

Module Template for New and Revised Modules¹

Module Code	MEP55B10
Module Name	Finite Element Analysis
ECTS Weighting²	5 ECTS
Semester taught	Semester 1
Module Coordinator/s	Prof. Triona Lally Dr. Dylan Armfield Dr. Claire Conway
<u>Module Learning Outcomes</u> with reference to the <u>Graduate Attributes</u> and how they are developed in discipline	<p>On successful completion of this module, students should be able to:</p> <p>LO1. Perform analytical numerical solutions and also create the finite element code and implement it in Matlab for a range of solid mechanics problems, e.g. trusses, beams, frames, 2D plane strain/plane stress, thermal strain problem.</p> <p>LO2. Clearly demonstrate the matrix relationships between the forces and nodal displacements for different element types.</p> <p>LO3. Calculate the stiffness matrices for triangular and quadrilateral elements.</p> <p>LO4. Implement a linear and non-linear material model in a finite element code.</p> <p>LO5. Be able to critically evaluate the correct boundary/initial conditions for various problems.</p> <p>LO6. Understand the requirements of computational grid/mesh generation for FE applications.</p> <p>LO7. Gain hands-on user experience with well-known FE software packages</p> <p>LO8. Analyse different numerical techniques used to enhance the quality of the simulations.</p> <p>LO9. Implement comprehensive post-processing of numerical simulation results</p> <p>LO10. Assess numerical results both quantitatively and qualitatively to improve accuracy</p>

¹ [An Introduction to Module Design](#) from AISHE provides a great deal of information on designing and re-designing modules.

² [TEP Glossary](#)

Graduate Attributes: levels of attainment

To act responsibly - Enhanced

To think independently - Enhanced

To develop continuously - Enhanced

To communicate effectively - Enhanced

Module Content

Finite element (FE) modelling is wide-ranging in its application and is regularly employed across the engineering industry in areas such as biomedical engineering, manufacturing, aeronautical engineering, architecture, automotive, civil and structural engineering.

In this module, FE theory and implementation will be introduced and thoroughly covered. The module will focus on linear elastic materials initially then subsequently cover more advanced non-linear materials encountered in bioengineering (e.g. anisotropic soft tissues, metal plasticity). The module will also include hands-on practical classes using MATLAB and a commercial finite element software (Abaqus).

Overall, this module will provide the student with the required theoretical basis underpinning finite element simulations, as well as the practical skills to use this simulation tool effectively and accurately.

Teaching and Learning Methods

Finite Element Analysis is an optional course which is offered to 5th year MAI and MSc students and graduate students and equips students to apply FE methods as a tool for design, analysis and engineering applications.

The course material is presented in a series of lectures. The teaching material is supplemented by frequent laboratory sessions during which the students will apply the information provided during lectures to FE simulations using Matlab and existing College-licensed commercial FE software package(s). With a strong emphasis on understanding and application of the underlying methods, enthusiastic students will gain experience using commercial FE software packages by analysing well established FE problems as well as applying their knowledge to current research projects within the School of Engineering.

Assessment Details³ Please include the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assessment Component • Assessment description • Learning Outcome(s) addressed • % of total • Assessment due date 	Assessment Component	Assessment Description	LO Addressed	% of total	Week due			
	Exam	Written exam	LO1-LO3, LO5-LO6, LO8, LO10	50%	End of term			
	Class exam	Short exam based on the MATLAB based assignments throughout the semester	LO4, LO7, LO9, LO10	10%	Week 10 & 13			
	Individual project assignments	Design project using commercial FE software package	LO4, LO7, LO9, LO10	40%	Week 7, 12, & 15			
Reassessment Requirements	N/A							
Contact Hours and Indicative Student Workload³	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>Contact hours: 48</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Independent Study (preparation for course and review of materials): 20</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Independent Study (preparation for assessment, incl. completion of assessment): 60</td> </tr> </table>					Contact hours: 48	Independent Study (preparation for course and review of materials): 20	Independent Study (preparation for assessment, incl. completion of assessment): 60
Contact hours: 48								
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Recommended Reading List	<i>Finite Element Analysis: theory and practice</i> by M.J. Fagan, <i>Introduction to Finite Element Analysis Using MATLAB® and Abaqus</i> by Amar Khennane							
Module Pre-requisite								
Module Co-requisite	N/A							
Module Website	N/A							
Are other Schools/Departments involved in the delivery of this module? If yes, please provide details.	No							
Module Approval Date								

³ [TEP Guidelines on Workload and Assessment](#)

Approved by

Academic Start Year

Academic Year of Date