

MECE 2301: Statics – Fall 2024

Course Information

Class Schedule/Room:	TR 9:30 AM – 10:45 AM/EENGR 1.274 PLTL: TR 11:00 AM – 12:15 PM/TBD
Instructor:	Samantha Ramirez
Office:	EENGR 3.261
Office Hours:	MW 10:00 AM – 11:30 AM or by appointment
Email:	samantha.ramirez@utrgv.edu
Website:	http://faculty.utrgv.edu/samantha.ramirez/
<u>Pre-requisites:</u>	“C” or better in PHYS 2425 Physics for Science and Engineering I AND MECE 1101 Intro to Mechanical Engineering AND a “C” or better or concurrent enrollment in MATH 2414 Calculus II
<u>Catalog Description:</u>	The study of forces, moments, friction, centers of mass, gravity, and pressure using the equations of equilibrium in vector algebraic and calculus forms.
<u>Required Materials:</u>	McGraw-Hill Connect with eText for below textbook (see Homework), non-programmable calculator, device for scanning
<u>Textbook:</u>	<i>Vector Mechanics of Engineers Statics and Dynamics</i> , Beer, McGraw Hill Education, New York, New York. (12 th edition)
<u>Course Modality:</u>	Traditional face-to-face (TR) See Attendance and Classroom Etiquette for more information.

Grading Policy

3 Midterm Exams	45% (15% each)
Comprehensive Final Exam	20%
Quizzes	15%
Homework	10 %
PLTL	10%

Course Outcomes and Assessment:

The student should be able to

1. Draw correct free-body diagrams, including determination of whether or not an object or force system can be analyzed using a particle or rigid body approach.
2. Determine if the forces acting on each body in a system of constrained rigid-bodies can be obtained and to proceed to solve for those forces using equilibrium equations.
3. Express forces in vector form given various forms of component information and determine force components in arbitrary directions using vector expressions.
4. Obtain and express moments in vector form using the right-hand rule and the cross product.
5. Simplify a system of forces, including distributed forces, to a single force-moment system.
6. Determine the centroid and/or center of gravity of composite shapes or bodies.
7. Determine equilibrium forces acting on single particles in 2-D and 3-D.
8. Determine equilibrium loads acting on single rigid bodies in 2-D and 3-D.
9. Determine equilibrium loads acting on truss-type structures using the method of joints and the method of sections.
10. Determine equilibrium loads in frames and machines.
11. Determine moments of inertia of composite shapes and masses about centroidal axes or other axes using the parallel-axis theorem.

BSME 2-Peat Rule (applies to all BSME students on catalogs from 2020-2021 onward)

Students are allowed to **repeat** the following entry-level mechanical engineering courses (MECE 2301 Statics, MECE 2302 Dynamics, MECE 2340 Engineering Materials, MECE 3321 Mechanics of Solids, MECE 2335 Thermodynamics I, and MECE 3440 Mechanical Engineering Analysis) only once. If you did not get a C or better in any of the aforementioned courses on your second attempt, you will have to submit an appeal to the ME Appeals Committee requesting permission to take the course for a third attempt. In your appeal letter, students must explain the reason or reasons for prior poor performance (supporting documentation can be submitted as well) and must provide a reasonable plan to ensure the third attempt is successful. No student is guaranteed a third attempt at a class. If a student does not supply an adequate explanation for their situation and propose a meaningful plan for success, the committee may deny the request. If you have a pattern of repeating many courses, the committee may also deny the request. If the request is approved and there are sufficient seats in the course, the student will be allowed to attempt the course for the last time. **If you have attempted a course three times without obtaining a "C" or better, you will not be permitted to enroll in that course at UTRGV.**

EXAMS

You will have a total of 4 exams in this course.

