

**San José State University**  
**Department of Mechanical Engineering**  
**ME 299 Master's Thesis, Spring 2021**

**Course and Contact Information**

<b>Coordinator:</b>	Dr. Raghu Agarwal
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<b>Office Hours:</b>	Tuesdays and Thursdays 4:30 PM to 5:30 PM
<b>Registration Code:</b>	20269, 3 units
<b>Class Days/Time:</b>	By arrangement with thesis committee
<b>Prerequisites:</b>	Consent of thesis advisors. Not available to Open University Students.
<b>Grading:</b>	Mandatory CR/NC/RP
<b>Reference:</b>	MSME program information is available on the ME Department website <a href="http://www.sjsu.edu/me/msme/current_students/">http://www.sjsu.edu/me/msme/current_students/</a>

**Course Description** [https://catalog.sjsu.edu/preview\\_course\\_nopop.php?catoid=2&coid=9210](https://catalog.sjsu.edu/preview_course_nopop.php?catoid=2&coid=9210)

Advanced individual work in mechanical engineering for Plan A.

**Course Format**

ME 299 is a 3-unit class and the thesis option for the MSME program requires 6 units of thesis work (i.e., two semesters of ME 299). The course is directed by the thesis committee, composed according to Academic Senate Policy S14-10 <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S14-10.pdf>. The ME 299 coordinator may call for a few meetings each semester to coordinate efforts and clarify expectations along with the MSME project courses ME 295A and ME 295B, but otherwise all work is guided and evaluated by the thesis committee.

**Course Learning Outcomes (CLO)**

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Conduct a thorough review of scholarly literature as it pertains to the research investigation.
2. Formulate a research hypothesis, and interrogate it with scientific or engineering evidence.
3. Defend methodology, assumptions, findings, and conclusions via oral presentation and written format.
4. Write a formal thesis, published according to university guidelines.

**Required Texts/Readings**

As needed from published scholarly literature in the field of study.

## Course Requirements and Assignments

Eligibility for a grade of CR in the **first semester** of ME 299 requires all of the following, with three required documents submitted to your thesis committee chair before the last day of final exams. Inability to complete all of the following in the first semester results in a grade of NC (i.e., no credit). For the first semester, students should allow at least one full week for committee review of the thesis document in progress, plus at least one full week for incorporating edits. This means that the full draft must be ready well before the last day of instruction.

1. Deliver an end-of-semester oral presentation, with acceptability evidenced in the oral presentation grade form signed by all thesis committee members.
2. Submit a full draft of the thesis document in progress, with evidence (e.g., by signature) of approval by the thesis committee chair.
3. Submit the committee consultation form with all affirmation signatures.

Eligibility for a grade of CR in the **second semester** of ME 299 requires all of the following, with three required documents submitted to your thesis committee chair. Inability to complete all of the following in the second semester results in a grade of NC, unless the thesis committee deems that the student qualifies for "report-in-progress" (RP) status, according to Academic Senate Policy S17-5 <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S17-5.pdf>.

1. Deliver a final oral thesis defense, with acceptability evidenced in the oral presentation grade form signed by all thesis committee members.
2. Submit a completed thesis that is fully compliant with university requirements, according to format and deadlines set by the College of Graduate Studies.
3. Submit the committee consultation form with all affirmation signatures.

Students are strongly advised that thesis deadlines are firm and inflexible. University deadlines are posted by the College of Graduate Studies at <https://www.sjsu.edu/cgs/current-students/thesis-and-dissertation-information/>. It is vitally important for each student to work closely with his or her thesis committee to ensure adequate time for manuscript review and refinement before university deadlines. Students should allow approximately two weeks for committee review and at least two weeks for incorporating edits *before* university deadlines. University deadlines are typically in early April for spring semester graduation and in early November for fall semester graduation. Accordingly, a full manuscript would be due to the thesis committee in early March for spring semester graduation and in early October for fall semester graduation.

The "Verification of Culminating Experience" required by the Graduate Admissions & Program Evaluations will be issued by the ME Graduate Program Coordinator only after proof of thesis completion and university-level approval by the College of Graduate Studies.

## Grading Information

Evaluation criteria for grading are posted at [http://www.sjsu.edu/me/msme/current\\_students/forms\\_msme/](http://www.sjsu.edu/me/msme/current_students/forms_msme/). Each criterion is evaluated by the project committee on a 0.0 and 4.0 scale (as in grade point averages), with 4.0 indicating "A", 3.0 indicating "B", and so on. At the committee's discretion, determination of scores may be conducted by committee consensus or by averaging of the ratings from each individual committee member.

## University Policies

In accordance with University Policy S16-9 <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S16-9.pdf>, the following link contains university-wide policy information relevant to all courses, such as academic integrity, accommodations, and related concerns: <https://www.sjsu.edu/curriculum/courses/syllabus-info.php>.