Mechanical Engineering Program Takes Just Three Years to Complete

by Jason White

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Do you have an interest in a career in the manufacture and production of mechanical equipment as a supervisor (which offers additional opportunities), junior engineer, assistant to professional engineers, lab technician, quality control, CAD operator, technical sales and marketing, production control, and product design and development? In order to have a long lasting career in one of these areas, professionals must attend a mechanical engineering program, such as Centennial College's Mechanical Engineering Technology â€“ Industrial (PYT) option.

This offering, which is facilitated out of the college's largest location, Progress campus, takes three years to complete and results in an Ontario College Advanced Diploma. Students learn through mechanical engineering courses that offer a combination of engineering theory and practice in the manufacturing and production of mechanical equipment. In fact, there is about 60-40 balance between theory and practice. As such, students gain basic engineering skills and science, as well as more specialized knowledge in subjects relating to modern manufacturing and production processes. Training includes computer-assisted drafting and manufacturing (CAD/ CAM), as well as industry-current software instruction in AutoCAD, Inventor and Mastercam. The project-driven approach of the mechanical engineering courses also gives students the chance to experience machine shop operation, tool design, plus computer numerical control programming, designing, as well as building and testing an original piece of equipment. To round out training, two semester individual projects, give students practical experience in designing, building and testing an original piece of equipment. The project approach simulates actual workplace assignments. The campus at which Mechanical Engineering program students study houses a new mechanical engineering lab that includes: Thermodynamic Fluid Power testing modules, and Tensile, Hardness and Impact Testers.

Specific mechanical engineering courses featured in this offering include: Properties of Materials, Machine Shop, Physics, Applied Electricity, Statistics, Differential Calculus and Analytic Geometry, Fluid Mechanics, Tool Design, Quality Assurance and more.

Complementing what students learn in class is a co-op component. Academically qualified students enhance their education by working three terms as paid employees in the field. This experience not only allows them to put classroom learning into practice, but also provides valuable contacts for future careers.

Mechanical engineering program students are prepared for jobs in the manufacture and production of mechanical equipment: developing quality control systems, assisting in plant expansions and layouts, conducting time and motion studies, planning and scheduling new facilities and preparing job safety programs and manuals.

In order to apply for his Mechanical engineering program, interested parties must have completed an Ontario Secondary School Diploma (OSSD) or equivalent, or mature student status (19 years or older). In addition, they should possess English Grade 12 C or U, or equivalent, or skills assessment; and Math Grade 11 M or U or Grade 12 C or U, or equivalent, or skills assessment. Upon admission, a minimum C grade required in COMM-170/171, minimum 2.5 GPA and minimum 80 percent of year 1 and 2 courses are required for COOP-221.

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Emma writes that a mechanical engineering courses at Centennial College include Properties of Materials, Machine Shop, Physics, Applied Electricity and more.

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