- **To be allowed to take any of the midterm exams, you cannot have more than 2 unexcused absences in class at 9:30 AM and 2 unexcused absences in the PLTL session at 11:00 AM.** Attendance in class and PLTL will be checked from the beginning of the course to Exam 1, then again from Exam 1 to Exam 2, etc. If you must miss class at 9:30 AM and/or PLTL at 11:00 AM, please email me before class detailing your extraordinary circumstances and attach any supporting documentation (i.e. doctor's excuse).
- You will have 3 midterm exams that will be administered either **in-person** outside of class on the dates and times shown in the Course Calendar. Please make appropriate accommodations for these 3 exams since you know about them on Day 1 of this semester.
- Your final exam will be comprehensive, which means all topics could be on the test during the scheduled final exam time (see Course Calendar for date and time).

Students will only be allowed to use a non-programmable calculator and something to write with for the exam. Absolutely no bathroom breaks, programmable calculators, calculator covers, cell phones, laptops, iPads, iPods, or any other smart technology devices are allowed during exams.

Once an exam is graded and returned to you, you only have 24 hours to contest your exam grade. Please compare your graded exam to the exam solution provided to you in Blackboard. If, after doing so, you think a grading mistake was made, please email me to let me know. I will review my scan of your graded work and let you know my decision.

In the event that I, or another faculty member, am not able to administer an exam in person on the scheduled day, I will administer the exam via Zoom. Students will be required to attend a special Zoom session emailed to you for the duration of the exam where they will be required to have a camera on to be monitored. Students will only be allowed to use the provided exam booklet for the exam. All exam work will be scanned and uploaded in Blackboard for grading.

The use of classroom recordings is governed by the Federal Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), UTRGV's acceptable-use policy, and UTRGV HOP Policy STU 02-100 Student Conduct and Discipline. A recording of class sessions will be kept and stored by UTRGV, in accordance with FERPA and UTRGV policies. Your instructor will not share the recordings of your class activities outside of course participants, which include your fellow students, teaching assistants, or graduate assistants, and any guest faculty or community-based learning partners with whom we may engage during a class session. **You may not share recordings outside of this course.** As referenced in [UTRGV HOP Policy STU 02-100 Student Conduct and Discipline](#), doing so may result in disciplinary action.

In the event that you are not allowed on campus to take the scheduled exam due to COVID, you will need to provide proof from the UTRGV COVID Response Team. Once approved, students will be required to attend a special Zoom session emailed to you for the duration of the exam where they will be required to have a camera on to be monitored. Students will only be allowed to use the provided exam booklet for the exam. All exam work will be scanned and uploaded in Blackboard for grading.

QUIZZES

- You will have an in-class quiz every Tuesday covering content from the previous week.
- SmartBook assignments in MH Connect will count as quiz grades and are aimed to introduce topics before we cover them in class. These assignments must be completed before class begins on the day we start the topic.

HOMEWORK

Required McGraw Hill Connect will be utilized for homework assignments.

- All assignment links are found in BlackBoard Learn.
- **Homework will be due at 9:30 AM.** Late assignments will be accepted until 11:59 PM with a 10% penalty. After 11:59 PM, no late assignments will be accepted.
- It is suggested to work problems out using the following format on the MECE Homework Paper (Found on my website), engineering paper, or graph paper.
 - Problem statement & picture (hand drawn or copy/pasted)
 - Summarized knowns, unknowns to be found, and possible equations to use
 - Free body diagram(s)
 - Calculations in appropriate units
 - Final boxed answer in correct units

PEER-LED TEAM LEARNING (PLTL)

- Attendance is required for your scheduled PLTL session (TR 11:00 AM – 12:15 PM) – 40%
 - Attendance can be marked as an absence by PLTL leader if you are not participating in the PLTL session. i.e. eating, sleeping, on phone, etc.
- Your work during each session will need to be submitted in Blackboard to be graded on completion by your PLTL. – 60%
 - The rubric below will be how your submitted work will be graded.

