Mining Engineering

Degrees Offered

- Master of Engineering (Engineer of Mines)
- Master of Science (Mining and Earth Systems Engineering)
- Doctor of Philosophy (Mining and Earth Systems Engineering)

Program Description

The program has two distinctive, but inherently interwoven specialties.

The Mining Engineering area or specialty is predominantly for mining engineers and it is directed towards the traditional mining engineering fields. Graduate work is normally centered around subject areas such as mine planning and development, computer aided mine design, rock mechanics, operations research applied to the mineral industry, environment and sustainability considerations, mine mechanization, mine evaluation, finance and management and similar mining engineering topics.

The Earth Systems Engineering area or specialty is designed to be distinctly interdisciplinary by merging the mining engineering fundamentals with civil, geotechnical, environmental or other engineering into advanced study tracks in earth systems, rock mechanics and earth structural systems, underground excavation, and construction systems. This specialty is open for engineers with different sub-disciplinary backgrounds, but interested in working and/or considering performing research in mining, tunneling, excavation and underground construction areas.

Graduate work is normally centered around subject areas such as site characterization, environmental aspects, underground construction and tunneling (including microtunneling), excavation methods and equipment, mechanization of mines and underground construction, environmental and management aspects, modeling and design in geoengineering.

Program Requirements

The Master of Science degree in Mining and Earth Systems Engineering has two options available. Master of Science - Thesis and Master of Science - Non-Thesis.

Thesis Option

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course work (minimum)</th>
<th>21.0</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Research, approved by the graduate committee</td>
<td>9.0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Semester Hrs</td>
<td>30.0</td>
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Non-Thesis Option

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<tr>
<th>Course work (minimum) *</th>
<th>30.0</th>
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<tr>
<td>* Six (6) credit hours may be applied towards the analytical report writing, if required.</td>
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The Master of Engineering degree (Engineer of Mines) in Mining Engineering includes all the requirements for the M.S. degree, with the sole exception that an “engineering report” is required rather than a Master’s Thesis.

The Doctor of Philosophy degree in Mining and Earth Systems Engineering requires a total of 72 credit hours, beyond the bachelor’s degree.

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<th>Course work (maximum)</th>
<th>48.0</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Research (minimum)</td>
<td>24.0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Semester Hrs</td>
<td>72.0</td>
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Those with an MSc in an appropriate field may transfer a maximum of 30 credit hours of course work towards the 48 credit hour requirement upon the approval of the advisor and thesis committee. The thesis must be successfully defended before a doctoral committee.

Prerequisites

Students entering a graduate program for the master’s or doctor’s degree are expected to have had much the same undergraduate training as that required at Colorado School of Mines in mining, if they are interested in the traditional mining specialty. Students interested in the Earth Systems engineering specialty with different engineering sub-disciplinary background may also require special mining engineering subjects depending upon their graduate program. Deficiencies if any, will be determined by the Department of Mining Engineering on the basis of students’ education, experience, and graduate study.

For specific information on prerequisites, students are encouraged to refer to a copy of the Mining Engineering Department’s Departmental Guidelines and Regulations (bulletin.mines.edu/graduate/programs) for Graduate Students, available from the Mining Engineering Department.

Required Curriculum

Graduate students, depending upon their specialty and background may be required to complete two of the three core courses listed below during their program of study at CSM. These courses are:

- MNGN508 ADVANCED ROCK MECHANICS 3.0
- MNGN512 SURFACE MINE DESIGN 3.0
- MNGN516 UNDERGROUND MINE DESIGN 3.0

In addition, all full-time graduate students are required to register for and attend MNGN625 - Graduate Mining Seminar each semester while in residence, except in the case of extreme circumstances. For these circumstances, consideration will be given on a case-by-case basis by the coordinator or the Department Head. It is expected that part time students participate in MNGN625 as determined by the course coordinator or the Department Head. Although it is mandatory to enroll in MNGN625 each semester, this course will only count as one credit hour for the total program.

