

SYE4064: RELIABILITY ENGINEERING

Effective Term

Semester A 2025/26

Part I Course Overview

Course Title

Reliability Engineering

Subject Code

SYE - Systems Engineering

Course Number

4064

Academic Unit

Systems Engineering (SYE)

College/School

College of Engineering (EG)

Course Duration

One Semester

Credit Units

3

Level

B1, B2, B3, B4 - Bachelor's Degree

Medium of Instruction

English

Medium of Assessment

English

Prerequisites

ADSE3102 Quality Engineering / SYE3102 Quality Engineering / SDSC3102 Quality Technologies

Precursors

Nil

Equivalent Courses

SEEM4064 Reliability Engineering or
ADSE4064 Reliability Engineering

Exclusive Courses

Nil

Part II Course Details

Abstract

The students will be equipped with knowledge of concepts, methodology, and tools of reliability engineering. On completion of the course, the students should be able to construct models to estimate and improve the reliability of manufactured products and components.

Course Intended Learning Outcomes (CILOs)

CILOs		Weighting (if DEC-A1 DEC-A2 DEC-A3 app.)			
1	Define the concepts of reliability, common reliability functions, parameters and methods of their modeling and prediction.	10	x		
2	Identify importance of statistical distributions for modeling failure data, and the physical meanings of model parameters.	20	x		
3	Estimate reliability functions and parameters of an item using life testing, Weibull and hazard plotting, stress-stress analysis, and relevant reliability databases.	20		x	
4	Determine system reliability using reliability block diagram, fault tree and event tree.	20		x	
5	Evaluate maintainability and availability of product/component systems, and different maintenance strategies.	20			x
6	Describe the benefits and elements of reliability program and product liability management.	10			x

A1: Attitude

Develop an attitude of discovery/innovation/creativity, as demonstrated by students possessing a strong sense of curiosity, asking questions actively, challenging assumptions or engaging in inquiry together with teachers.

A2: Ability

Develop the ability/skill needed to discover/innovate/create, as demonstrated by students possessing critical thinking skills to assess ideas, acquiring research skills, synthesizing knowledge across disciplines or applying academic knowledge to real-life problems.

A3: Accomplishments

Demonstrate accomplishment of discovery/innovation/creativity through producing /constructing creative works/new artefacts, effective solutions to real-life problems or new processes.

Learning and Teaching Activities (LTAs)

LTAs	Brief Description	CILO No.	Hours/week (if applicable)
1	Classroom Activities	Learning through teaching is primarily based on lectures. Mini-lectures and small-group exercises will be used to facilitate conceptual understanding and industrial applications of various reliability modeling and prediction methods.	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
			39 hours/ semester

2	Tutorial Exercises	The team-based exercises provide students with the opportunities to i/ familiarize and apply the statistical tools learnt during the lectures through practical problem solving, and ii/ appreciate the use of commercial reliability analysis software Relx in modeling and prediction of item and system reliability.	3, 4, 5	10 hours/ semester
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Assessment Tasks / Activities (ATs)

	ATs	CILO No.	Weighting (%)	Remarks ("- " for nil entry)	Allow Use of GenAI?
1	Quiz(es)	1, 2, 3, 4	10	-	No
2	Tutorial Exercises	2, 3, 4, 5	10	-	No
3	Project report	1, 4, 5, 6	30	-	Yes

Continuous Assessment (%)

50

Examination (%)

50

Examination Duration (Hours)

2

Minimum Continuous Assessment Passing Requirement (%)

30

Minimum Examination Passing Requirement (%)

30

Assessment Rubrics (AR)**Assessment Task**

Quiz(s)

Criterion

30 – 40 minutes short quiz(s) to assess students' understanding of the reliability concepts and the modeling and prediction techniques introduced in the lectures.

Excellent (A+, A, A-)

High

Good (B+, B, B-)

Significant

Fair (C+, C, C-)

Moderate

Marginal (D)

Basic

Failure (F)

Not even reaching marginal levels

Assessment Task

Tutorial Exercises

Criterion

Students' ability to analyze reliability data, apply relevant statistical tools with the help of software, and draw informed conclusions in solving practical reliability problems are assessed. Explanation and presentation of results are also assessed.

Excellent (A+, A, A-)

High

Good (B+, B, B-)

Significant

Fair (C+, C, C-)

Moderate

Marginal (D)

Basic

Failure (F)

Not even reaching marginal levels

Assessment Task

Project report

Criterion

The project report assesses students' ability to design, conduct and analyze reliability experiments using the tools and techniques covered in the course. Interpretations of the numerical results and their practical implications are particularly sought for.

Excellent (A+, A, A-)

High

Good (B+, B, B-)

Significant

Fair (C+, C, C-)

Moderate

Marginal (D)

Basic

Failure (F)

Not even reaching marginal levels

Assessment Task

Examination

Criterion

Examination questions are designed to assess student's level of achievement of the intended learning outcomes, with balanced emphasis placed on both conceptual understanding and practical applications of the various reliability modeling and prediction methods introduced.

Excellent (A+, A, A-)

High

Good (B+, B, B-)

Significant

Fair (C+, C, C-)

Moderate

Marginal (D)

Basic

Failure (F)

Not even reaching marginal levels

Additional Information for AR

The quiz(s), tutorial exercises and laboratory report will be numerically-marked, while examination will be numerically-marked and grades-awarded accordingly.

Part III Other Information

Keyword Syllabus

- **Concepts and Mathematical Models for Reliability**
 - Concept of reliability, quality and safety, probability and distributions for reliability
- **Reliability and Life Cycle**
 - Reliability parameters: MTTF and failure rate; failure model and pattern – Normal/Exponential/Weibull distribution; bathtub curve and life cycle;
- **Reliability Testing and Estimation**
 - Burn-in testing, accelerated life testing, point and interval estimation of parameters from observed data, analysis of censored data, stress-strength analysis
- **Databases of failure rates of electronics/mechanical components**
 - MIL-HDBK-217, Bellcore (Telcordia) reliability prediction procedure for electronic equipment, reliability estimation using general failure rate data
- **System Reliability and Redundancy**
 - Reliability block diagram, parallel and series configuration, active and standby redundancy, redundancy allocation
- **System Safety Analysis**
 - Fault tree, event tree, FMEA, Qualitative/quantitative approaches, minimum cut-set
- **Maintainability and Availability**
 - Maintenance time distribution, maintenance strategy, maintainability prediction and design, repairable systems, reliability growth,
- **Reliability Management**

Reliability function and management in organization, reliability of internet-of-things and cyber-physical systems, product safety and liability

Reading List

Compulsory Readings

Title	
1	Nil

Additional Readings

Title	
1	E.A. Elsayed, Reliability Engineering. Wiley, 2021.
2	Charles, E. Ebeling, An Introduction to Reliability and Maintainability Engineering, McGraw-HILL, 2019
3	A Birolini, Reliability Engineering Theory and Practice, Springer, 2017.