Score	Description
5, Excellent	All problems were attempted. All work is shown. Solutions were neat and use required format.
4, Good	Nearly all problems were attempted (missing 1 at most). Steps were sufficiently detailed.
3, Fair	Most problems were attempted (missing at most 2 problems). Steps may not be sufficiently detailed.
2, Poor	Majority of problems were attempted. Steps were missing or solutions were incomplete.
1, Unacceptable	A few problems were attempted. Solutions were incomplete. Work was missing for the majority of problems.
0, Missing	Assignment was not submitted.

Attendance & Classroom Etiquette

- Attendance will be taken daily in lecture and PLTL.
- You are expected to participate in class by asking questions, calculating answers, working with others on group assignments, etc.
- This course is scheduled as a traditional face-to-face class and will be held as such; I will not hold live Zoom sessions during our scheduled class time.
- In the event that I am not able to attend f2f classes due to illness, I will hold online synchronous class via Zoom if I am able to and cannot find another faculty member to cover the class.
- If, during the semester, **you fall ill and are not able to complete coursework**, you will be allowed to make up any homework, quizzes, and/or exams that are missed as long as **you email me letting me know about your situation** and provide a doctor's excuse/test results (with your name and date of birth). Do not wait until after due dates/exam dates to let me know.

Course Calendar

There is a course calendar in Blackboard for you to reference. It will show you the most up-to-date due dates and times for all assignments and exams in this course.

Module 1: Statics of Particles Exam 1: Friday, 9/27/24 from 8:30 AM – 10:30 AM in ESCNE 2.106/2.108

A: Prerequisite Math	
B: Unit Conversion	
C: Addition of Planar Forces	2.1, 2.2
D: Adding Forces in Space	2.4
E: Projection of a Vector	3.2A
F: Equilibrium of a Particle	2.3, 2.5

Module 2: Moments & Centroids Exam 2: Friday, 10/25/24 from 8:30 AM – 10:30 AM in ESCNE 2.106/2.108

A: Forces & Moments	3.1
B: Moment About an Axis	3.2
C: Couples and Force-Couple Systems	3.3
D: Simplifying Systems of Forces	3.4
E: Planar Centers of Gravity and Centroids	5.1-5.4
F: Moments of Inertia	9.1, 9.2

Module 3: Equilibrium of a Rigid Body Exam 3: Friday, 11/22/24 from 8:30 AM – 10:30 AM in ESCNE 2.106 (?)

A: Equilibrium in 2-D	4.1, 4.2
B: Equilibrium in 3-D	4.3
C: Frames & Machines	6.3, 6.4
D: Trusses	6.1, 6.2
E: Internal Loads	7.1, 7.2

Comprehensive Final Exam Thursday, 12/12/24 from 8:00 AM – 9:45 AM in EENGR 1.274

Scholastic Integrity:

Members of the UTRGV community uphold the [Vaquero Honor Code](#)'s shared values of honesty, integrity and mutual respect in our interactions and relationships. In this regard, academic integrity is fundamental in our actions, as any act of dishonesty conflicts as much with academic achievement as with the values of honesty and integrity. The Writing Center is an excellent resource to assist in learning about and avoiding plagiarism in writing. Violations of academic integrity include, but are not limited to: cheating, [plagiarism \(including self-plagiarism\)](#), and collusion; submission for credit of any work or materials that are attributable in whole or in part to another person; taking an examination for another person; any act designed to give unfair advantage to a student; or the attempt to commit such acts (Board of Regents Rules and Regulations, STU 02-100, and UTRGV Academic Integrity Guidelines). **All violations of Academic Integrity will be reported to Student Rights and Responsibilities through [Vaqueros Report It](#).**

Suggested Approaches on Artificial Intelligence (AI) Technologies

Generative AI technologies are growing and evolving rapidly. We have an opportunity to explore the benefits, challenges, and ethical decisions that encourage us all to reimagine our assignments and assessment practices. Relevant to how students contribute to and make knowledge in your area of study, please consider how you want to approach generative AI technologies in your courses. To learn more about AI technology, please visit [this page](#) on the Center for Online Learning and Teaching Technology website. Additionally, you may consider the suggested approaches and examples recommended on [this page](#) from the Center for Teaching Excellence. Please modify as you see fit and align to your teaching values, beliefs, and course learning objectives.