Fields of Research

The Mining Engineering Department focuses on the following fundamental areas:

- Geomechanics, Rock Mechanics and Stability of Underground and Surface Excavations
- Computerized Mine Design and Related Applications (including Geostatistical Modeling)
- Advanced Integrated Mining Systems Incorporating Mine Mechanization and Mechanical Mining Systems
- Underground Excavation (Tunneling) and Construction
Courses

GOGN501. SITE INVESTIGATION AND CHARACTERIZATION. 3.0 Semester Hrs.
An applications oriented course covering: geological data collection, geophysical methods for site investigation; hydrological data collection; materials properties determination; and various engineering classification systems. Presentation of data in a format suitable for subsequent engineering design will be emphasized. Prerequisite: Introductory courses in geology, rock mechanics, and soil mechanics. 3 hours lecture; 3 semester hours.

GOGN502. SOLID MECHANICS APPLIED TO ROCKS. 3.0 Semester Hrs.
An introduction to the deformation and failure of rocks and rock masses and to the flow of groundwater. Principles of displacement, strain and stress, together with the equations of equilibrium are discussed. Elastic and plastic constitutive laws, with and without time dependence, are introduced. Concepts of strain hardening and softening are summarized. Energy principles, energy changes caused by underground excavations, stable and unstable equilibria are defined. Failure criteria for intact rock and rock masses are explained. Principles of numerical techniques are discussed and illustrated. Basic laws and modeling of groundwater flows are introduced. Prerequisite: Introductory Rock Mechanics. 3 hours lecture; 3 semester hours.

GOGN503. CHARACTERIZATION AND MODELING LABORATORY. 3.0 Semester Hrs.
An applications oriented course covering: Advanced rock testing procedures; dynamic rock properties determination; on-site measurements; and various rock mass modeling approaches. Presentation of data in a format suitable for subsequent engineering design will be emphasized. Prerequisite: Introductory courses in geology, rock mechanics, and soil mechanics. 3 hours lecture; 3 semester hours.

GOGN504. SURFACE STRUCTURES IN EARTH MATERIALS. 3.0 Semester Hrs.

GOGN505. UNDERGROUND EXCAVATION IN ROCK. 3.0 Semester Hrs.
Components of stress, stress distributions, underground excavation failure mechanisms, optimum orientation and shape of excavations, excavation stability, excavation support design, ground treatment and rock pre-reinforcement, drill and blast excavations, mechanical excavation, material haulage, ventilation and power supply, labor requirements and training, scheduling and costing of underground excavations, and case histories. Prerequisites: GOGN501, GOGN502, GOGN503. 3 hours lecture; 3 semester hours.

GOGN625. GEO-ENGINEERING SEMINAR. 1.0 Semester Hr.
Discussions presented by graduate students, staff, and visiting lectures on research and development topics of general interest. Required of all graduate students in Geo-Engineering every semester, during residence. Prerequisite: Enrollment in Geo-Engineering Program. 1 semester hour upon completion of thesis or residence.
MNGN501. REGULATORY MINING LAWS AND CONTRACTS. 3.0 Semester Hrs.
(I) Basic fundamentals of engineering law, regulations of federal and state laws pertaining to the mineral industry and environment control. Basic concepts of mining contracts. Offered in even numbered years. Prerequisite: Senior or graduate status. 3 hours lecture; 3 semester hours. Offered in even years.

MNGN503. MINING TECHNOLOGY FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT. 3.0 Semester Hrs.
(I, II) The primary focus of this course is to provide students an understanding of the fundamental principles of sustainability and how they influence the technical components of a mine's life cycle, beginning during project feasibility and extending through operations to closure and site reclamation. Course discussions will address a wide range of traditional engineering topics that have specific relevance and impact to local and regional communities, such as mining methods and systems, mine plant design and layout, mine operations and supervision, resource utilization and cutoff grades, and labor. The course will emphasize the importance of integrating social, political, and economic considerations into technical decision-making and problem solving. 3 hours lecture; 3 semester hours.

MNGN504. TUNNELING. 3.0 Semester Hrs.
(II) Modern tunneling techniques. Emphasis on evaluation of ground conditions. Estimation of support requirements, methods of tunnel driving and boring, design systems and equipment, and safety. Prerequisite: none. 3 hours lecture; 3 semester hours.

MNGN505. ROCK MECHANICS IN MINING. 3.0 Semester Hrs.
(I) The course deals with the rock mechanics aspect of design of mine layouts developed in both underground and surface. Underground mining sections include design of coal and hard rock pillars, mine layout design for tabular and massive ore bodies, assessment of caving characteristics or ore bodies, performance and application of backfill, and phenomenon of rock burst and its alleviation. Surface mining portion covers rock mass characterization, failure modes of slopes excavated in rock masses, probabilistic and deterministic approaches to design of slopes, and remedial measures for slope stability problems. Prerequisite: MN321 or equivalent. 3 hours lecture; 3 semester hours.

