

ES4E0-15 Renewable Energy

24/25

Department

School of Engineering

Level

Undergraduate Level 4

Module leader

Stan Shire

Credit value

15

Module duration

10 weeks

Assessment

100% exam

Study location

University of Warwick main campus, Coventry

Description

Introductory description

ES4E0-15 Renewable Energy

[Module web page](#)

Module aims

The module is intended to present and assess some of the important renewable energy technologies and give some sense of the engineering design and development of some of these technologies. Starting with a brief outline of existing and proposed renewable energy systems, the course adopts an active solution-seeking approach, assessing these technologies against economic, engineering and other criteria.

Two of the most promising technologies, wind power, and solar energy are treated in some depth as an example of optimisation in mechanical and electrical engineering design. Other technologies studied include geothermal, biomass, ocean and hydro power.

Outline syllabus

This is an indicative module outline only to give an indication of the sort of topics that may be covered. Actual sessions held may differ.

Overview of renewable energy:

Resource scale and availability.

Available technologies and challenges.

Technical and economical assessment of renewable technologies.

Detailed technical study of two major renewable energy technologies:

Solar energy: solar thermal & solar PV, current technology and future potential.

Wind energy: wind turbine configurations and power generating technologies.

Broad study of technologies with less potential:

Hydro power energy: Principles of hydro power technology.

Ocean current, tidal & wave energy: technology, economics, challenges and R&D.

Ground source and geothermal energy: principles, operation, future scope.

Biomass and Bioenergy: resources, sustainability, processing, combustion, scope.

Learning outcomes

By the end of the module, students should be able to:

- Interpret, apply and resolve the scientific concepts and principles underpinning renewable energy technologies. [M1, M2]
- Evaluate design processes and methodologies for renewable energy systems and apply them to new situations. [M6, M13]
- Autonomously apply mathematical models for solving problems in renewable energy systems, critique these methods and advance independent hypotheses for the scope of their applicability and the limitations of these models for practical application. [M3]
- Discuss current practice and its limitations as well as likely new and advanced developments at the forefront of renewable energy technology. [M4, M13]

Indicative reading list

1. Solar Energy Engineering, Kalogirou, S.A., 2nd Edition, Academic Press, 2013. E-book ISBN 9780123972569.
2. Solar Engineering of Thermal Processes, Duffie JA and Beckman WA, John Wiley & Sons. 2013. ISBN: 978-0-470-87366-3
3. Understanding renewable Energy Systems. Quashning V. Earthcan. 2005. ISBN 978-1-84407-128-9
4. Renewable Electricity and the Grid. Boyle G (ed). Earthscan. 2007. ISBN 978-1-84407-418-1.
5. Freris L, Principles of Wind Energy Conversion, Prentice Hall, 1990. ISBN: 9780139605277.
6. The Design and Sizing of Active Solar Thermal Systems. Reddy TA. Oxford University Press. 1987. ISBN 978-0198590163
7. Wind Turbine Technology. Spera A (ed). ASME Press. 2009. ISBN: 0-7918-0260-4 .

Subject specific skills

TBC

Transferable skills

TBC

Study

Study time

Type	Required
Lectures	20 sessions of 1 hour (13%)
Seminars	2 sessions of 1 hour (1%)
Online learning (independent)	30 sessions of 30 minutes (10%)
Private study	113 hours (75%)
Total	150 hours

Private study description

Guided Independent Learning 113 hrs.

Costs

No further costs have been identified for this module.

Assessment

You must pass all assessment components to pass the module.

Assessment group BB

	Weighting	Study time
Written exam	100%	
3 hours written exam (closed book)		

- Answerbook Green (8 page)
- Students may use a calculator
- Engineering Data Book 8th Edition

Feedback on assessment

Numerical scoring for each individual student's exam script.

Cohort level feedback on examinations.

[Past exam papers for ES4E0](#)

Availability

Courses

This module is Core for:

- Year 4 of UESA-H316 MEng Mechanical Engineering
- Year 5 of UESA-H317 MEng Mechanical Engineering with Intercalated Year
- Year 1 of TESA-H341 Postgraduate Taught Advanced Mechanical Engineering

This module is Optional for:

- Year 1 of TESA-H642 Postgraduate Taught Energy and Power Engineering

This module is Core option list A for:

- Year 4 of UESA-H217 MEng Civil Engineering
- Year 5 of UESA-H218 MEng Civil Engineering with Intercalated Year