Course Drops:

According to UTRGV policy, students may drop any class without penalty earning a grade of DR (drop) until the official drop date. Following that date, students must be assigned a letter grade and can no longer drop the class. Students considering dropping the class should be aware of the “3-peat rule” and the “6-drop” rule so they can recognize how dropped classes may affect their academic success. The 6-drop rule refers to Texas law that dictates undergraduate students may not drop more than six courses during their undergraduate career. Courses dropped at other Texas public higher education institutions will count toward the six-course drop limit. The 3-peat rule refers to additional fees charged to students who take the same class for the third time.

Students can withdraw from a course through the *Office of the Registrar* on or prior to:

- September 11, 2024: Last day to drop a class before it appears on the transcript and count toward the “6-drop” limit.
- November 7, 2024: Drop/Withdrawal Deadline; last day for students to drop the course and receive a “DR” grade. After this date, students will be assigned a letter grade for the course that will count on the GPA.

Students with Disabilities:

Students with a documented disability (physical, psychological, learning, or other disability which affects academic performance) who would like to receive reasonable academic accommodations should contact **Student Accessibility Services (SAS)** for additional information. In order for accommodation requests to be considered for approval, the student must apply using the [mySAS portal](#) and is responsible for providing sufficient documentation of the disability to SAS. Students are required to participate in an interactive discussion, or an intake appointment, with SAS staff. Accommodations may be requested at any time but are not retroactive, meaning they are valid once approved by SAS. Please contact SAS early in the semester/module for guidance. Students who experience a broken bone, severe injury, or undergo surgery may also be eligible for temporary accommodations.

Pregnancy, Pregnancy-related, and Parenting Accommodations

Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 prohibits sex discrimination, which includes discrimination based on pregnancy, marital status, or parental status. Students seeking accommodations related to pregnancy, pregnancy-related condition, or parenting should submit the request using the form found at [Pregnancy and Parenting | UTRGV](#).

For questions about campus support services or public benefit programs for students who are pregnant, or parenting contact the Parenting Liaison officer in the Dean of Students Office.

Edinburg: UCTR rm. 325
Brownsville: BSTUN 1.20

Phone: 956.665.2260
Email: dos@utrgv.edu

Student Accessibility Services

Student Accessibility Services staff can be contacted at either campus to learn about and explore accessibility services.

Campus:	Brownsville	Edinburg
Location:	Student Union (BSTUN) 1.20	University Center (EUCTR, 108)
Phone:	phone (956) 882-7374	phone (956) 665-7005
e-mail	ability@utrgv.edu	

Sexual Misconduct and Mandatory Reporting:

In accordance with UT System regulations, your instructor is a “Responsible Employee” for reporting purposes under Title IX regulations and so must report to the Office of Title IX and Equal Opportunity (otixeo@utrgv.edu) any instance, occurring during a student’s time in college, of sexual misconduct, which includes sexual assault, stalking, dating violence, domestic violence, and sexual harassment, about which she/he becomes aware during this course through writing, discussion, or personal disclosure. More information can be found at www.utrgv.edu/equity, including confidential resources available on campus. The faculty and staff of UTRGV actively strive to provide a learning, working, and living environment that promotes personal integrity, civility, and mutual respect that is free from sexual misconduct, discrimination, and all forms of violence. If students, faculty, or staff would like confidential assistance, or have questions, they can contact OAVP (Office for Advocacy & Violence Prevention) at (956) 665-8287, (956) 882-8282, or OAVP@utrgv.edu.

Dean of Students

The Dean of Students office assists students when they experience a challenge with an administrative process, unexpected situation, such as an illness, accident, or family situation, and aids in resolving complaints. Additionally, the office facilitates student academic related requests for religious accommodations, support students formerly in foster care, helps to advocate on behalf of students and inform them about their rights and responsibilities, and serves as a resource and support for faculty and campus departments.