MNGN506. DESIGN AND SUPPORT OF UNDERGROUND EXCAVATIONS. 3.0 Semester Hrs.
Design of underground excavations and support. Analysis of stress and rock mass deformations around excavations using analytical and numerical methods. Collections, preparation, and evaluation of in situ and laboratory data for excavation design. Use of rock mass rating systems for site characterization and excavation design. Study of support types and selection of support for underground excavations. Use of numerical models for design of shafts, tunnels and large chambers. Prerequisite: none. 3 hours lecture; 3 semester hours. Offered in odd years.

MNGN507. ADVANCED DRILLING AND BLASTING. 3.0 Semester Hrs.
(I) An advanced study of the theories of rock penetration including percussion, rotary, and rotary percussion drilling. Rock fragmentation including explosives and the theories of blasting rock. Application of theory to drilling and blasting practice at mines, pits, and quarries. Prerequisite: MNGN407. 3 hours lecture; 3 semester hours. Offered in odd years.

MNGN508. ADVANCED ROCK MECHANICS. 3.0 Semester Hrs.

MNGN509. EXCAVATION PROJECT MANAGEMENT. 2.0 Semester Hrs.
Equivalent with GOGN506.
(II) Successful implementation and management of surface and underground construction projects, preparation of contract documents, project bidding and estimating, contract awarding and notice to proceed, value engineering, risk management, construction management and dispute resolution, evaluation of differing site conditions claims. Prerequisite: MNGN210, 2 hour lecture, 2 semester hours.

MNGN510. FUNDAMENTALS OF MINING AND MINERAL RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT. 3.0 Semester Hrs.
Specifically designed for non-majors, the primary focus of this course is to provide students with a fundamental understanding of how mineral resources are found, developed, mined, and ultimately reclaimed. The course will present a wide range of traditional engineering and economic topics related to: exploration and resource characterization, project feasibility, mining methods and systems, mine plant design and layout, mine operations and scheduling, labor, and environmental and safety considerations. The course will emphasize the importance of integrating social (human), political, and environmental issues into technical decision-making and design. 3 hours lecture; 3 semester hours.

MNGN511. MINING INVESTIGATIONS. 2-4 Semester Hr.
(I, II) Investigational problems associated with any important aspect of mining. Choice of problem is arranged between student and instructor. Prerequisite: none. Lecture, consultation, lab, and assigned reading; 2 to 4 semester hours.

MNGN512. SURFACE MINE DESIGN. 3.0 Semester Hrs.
Analysis of elements of surface mine operation and design of surface mining system components with emphasis on minimization of adverse environmental impact and maximization of efficient use of mineral resources. Ore estimates, unit operations, equipment selection, final pit determinations, short- and long-range planning, road layouts, dump planning, and cost estimation. Prerequisite: MNGN210. 3 hours lecture; 3 semester hours.

MNGN514. MINING ROBOTICS. 3.0 Semester Hrs.
(I) Fundamentals of robotics as applied to the mining industry. The focus is on mobile robotic vehicles. Topics covered are mining applications, introduction and history of mobile robotics, sensors, including vision, problems of sensing variations in rock properties, problems of representing human knowledge in control systems, machine condition diagnostics, kinematics, and path finding. Prerequisite: CSCI404. 3 hours lecture; 3 semester hours. Offered in odd years.
MNGN515. MINE MECHANIZATION AND AUTOMATION. 3.0 Semester Hrs.
This course will provide an in-depth study of the current state of the art and future trends in mine mechanization and mine automation systems for both surface and underground mining, review the infrastructure required to support mine automation, and analyze the potential economic and health and safety benefits. Prerequisite: MNGN312, MNGN314, MNGN316. 2 hours lecture, 3 hours lab; 3 semester hours. Fall of odd years.

