MINING ENGINEERING

COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING

Graduate Faculty:

Chugh, Yoginder P., Professor, Ph.D., Pennsylvania State University, 1971; 1977. Coal combustion byproduct utilization and management, rock mechanics and ground control.

Harpalani, Satya, Professor and Chair, Ph.D., University of California, Berkeley, 1985; 2002. Mine ventilation, coal bed methane reservoir engineering, in situ mining, and carbon dioxide sequestration.

Mohanty, Manoj, Professor, Ph.D., Southern Illinois University Carbondale, 1997; 2000. Coal and mineral processing, experimental design and statistical analysis.

Paul, Bradley, Associate Professor, Ph.D., University of Utah, 1989; 1990. Underground mining systems and solution mining, minerals processing, hard rock and industrial minerals, geostatistics, mine environmental studies.

Sinha, Atmesh K., Professor, Emeritus, Ph.D., University of Sheffield, England, 1963; 1975

Spearing, A.J.S. (Sam), Associate Professor, Ph.D., Technical University of Silesia, 1993; 2007. Mine design, rock mechanics, backfill, strata control and risk assessment.

Master of Science in Mining Engineering

Graduate work leading to the Master of Science degree in mining engineering is offered by the College of Engineering. The program is designed to provide advanced study in areas such as rock mechanics and ground control, mine design, mineral and coal processing, surface and underground mining systems performance optimization, innovative mining systems, surface mine reclamation, in-situ mining, mine environment and ventilation, coal bed methane reservoir engineering, carbon dioxide sequestration, and coal combustion byproduct utilization and management.

Admission

Students seeking admission to the graduate program in mining engineering must meet the admission standards set by the Graduate School and have a bachelor’s degree in engineering or its equivalent. A student whose undergraduate training is deficient may be required to take coursework without graduate credit.

This program requires a nonrefundable $50.00 application fee that must be submitted with the application for Admissions to Graduate Study in Mining Engineering. Applicants may pay this fee by credit card if applying electronically. Applicants submitting a paper application must pay by personal check, cashier’s check, or money order made out to SIU, and payable to a U.S. Bank.

Requirements

A graduate student in mining engineering is required to develop a program of study with a graduate adviser and a graduate committee. Each student majoring in mining engineering may, with the approval of the graduate committee, also take courses in other branches of engineering or in areas of science and business.

For a student who wishes to complete the requirements of the master’s degree with a thesis, a minimum of thirty semester hours of acceptable graduate credit is required. Of this total, eighteen semester hours must be earned in the mining engineering department. Each candidate is also required to pass a comprehensive oral examination covering all of the student’s graduate work including thesis.

If a student prefers the non-thesis option, a minimum of 36 semester hours of acceptable graduate credit is required. The student is expected to take at least 21 semester hours within mining engineering including no more than 3 semester hours of the appropriate 592 course to be devoted to the preparation of a research paper. In addition, each candidate is required to pass a written comprehensive examination and an oral examination on the research paper.

If a student with a mining engineering background pursues a master’s degree with double major, he or she will be required to take a minimum of 18 credits with thesis option and 22 credits with non-thesis option in mining engineering and 60% of the total credit requirements of the other department. For a student without a background in the related fields such as minerals engineering, geological engineering etc., the minimum credit requirement in Mining Engineering but in the mining department will be 24 credits with thesis option and 28 credits with non-thesis option. Additional deficiency courses will be prescribed for students with a background in non-related fields.

Each student will select a minimum of three graduate faculty members to serve as a graduate committee, subject to the approval of the chair of the Department of MMRE. It is strongly suggested that at least one member is from another department within or outside the College of Engineering. The committee will:

1. approve the student’s program of study,
2. approve the student’s research topic,
3. approve the completed research paper or thesis, and

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4. administer and approve the written, or oral, comprehensive examination.

Teaching or research assistantships and fellowships are available for qualified applicants. Additional information about the program, courses, assistantships, and fellowships may be obtained from the College of Engineering or the Department of Mining and Mineral Resources Engineering.

Courses (MNGE)

401-1 Mining Environmental Impacts and Permits. Socio-economic impacts of mining industry. Analyzing the markets for coal and its products. Mining operations and related environmental impacts. Mining permits. Prerequisite: 270 or consent of instructor.

417-3 Statistics, Probability, and Modeling. Basic concepts of probability and statistics, analysis of engineering data, fitting data to distribution functions. Modeling of engineering systems and optimization. Project management techniques and system stimulation. Prerequisites: Math 250 or consent of instructor.

420-4 Mineral and Coal Processing. Principles of processing minerals, aggregates and coal, including unit operations of comminution, classification, solid-solid separation, dewatering and tailings disposal. Laboratory investigations of the fundamental principles governing unit operations including size reduction, mineral liberation, classification, mineral recovery and dewatering. Laboratory. Prerequisite: MNGE 270, Chemistry 200, Physics 205A, Mathematics 250, Civil Engineering 370 or concurrent enrollment. Special approval needed from the instructor.

