

MSYM 162 | Introduction to Mechanized Systems Management (1 credit hour)

Time and Place: This class will meet **in-person** on Monday, 2:00 – 2:50 pm in 15 Chase Hall.

Instructor: Dr. Deepak R. Keshwani
212 Chase Hall | dkeshwani2@unl.edu |
402.472.6714 (office) | 919.607.6388 (cell)
Note: email is the best way to get way the quickest response.

Office hours: Use [MyPLAN](#) to schedule a time for us to meet.

Course Website: Available at <http://canvas.unl.edu>

Course objectives:

- Define and apply basic terminology to characterize performance of equipment and machinery systems commonly found in agriculture, food processing and energy production. (maps to program outcome 2)
- Explore the different options in the Mechanized Systems Management program and diverse career pathways.
- Examine and reflect on expectations for ethics and professionalism as a UNL student
- Articulate personalized-strategies for success in and out of the classroom.
- Develop a sense of community with peers in the major
- Improve your written communication skills (maps to program outcome 4)

Relevance to program outcomes:

This course helps achieve the following program learning outcomes:

Outcome 2. Identify the structure, layout and function of mechanized systems including the relationships between individual components of a system.

Outcome 4. Develop professional written and oral reports to describe a mechanized system and communicate an analysis of the system that includes objectives, methods, results and recommendations.

Materials and Tools:

There is no required textbook. When appropriate, we will use hand-outs and web-based references. You will need to use a computer with internet access and Microsoft Office software.

Grading:

Final letter grades for this course will be weighted as follows:

Class participation and engagement..... 10%
Assignments (in class and HW) 90%

Final letter grades based on the final weighted percentage will tentatively be distributed as follows:

100- 97.0: A+	96.9-93.0: A	92.9-90.0: A-	
89.9-87.0: B+	86.9-83.0: B	82.9-80.0: B-	
79.9-77.0: C+	76.9-73.0: C	72.9-70.0: C-	
69.9-67.0: D+	66.9-63.0: D	62.9-60.0: D-	59.9 & below: F

Course Guidelines & Policies:

Assignments:

- Assignments that are submitted late will be assessed a penalty of 25% per day past the due date. There may be assignment-specific submission timelines that deviate from this policy.
- Assignments will be graded on content, professionalism, and grammar/punctuation. Please follow the general assignment format unless specified differently for a particular assignment.

Attendance and engagement:

Attendance and engagement in all class activities is expected. You are expected to comply with the [class attendance policy](#) of the University. I recognize that personal and professional events may sometimes conflict with class activities (i.e. life happens). Engage with me when you anticipate such conflicts so we can work together to resolve them through appropriate alternative arrangements.

Personal conduct:

- We will demonstrate professionalism in all aspects of the course. This includes but is not limited to the work we submit, how we communicate, and how we treat each other.
- Since this is a small class, there exists an opportunity for us to routinely engage in group discussions and lively debates. Let us maximize this opportunity in a respectful manner and treat each other with respect and dignity.
- This will be a device-free classroom. Your phone/tablet may be turned on (silent or vibrate mode) for emergencies. But you are expected to refrain from using your phones/laptops unless required for an in-class activity.

UNL COVID-19 information:

All faculty, staff, and students on campus are expected to follow all campus policies and procedures related to Covid-19 which can be found at <https://covid19.unl.edu/>. Please visit this website which includes information about testing, vaccinations, face coverings, and use of the Safer Community App. If you have questions, please let me know!

Student participation in course experiences that take place outside of our classroom and that involve group travel may entail the use of the Safer Community app. All participants will need to have "Access Granted" status on the app in order to travel to and participate in such experiences.

Students who have medical documentation of a health risk that cannot be mitigated through vaccination should submit a [COVID-19 Academic Flexibility Request](#). Those with a disability and/or chronic health condition that makes them high risk for the virus should seek support via [Services for Students with Disabilities](#). International students should contact the [International Student and Scholar Office](#) to discuss their options.