MNGN516. UNDERGROUND MINE DESIGN. 3.0 Semester Hrs.
Selection, design, and development of most suitable underground mining methods based upon the physical and the geological properties of mineral deposits (metallics and nonmetals), conservation considerations, and associated environmental impacts. Reserve estimates, development and production planning, engineering drawings for development and extraction, underground haulage systems, and cost estimates. Prerequisite: MNGN210. 2 hours lecture, 3 hours lab; 3 semester hours.

MNGN517. ADVANCED UNDERGROUND MINING. 3.0 Semester Hrs.
(I) Review and evaluation of new developments in advanced underground mining systems to achieve improved productivity and reduced costs. The major topics covered include: mechanical excavation techniques for mine development and production, new haulage and vertical conveyance systems, advanced ground support and roof control methods, mine automation and monitoring, new mining systems and future trends in automated, high productivity mining schemes. Prerequisite: Underground Mine Design (e.g., MNGN314). 3 hours lecture; 3 semester hours.

MNGN518. ADVANCED BULK UNDERGROUND MINING TECHNIQUES. 3.0 Semester Hrs.
This course will provide advanced knowledge and understanding of the current state-of-the-art in design, development, and production in underground hard rock mining using bulk-mining methods. Design and layout of sublevel caving, block caving, open stoping and blasthole stoping systems. Equipment selection, production scheduling, ventilation design, and mining costs. Prerequisites: MNGN314, MNGN516. 2 hours lecture, 3 hours lab; 3 semester hours. Spring of odd years.

MNGN519. ADVANCED SURFACE COAL MINE DESIGN. 3.0 Semester Hrs.
(I) Review of current manual and computer methods of reserve estimation, mine design, equipment selection, and mine planning and scheduling. Course includes design of a surface coal mine for a given case study and comparison of manual and computer results. Prerequisite: MNGN312, 316, 427. 2 hours lecture, 3 hours lab; 3 semester hours. Offered in odd years.

MNGN520. ROCK MECHANICS IN UNDERGROUND COAL MINING. 3.0 Semester Hrs.
(I) Rock mechanics consideration in the design of room-and-pillar, longwall, and shortwall coal mining systems. Evaluation of bump and outburst conditions and remedial measures. Methane drainage systems. Surface subsidence evaluation. Prerequisite: MNGN321. 3 hours lecture; 3 semester hours. Offered in odd years.

MNGN522. FLOTATION. 3.0 Semester Hrs.
Science and engineering governing the practice of mineral concentration by flotation. Interfacial phenomena, flotation reagents, mineral-reagent interactions, and zeta-potential are covered. Flotation circuit design and evaluation as well as tailings handling are also covered. The course also includes laboratory demonstrations of some fundamental concepts. 3 hours lecture; 3 semester hours.

MNGN523. SELECTED TOPICS. 2-4 Semester Hr.
(I, II) Special topics in mining engineering, incorporating lectures, laboratory work or independent study, depending on needs. This course may be repeated for additional credit only if subject material is different. Prerequisite: none. 2 to 4 semester hours. Repeatable for credit under different titles.

MNGN524. ADVANCED MINE VENTILATION. 3.0 Semester Hrs.
(I) Advanced topics of mine ventilation including specific ventilation designs for various mining methods, ventilation numerical modeling, mine atmosphere management, mine air cooling, prevention and ventilation response to mine fires and explosions, mine dust control. Prerequisites: MNGN424 Mine Ventilation. Lecture and Lab Contact Hours: 3 hours lecture; 3 semester credit hours.

MNGN525. INTRODUCTION TO NUMERICAL TECHNIQUES IN ROCK MECHANICS. 3.0 Semester Hrs.
(I) Principles of stress and infinitesimal strain analysis are summarized, linear constitutive laws and energy methods are reviewed. Continuous and laminated models of stratified rock masses are introduced. The general concepts of the boundary element and finite element methods are discussed. Emphasis is placed on the boundary element approach with displacement discontinuity, because of its relevance to the modeling of the extraction of tabular mineral bodies and to the mobilization of faults, joints, etc. Several practical problems, selected from rock mechanics and subsidence engineering practices, are treated to demonstrate applications of the techniques. Prerequisite: MNGN321, EGGN320, or equivalent courses, MATH455. 3 hours lecture; 3 semester hours. Offered in even years.