421-3 Mineral Processing Plant Design. Engineering design of unit operations used for minerals, aggregates and coal processing including crushing, grinding, industrial screening, classification, gravity separation, flotation and dewatering. Overall plant performance optimization and flow sheet design. Prerequisite: MNGE 417 or concurrent enrollment and MNGE 420. Special approval needed from the instructor.

430-3 Economics of Mineral Resources. Economics of mineral resources. Investment decision making criteria; economic viability of mining projects, financing mining projects; sensitivity and risk analyses. Prerequisite: MNGE 270, Engineering 361, or consent of instructor.

431-4 Rock Mechanics: Principles and Design. Analysis of stress and strain, elementary elasticity, stress distribution around openings, engineering properties of rocks, artificial support and reinforcement, slope stability. Laboratory. Prerequisite: Civil Engineering 350. Special approval needed from the instructor for graduate students and non-majors.

435-3 Application of Operations Research to Mining. Mine systems analysis, operations research and statistics in decision making, production engineering, optimization, linear programming, simulation. Prerequisite: 270, knowledge of linear algebra, or consent of instructor.

450-3 Industrial Minerals. Mining, Processing and Utilization aspects of key industrial minerals with special emphasis on the aggregates industry. Prerequisite: 270, 420 or consent of instructor.

455-3 Mine Environment, Health and Safety Engineering. Analysis of mine environmental impacts and their mitigation, safety problems and rules and regulations, hazards and accidents. Sealing and recovery of mines. Design of mine emergency plans, safety methods, and health hazard control plans. Acid mine drainage, minerals waste disposal environmental remediation. Prerequisite: 310, 315, consent of instructor. Mining industrial experience will be accepted lieu of prerequisites.

460-3 Senior Design. Projects in planning and design of surface and underground mining systems. Evaluate and design mining subsystems; integrate subsystems and procedures into a preliminary mine design; and optimize operations from exploration to closure. Two lectures and two two-hour laboratories per week. Prerequisite: 310, 315, 420, 425, 431, or consent of instructor.

475-3 Analysis and Design of Mine Excavations. Rock classification; design of shafts, slopes, tunnels and underground chambers; support requirements; design of slopes; design of underground mining systems from ground control point of view; design of impoundments. Prerequisite: MNGE 310, 315, and 431. Special approval needed from the instructor for graduate students and non-majors.

511-3 Advanced Ground Control. Ground control in viscoelastic, plastic, and jointed rocks, artificial rock stabilization, in-situ stresses, minimizing structural damage due to subsidence, bumps and rock bursts. Prerequisite: MNGE 431 or consent of instructor.

519-2 Advanced Mine Environment and Pollution Control. Study of the design of coal dust control plan; methane control. Design of mine illumination system, noise control and water pollution control. Prerequisite: MNGE 410, MNGE 415.

521-3 Mineral Processing Design and Simulation. Mineral processing related unit process design, modeling and simulation of selected processes, complete plant flowsheet development and optimization of plant performance; modeling and simulation experience through multiple class projects. Prerequisite: MNGE 420, MNGE 421 or concurrent enrollment or consent of instructor.

530-3 Mine Management. Concepts of probability and statistics, analysis of engineering data, fitting data to distribution function. Modeling of engineering systems and optimization using linear programming, project management principles and system simulation. Special approval needed from the instructor.
535-3 Rock Fragmentation. Principles of rock fragmentation, cutting and drilling, mechanics of rock penetration, drillablility indices, use of explosives in rock fragmentation, design of blasting patterns in surface and underground mines, prevention of airblast and noise due to blasting, chemical fragmentation. Prerequisite: MNGE 431 or consent of instructor.

540-3 Production Engineering in Coal Mines. Operations analyses of production cycles in surface and underground coal mining systems, mine planning and design using computer models, computer simulation, economic analysis of mining systems. Prerequisite: MNGE 435 or consent of instructor.

545-3 Tunnelling. Tunnelling through consolidated and unconsolidated geologic materials—cut and cover, drilling and blasting, and rapid excavation tunnelling techniques. Classification systems for geologic materials, hydrological investigations, tunnel linings—types, requirements and their design. Instrumentation. Prerequisite: MNGE 431 or equivalent, or consent of instructor.

550-3 Industrial Minerals. Processing of key industrial minerals including Kaolin Clay, Talc, Mica, Carbonates and Aggregates. Ultra fine grinding and surface property based separation processes. Mining and Utilization aspects. Prerequisite: MNGE 270, MNGE 420, MNGE 421 or consent of instructor.

580-1 to 2 Seminar. Collective and/or individual studies in coal extraction or utilization.

592-1 to 5 Special Investigations. Special studies of coal extraction or utilization problems.

599-1 to 6 Thesis.

601-1 per semester Continuing Enrollment. For those graduate students who have not finished their degree programs and who are in the process of working on their dissertation, thesis, or research paper. The student must have completed a minimum of 24 hours of dissertation research, or the minimum thesis, or research hours before being eligible to register for this course. Concurrent enrollment in any other course is not permitted. Graded S/U or DEF only.