Academic integrity:

We are expected to adhere to guidelines concerning academic integrity outlined in the University's [Student Code of Conduct](#). The BSE Department guidelines for academic integrity, and grade and academic dishonesty appeals can be found at <http://engineering.unl.edu/bse/bse-academic-resources/>. Contact me for clarification of these guidelines if they have questions or concerns.

Accessibility:

The University strives to make all learning experiences as accessible as possible. If you anticipate or experience barriers based on your disability (including mental health, chronic or temporary medical conditions), please let me know immediately so that we can discuss options privately. To establish reasonable accommodations, I may request that you register with [Services for Students with Disabilities \(SSD\)](#). If you are eligible for services and register with their office, make arrangements with me as soon as possible to discuss your accommodations so they can be implemented in a timely manner. SSD contact information: 232 Canfield Admin. Bldg.; 402-472-3787

Overall well-being:

UNL offers a variety of options to students to aid them in dealing with stress and adversity. [Counseling and Psychological & Services \(CAPS\)](#) is a multidisciplinary team of psychologists and counselors that works collaboratively with Nebraska students to help them explore their feelings and thoughts and learn helpful ways to improve their mental, psychological and emotional well-being when issues arise. CAPS can be reached by calling 402-472-7450. [Big Red Resilience & Well-being \(BRRWB\)](#) that provides one-on-one well-being coaching to any student who wants to enhance their well-being. Trained well-being coaches help students create and be grateful for positive experiences, practice resilience and self-compassion, and find support as they need it. BRRWB can be reached by calling 402-472-8770.

More information about resources to support mental health can be found here:

<https://executivevc.unl.edu/faculty/leadership-development/tipsheets/student-mental-health-resources>

Classroom Emergency Preparedness and Response Information:

- Fire Alarm (or other evacuation): In the event of a fire alarm: Gather belongings (Purse, keys, cellphone, N-Card, etc.) and use the nearest exit to leave the building. Do not use the elevators. After exiting notify emergency personnel of the location of persons unable to exit the building. Do not return to building unless told to do so by emergency personnel.
- Tornado Warning: When sirens sound, move to the lowest interior area of building or designated shelter. Stay away from windows and stay near an inside wall when possible.
- Active Shooter
 - Evacuate: if there is a safe escape path, leave belongings behind, keep hands visible and follow police officer instructions.
 - Hide out: If evacuation is impossible secure yourself in your space by turning out lights, closing blinds and barricading doors if possible.
 - Take action: As a last resort, and only when your life is in imminent danger, attempt to disrupt and/or incapacitate the active shooter.
- UNL Alert: Notifications about serious incidents on campus are sent via text message, email, unl.edu website, and social media. For more information go to: unlalert.unl.edu.
- Additional Emergency Procedures can be found here: <https://emergency.unl.edu/>

Tentative Class Schedule (subject to change):

Week of	Topic	Assignment due (not exclusive)
23-Aug	Introductions and Course Goals and Expectations	Personal Bio Draft, syllabus quiz
30-Aug	CASNR, Dept, Major Overview, Exploring Systems	
6-Sep	No class - Labor Day	Personal Bio
13-Sep	Exploring Systems, System Performance	Machine/equipment system examples
20-Sep	Career exploration - Intern experiences	Career Exploration Assignment
27-Sep	Machinery and Equipment Systems Performance	
4-Oct	Faculty connector/Hands-on session	System performance assignment
11-Oct	Visualizing Systems	System diagram/visual
18-Oct	<i>No class - Fall Break</i>	Mid semester reflection
25-Oct	Curriculum exploration	Strengths assessment
1-Nov	Curriculum exploration	Degree Planner Assignment,
8-Nov	Strengthsfinder	Strengths self-reflection
15-Nov	Ethics/values as a student	Ethics/values assignment
22-Nov	Goal-setting (self-paced online lecture)	
29-Nov	Career exploration - Alumni experiences	
6-Dec	Goal-setting and what's next	
13-Dec	Finals week - no class	Goal-setting assignment