MNGN526. MODELING AND MEASURING IN GEOMECHANICS. 3.0 Semester Hrs.
(ii) Introduction to instruments and instrumentation systems used for making field measurements (stress, convergence, deformation, load, etc.) in geomechanics. Techniques for determining rock mass strength and deformability. Design of field measurement programs. Interpretation of field data. Development of predictive models using field data. Introduction to various numerical techniques (boundary element, finite element, FLAC, etc.) for modeling the behavior of rock structures. Demonstration of concepts using various case studies. Prerequisite: Geomechanics and Subsidence Engineering. 2 hours lecture, 3 hours lab; 3 semester hours. Offered in odd years.

MNGN527. THEORY OF PLATES AND SHELLS. 3.0 Semester Hrs.
Classical methods for the analysis of stresses in plate type structure are presented first. The stiffness matrices for plate element will be developed and used in the finite element method of analysis. Membrane and bending stresses in shells are derived. Application of the theory to tunnels, pipes, pressures vessels, and domes, etc., will be included. Prerequisites: MNGN320. 3 hours lecture; 3 credit hours.

MNGN528. MINING GEOLOGY. 3.0 Semester Hrs.
(i) Role of geology and the geologist in the development and production stages of a mining operation. Topics addressed: mining operation sequence, mine mapping, drilling, sampling, reserve estimation, economic evaluation, permitting, support functions. Field trips, mine mapping, data evaluation, exercises and term project. Prerequisite: MNGN410 or PGGN405. 2 hours lecture/seminar, 3 hours laboratory; 3 semester hours. Offered in even years.
MNGN529. URANIUM MINING. 2.0 Semester Hrs.
(I) Overview and introduction to the principles of uranium resource extraction and production. All aspects of the uranium fuel cycle are covered, including the geology of uranium, exploration for uranium deposits, mining, processing, environmental issues, and health and safety aspects. A lesser emphasis will be placed on nuclear fuel fabrication, nuclear power and waste disposal.

MNGN530. INTRODUCTION TO MICRO COMPUTERS IN MINING. 3.0 Semester Hrs.
(I) General overview of the use of PC based micro computers and software applications in the mining industry. Topics include the use of: database, CAD, spreadsheets, computer graphics, data acquisition, and remote communications as applied in the mining industry. Prerequisite: Any course in computer programming. 2 hours lecture, 3 hours lab; 3 semester hours.

MNGN536. OPERATIONS RESEARCH TECHNIQUES IN THE MINERAL INDUSTRY. 3.0 Semester Hrs.
Analysis of exploration, mining, and metallurgy systems using statistical analysis. Monte Carlo methods, simulation, linear programming, and computer methods. Prerequisite: MNGN433. 2 hours lecture, 3 hours lab; 3 semester hours. Offered in even years.

MNGN538. GEOSTATISTICAL ORE RESERVE ESTIMATION. 3.0 Semester Hrs.
(I) Introduction to the application and theory of geostatistics in the mining industry. Review of elementary statistics and traditional ore reserve calculation techniques. Presentation of fundamental geostatistical concepts, including: variogram, estimation variance, block variance, kriging, geostatistical simulation. Emphasis on the practical aspects of geostatistical modeling in mining. Prerequisite: MATH323 or equivalent course in statistics; graduate or senior status. 3 hours lecture; 3 semester hours.

MNGN539. ADVANCED MINING GEOSTATISTICS. 3.0 Semester Hrs.
(II) Advanced study of the theory and application of geostatistics in mining engineering. Presentation of state-of-the-art geostatistical concepts, including: robust estimation, nonlinear geostatistics, disjointive kriging, geostatistical simulation, computational aspects. This course includes presentations by many guest lecturers from the mining industry. Emphasis on the development and application of advanced geostatistical techniques to difficult problems in the mining industry today. 3 hours lecture; 3 semester hours. Offered in odd years.

MNGN540. CLEAN COAL TECHNOLOGY. 3.0 Semester Hrs.
(I, II) Clean Energy - Gasification of Carbonaceous Materials - including coal, oil, gas, plastics, rubber, municipal waste and other substances. This course also covers the process of feedstock preparation, gasification, cleaning systems, and the output energy blocks along with an educational segment on CO products. These output energy blocks include feedstock to electrical power, feedstock to petroleum liquids, feedstock to pipeline quality gas. The course covers co-product development including urea, fertilizers, CO2 extraction/sequestration and chemical manufacturing.

