industry. Students will also perform a literature review of papers on the state of the art. Basic Solidworks knowledge required.

39-602 Additive Manufacturing and Materials

Fall and Spring: 12 units

This course will develop the understanding required for materials science and engineering for additive manufacturing. The emphasis will be on powder bed machines for printing metal parts, reflecting the research emphasis at CMU. The full scope of methods in use, however, will also be covered. The topics are intended to enable students to understand which materials are feasible for 3D printing. Accordingly, high power density welding methods such as electron beam and laser welding will be discussed, along with the characteristic defects. Since metal powders are a key input, powder-making methods will be discussed. Components once printed must satisfy various property requirements hence microstructure-property relationships will be discussed because the microstructures that emerge from the inherently high cooling rates differ strongly from conventional materials. Defect structures are important to performance and therefore inspection. Porosity is a particularly important feature of 3D printed metals and its occurrence depends strongly on the input materials and on the processing conditions. The impact of data science on this area offers many possibilities such as the automatic recognition of materials origin and history. Finally the context for the course will be discussed, i.e. the rapidly growing penetration of the technology and its anticipated impact on manufacturing.

39-603 Additive Manufacturing Laboratory

Spring: 12 units

Hands-on laboratory projects will teach students about all aspects of metals additive manufacturing (AM). Students will learn how to use SOLIDWORKS for part design, create and transfer design files to the AM machines, run the machines to build parts, perform post-processing operations, and characterize AM parts. Students will work in teams and complete three separate lab projects, each utilizing a different material system, part design, AM process/machine, post-processing steps and characterization methods. A major lab report and presentation will be required for each of the three lab projects. The course includes weekly lectures to complement the laboratory component. Priority for enrollment will be given to students who have declared the Additive Manufacturing Minor.

Prerequisites: 39-601 or 27-765 or 39-602 or 24-632 or 27-503

39-605 Engineering Design Projects

Fall: 12 units

In this project course, students work in multidisciplinary teams to design products or processes. The course is open to juniors, seniors and graduate students from all parts of the campus community. Each project is sponsored by an industry, government or non-profit partner, and is of real commercial interest to that partner. Students work directly with their partner throughout the semester to establish goals and requirements, evaluate their design as it progresses, and produce a final report, presentation, and, if appropriate, a prototype. Design reviews, held twice during the semester, give students a chance to present their preliminary designs and receive feedback and advice. Completing their designs, teams must consider not only the functionality of their designs, but also the look, feel, appearance, and societal impact. Skills built in this course will include: developing the product statement, establishing goals and constraints for the product, project management, and generating and evaluating design alternatives. As some projects may span multiple semesters with new groups of students, careful documentation of project work is emphasized. Students may take this course for either one or two semesters.

39-606 Engineering Design Projects

Spring: 12 units

In this project course, students work in multidisciplinary teams to design products or processes. The course is open to juniors, seniors and graduate students from all parts of the campus community. Each project is sponsored by an industry, government or non-profit partner, and is of real commercial interest to that partner. Students work directly with their partner throughout the semester to establish goals and requirements, evaluate their design as it progresses, and produce a final report, presentation, and, if appropriate, a prototype. Design reviews, held twice during the semester, give students a chance to present their preliminary designs and receive feedback and advice. Completing their designs, teams must consider not only the functionality of their designs, but also the look, feel, appearance, and societal impact. Skills built in this course will include: developing the product statement, establishing goals and constraints for the product, project management, and generating and evaluating design alternatives. As some projects may span multiple semesters with new groups of students, careful documentation of project work is emphasized. Students may take this course for either one or two semesters.

39-647 Special Topics in Design

All Semesters

This course is to be use for Interdisciplinary Engineering Design Independent Study. It can be added by permission only through collaboration with the student, Independent Study project advisor, and the CIT Dean’s Office.

39-648 Rapid Design and Prototyping of Computer Science

Spring: 12 units

This course deals with rapid prototyping, manufacture, and applications of a new generation of wearable computers, with head-mounted display. The design of wearable computers is a multidisciplinary process including: Electronic design, mechanical design, software development, and human-computer interaction. Two classes of wearable computers will be further developed: embedded, custom designed VuMan series, and general purpose Navigator series. Electronic design includes the custom designed computer board, electronic interfacing, and power supply. Industrial designers and mechanical engineers team to design and manufacture with in-house facilities a variety of conformable/lightweight housings. A software development environment and user interface builders support and application development. Current applications include: Global Position Sensing, Hypertext documents, speech recognition, wireless communications, and digital imaging.

39-660 Masters EST&GP Project

Fall and Spring

This project course is designed for EST and P students who are working on an independent investigation on a project related to energy with the advice and approval of the program advisor and/or affiliated faculty member. Summary report, presentation or poster on work accomplished must be submitted at completion of semester. Once you have determined a suitable topic area, found an engineering faculty member who has agreed to supervise the project work, send the EST and P project approval form to the EST and P director for enrollment. Variable units. Restricted to EST and P students.
39-699 Career & Professional Development for Engineering Masters Students

Fall and Spring: 3 units

This professional development course is designed to engage, educate and empower engineering Masters Students to create and manage career opportunities, as well as to develop the professional skills necessary to be successful in a job search and internship/first year of employment. Open to College of Engineering masters students, this seminar style course will support professional development in the following areas: self-assessment/awareness, resume creation, personal introduction development, job search planning, interviewing, networking, career fair success, entrepreneurship, and internship/employment readiness, etc. Assignments will be actionable and relevant to the job search, enabling students to immediately apply classroom learning. Assignments and active classroom participation will determine pass/fail grade.