Module Specification

Fundamental Robotics Principles

Version: 2025-26, v3.0, 23 Apr 2025

Contents

Part 1: Information

Module title: Fundamental Robotics Principles

Module code: UFMFKT-30-1

Level: Level 4

For implementation from: 2025-26

UWE credit rating: 30

ECTS credit rating: 15

College: College of Arts, Technology and Environment

School: CATE School of Engineering

Partner institutions: None

Field: Engineering, Design and Mathematics

Module type: Module

Pre-requisites: None

Excluded combinations: None

Co-requisites: None

Continuing professional development: No

Professional, statutory or regulatory body requirements: None

Part 2: Description

Overview: This module introduces students to robotics, mechatronics and artificial intelligence (AI). Students will study mechanical movement (low-level control) and aspects of AI to provide a degree of autonomy (high level control) for a robot. Students will develop an understanding of robot components and decision making algorithms in order to design virtual intelligent robots. The learning is supported with simulation tools and practical experiments.

Features: Not applicable

Educational aims: The module equips students with the knowledge and understanding of theories, principles and applications of robotic systems. It introduces activities designed to develop their competencies in innovative, critical and systems thinking.

Outline syllabus: Introduction to robotic movement and mechatronics

Awareness of various categories of robots and their applications

Principles of robotic mechatronics; mechanical/electrical/electronic integration

Sensing and actuating technology

Basic concepts on kinematics, statics, dynamics, and control of robots.
Automation

Artificial intelligence for robotics

A brief history of artificial intelligence in robotics

Task-oriented control; concepts of planning and problem solving

Concepts of behavioural robotics

Artificial intelligence algorithms

Part 3: Teaching and learning methods

Teaching and learning methods: A combination of lectures and lab demonstrations are used to present core topics from the syllabus. Laboratory sessions are used for familiarisation of simulation software, and development of solutions.

Independent learning includes hours engaged with essential reading, and laboratory

based development work undertaken outside the scheduled classes. Students will be expected to maintain a logbook of the work during practical sessions.

Module Learning outcomes: On successful completion of this module students will achieve the following learning outcomes.

MO1 Define and examine fundamental principles in robotic hardware and robot motion.

MO2 Model robotic movement through the use of appropriate mathematical techniques.

MO3 Design artificial intelligence solutions to given simulated robotics problems.

MO4 Maintain and write a record of experimental notes that align with industrial practice.

Hours to be allocated: 300

Contact hours:

Independent study/self-guided study = 228 hours

Face-to-face learning = 72 hours

Reading list: The reading list for this module can be accessed at readinglists.uwe.ac.uk via the following link https://rl.talis.com/3/uwe/lists/0BF64E20-21D0-0130-9EDF-EB6856705E86.html

Part 4: Assessment

Assessment strategy: There will be an assessment of the learning outcomes to be submitted at the end of each teaching block of the module.

A group report (2500 word max.) based on a project developed during the practical sessions of one teaching block (50%).
An individual laboratory report of practical computer based exercises set during the practical sessions of the other teaching block (50%).

Resit Strategy:

The resit assessment will have the same structure as the first sit except that the groupwork project report will be based on the number of students resitting. If only one student is resitting, the groupwork will be scaled accordingly.

Assessment tasks:

Laboratory Report (First Sit)
Description: A selection of lab exercises, each of approx. 1 to 2 pages of programmed code
Weighting: 50 %
Final assessment: No
Group work: No
Learning outcomes tested: MO2, MO4

Report (First Sit)
Description: Group report (2500 words max).
Weighting: 50 %
Final assessment: Yes
Group work: Yes
Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO3

Laboratory Report (Resit)
Description: A selection of lab exercises, each of approx. 1 to 2 pages of programmed code
Weighting: 50 %
Final assessment: No
Group work: No
Learning outcomes tested: MO2, MO4

Report (Resit)
Description: Group report (2500 words max).
Weighting: 50 %
Final assessment: Yes
Group work: Yes

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO3

Part 5: Contributes towards

This module contributes towards the following programmes of study:

Robotics {Foundation} [Frenchay] BEng (Hons) 2024-25

Robotics {Foundation} [Frenchay] BEng (Hons) 2024-25

Robotics {Foundation} [Frenchay] BEng (Hons) 2024-25

Robotics [Frenchay] BEng (Hons) 2025-26

Robotics [Frenchay] BEng (Hons) 2025-26

Robotics {Foundation} [Frenchay] BEng (Hons) 2024-25