MNGN545. ROCK SLOPE ENGINEERING. 3.0 Semester Hrs.
Introduction to the analysis and design of slopes excavated in rock. Rock mass classification and strength determinations, geological structural parameters, properties of fracture sets, data collection techniques, hydrological factors, methods of analysis of slope stability, wedge intersections, monitoring and maintenance of final pit slopes, classification of slides. Deterministic and probabilistic approaches in slope design. Remedial measures. Laboratory and field exercise in slope design. Collection of data and specimens in the field for deterring physical properties required for slope design. Application of numerical modeling and analytical techniques to slope stability determinations for hard rock and soft rock environments. Prerequisite: none. 3 hours lecture; 3 semester hours.

MNGN549. MARINE MINING SYSTEMS. 3.0 Semester Hrs.
(I) Define interdisciplinary marine mining systems and operational requirements for the exploration survey, sea floor mining, hoisting, and transport. Describe and design components of deep-ocean, manganese-nodule mining systems and other marine mineral extraction methods. Analyze dynamics and remote control of the marine mining systems interactions and system components. Describe the current state-of-the-art technology, operational practice, trade-offs of the system design and risk. Prerequisite: EGGN351, EGGN320, GECO408. 3 hours lecture; 3 semester hours. Offered alternate even years.

MNGN550. NEW TECHNIQUES IN MINING. 3.0 Semester Hrs.
(II) Review of various experimental mining procedures, including a critical evaluation of their potential applications. Mining methods covered include deep sea nodule mining, in situ gasification of coal, in situ retorting of oil shale, solution mining of soluble minerals, in situ leaching of metals, geothermal power generation, oil mining, nuclear fragmentation, slope caving, electro-thermal rock penetration and fragmentation. Prerequisite: Graduate standing. 3 hours lecture; 3 semester hours. Offered in even years.

MNGN552. SOLUTION MINING AND PROCESSING OF ORES. 3.0 Semester Hrs.
(II) Theory and application of advanced methods of extracting and processing of minerals, underground or in situ, to recover solutions and concentrates of value-materials, by minimization of the traditional surface processing and disposal of tailings to minimize environmental impacts. Prerequisite: Senior or graduate status. 3 hours lecture, 3 semester hours. Offered in spring.

MNGN559. MECHANICS OF PARTICULATE MEDIA. 3.0 Semester Hrs.
(1) This course allows students to establish fundamental knowledge of quasi-static and dynamic particle behavior that is beneficial to interdisciplinary material handling processes in the chemical, civil, materials, metallurgy, geophysics, physics, and mining engineering. Issues of interest are the definition of particel size and size distribution, particle shape, nature of packing, quasi-static behavior under different external loading, particle collisions, kinetic theoretical modeling of particulate flows, molecular dynamic simulations, and a brief introduction of solid-fluid two-phase flows. Prerequisite: none. 3 hours lecture; 3 semester hours. Fall semesters, every other year.

MNGN560. INDUSTRIAL MINERALS PRODUCTION. 3.0 Semester Hrs.
(II) This course describes the engineering principles and practices associated with quarry mining operations related to the cement and aggregate industries. The course will cover resource definition, quarry planning and design, extraction, and processing of minerals for cement and aggregate production. Permitting issues and reclamation, particle sizing and environmental practices, will be studied in depth.
MNGN565. MINE RISK MANAGEMENT. 3.0 Semester Hrs.
(I) Fundamentals of identifying, analyzing, assessing and treating risks associated with the feasibility, development and operation of mines. Methodologies for identifying, assessing and treating risks will be presented and practiced in case studies and exercises. Concepts and principles for analyzing risks will be demonstrated and practiced utilizing deterministic and stochastic models, deductive models, decision trees and other applicable principles. Prerequisites: Graduate student or senior in Mining Engineering or graduate students or seniors in other curricula. 3 hours lecture; 3 semester hours.

MNGN570. SAFETY AND HEALTH MANAGEMENT IN THE MINING INDUSTRY. 3.0 Semester Hrs.
(I) Fundamentals of managing occupational safety and health at a mining operation. Includes tracking of accident and injury statistics, risk management, developing a safety and health management plan, meeting MSHA regulatory requirements, training, safety audits and accident investigations. 3 hours lecture; 3 semester hours.