[Vaqueros Report It](#) allows students, staff, and faculty a way to report concern about the well-being of a student, seek assistance in resolving a complaint, or report allegations of behaviors contrary to community standards or campus policies. The Dean of Students can be reached by email (dos@utrgv.edu), phone (956-665-2260), (956-882-5141), or by visiting one of the following office locations: Cavalry (BCAVL) 204 or University Center (EUCTR 323).

Course Evaluation:

Students have the opportunity to complete an ONLINE evaluation of this course, accessed through your UTRGV account (<http://my.utrgv.edu>). Course evaluations are used by the instructor to better understand the student experience in the course, which can inform revisions of the course to ensure student success. Additionally, course evaluations are also used by the instructor for annual performance review and promotion applications, teaching award applications, among others. For these reasons, your feedback, reflections, and insights on your experience in the course are invaluable to ensure student success and a quality education for all. You will be contacted through email with further instructions. Students who complete their evaluations will have priority access to their grades.

Online evaluations will be available on or about:

Fall 2024 Regular Term

November 13 – December 4, 2024

Student Support Resources:

We are committed to your personal, academic, and professional success; please know you can reach out to me for questions and/or I can help you identify the resources you need. UTRGV offers student support resources designed to contribute to your well-being and academic excellence.

Students seeking academic help in their studies can use university resources in addition to an instructor’s office hours. University Resources include the Advising Center, Career Center, Counseling Center, Learning Center, and Writing Center. These centers provide services such as tutoring, writing help, counseling services, critical

thinking, study skills, degree planning, and connections student employment (through [JobX](#) and [HR Student Employment](#)). In addition, services, such as the Food Pantry are also provided. Locations are listed below.

Center Name	E-mail	Brownsville Campus	Edinburg Campus
Advising Center	AcademicAdvising@utrqv.edu	BMAIN 1.400 (956) 665-7120	EITTB 1.000 (956) 665-7120
Career Center	CareerCenter@utrqv.edu	BINAB 1.105 (956) 882-5627	ESTAC 2.101 (956) 665-2243
Counseling Center	Counseling@utrqv.edu Mental Health Counseling and Related Services List	BSTUN 2.10 (956) 882-3897	EUCTR 109 (956) 665-2574
Food Pantry	FoodPantry@utrqv.edu	BCASA Club House (956) 882-7126	EUCTR 114 (956) 665-3663
Learning Center	LearningCenter@utrqv.edu	BMSLC 2.118 (956) 882-8208	ELCTR 100 (956) 665-2585
University Library	circulation@utrqv.edu www.utrqv.edu/library	BLIBR (956) 882-8221	ELIBR (956) 665-2005
Writing Center	WC@utrqv.edu	BLIBR 3.206 (956) 882-7065	ESTAC 3.119 (956) 665-2538

Financial Need

Students who demonstrate financial need have a variety of options when it comes to paying for college costs, such as scholarships, grants, loans and work-study. Students should visit the Student Services Center (U Central) for additional information. U Central is located in BMAIN 1.100 (Brownsville) or ESSBL 1.145 (Edinburg) or can be reached by email (ucentral@utrqv.edu) or telephone: (956) 882-4026. In addition to financial aid, U Central can assist students with registration and admissions.

Blackboard Support

If you need assistance with course technology at any time, please contact the Center for Online Learning and Teaching Technology (COLTT).

Campus:	Brownsville	Edinburg
Location	Casa Bella (BCASA) 613	Marialice Shary Shivers (EMASS) 3.142
Phone	(956)-882-6792	(956)-665-5327
Toll Free	1-(866)-654-4555	
Support Tickets	Submit a Support Case via our Ask COLTT Portal	
Online Support	Chat with a Support Specialist online.	
24/7 Support	Need Blackboard assistance after hours? You can call our main office numbers, (956)-882-6792 or (956)-665-5327, to speak with a support representative.	