MNGN575. HEAT MINING. 3.0 Semester Hrs.
(I) Heat Mining focuses on identifying available sub-surface heat sources. Heat trapped in crystalline rock deep underground is available by engineering an artificial geothermal system. Hot geothermal fluid, heat generated by underground coal fire and hot water trapped in abandoned underground mine are some of other examples. We will discuss how to find them, how to estimate them, and how to extract and convert them to a usable energy form. The concept of sustainable resource development will be taught as the foundation of heat mining. Prerequisites: None. 3 hours lecture; 3 semester hours.

MNGN585. MINING ECONOMICS. 3.0 Semester Hrs.
(I) Advanced study in mine valuation with emphasis on revenue and cost aspects. Topics include price and contract consideration in coal, metal and other commodities; mine capital and operating cost estimation and indexing; and other topics of current interest. Prerequisite: MNGN427 or EBGN504 or equivalent. 3 hours lecture; 3 semester hours. Offered in even years.

MNGN590. MECHANICAL EXCAVATION IN MINING. 3.0 Semester Hrs.
(II) This course provides a comprehensive review of the existing and emerging mechanical excavation technologies for mine development and production in surface and underground mining. The major topics covered in the course include: history and development of mechanical excavators, theory and principles of mechanical rock fragmentation, design and performance of rock cutting tools, design and operational characteristics of mechanical excavators (e.g. continuous miners, roadheaders, tunnel boring machines, raise drills, shaft borers, impact miners, slotters), applications to mine development and production, performance prediction and geotechnical investigations, costs versus conventional methods, new mine designs for applying mechanical excavators, case histories, future trends and anticipated developments and novel rock fragmentation methods including water jets, lasers, microwaves, electron beams, penetrators, electrical discharge and sonic rock breakers. Prerequisite: Senior or graduate status. 3 hours lecture; 3 semester hours. Offered in odd years.

MNGN598. SPECIAL TOPICS IN MINING ENGINEERING. 6.0 Semester Hrs.
(I, II) Pilot course or special topics course. Topics chosen from special interests of instructor(s) and student(s). Usually the course is offered only once, but no more than twice for the same course content. Prerequisite: None. Variable credit: 0 to 6 credit hours. Repeatable for credit under different titles.

MNGN599. INDEPENDENT STUDY. 0.5-6 Semester Hr.
(I, II, S) Individual research or special problem projects supervised by a faculty member, also, when a student and instructor agree on a subject matter, content, and credit hours. Prerequisite: Independent Study? form must be completed and submitted to the Registrar. Variable credit: 0.5 to 6 credit hours. Repeatable for credit under different titles.

MNGN625. GRADUATE MINING SEMINAR. 1.0 Semester Hr.
(I, II) Discussions presented by graduate students, staff, and visiting lecturers on research and development topics of general interest. Required of all graduate students in mining engineering every semester during residence. 1 semester hour upon completion of thesis or residence.

MNGN698. SPECIAL TOPICS IN MINING ENGINEERING. 6.0 Semester Hrs.
(I, II) Pilot course or special topics course. Topics chosen from special interests of instructor(s) and student(s). Usually the course is offered only once, but no more than twice for the same course content. Prerequisite: None. Variable credit: 0 to 6 credit hours. Repeatable for credit under different titles.

MNGN699. INDEPENDENT STUDY. 0.5-6 Semester Hr.
(I, II, S) Individual research or special problem projects supervised by a faculty member, also, when a student and instructor agree on a subject matter, content, and credit hours. Prerequisite: Independent Study? form must be completed and submitted to the Registrar. Variable credit: 0.5 to 6 credit hours. Repeatable for credit under different titles.

MNGN700. GRADUATE ENGINEERING REPORTMASTER OF ENGINEERING. 1-6 Semester Hr.
(I, II) Laboratory, field, and library work for the Master of Engineering report under supervision of the student’s advisory committee. Required of candidates for the degree of Master of Engineering. Variable 1 to 6 hours. Repeatable for credit to a maximum of 6 hours.

MNGN707. GRADUATE THESIS / DISSERTATION RESEARCH CREDIT. 1-15 Semester Hr.
(I, II, S) Research credit hours required for completion of a Masters-level thesis or Doctoral dissertation. Research must be carried out under the direct supervision of the student’s faculty advisor. Variable class and semester hours. Repeatable for credit.