# An Environmental Engineering Curriculum for the New Millennium

Richard O. Mines, Jr., Ph.D., P.E.

Mercer University

Macon, GA 31207

2000 ASEE-SE Section Conference Roanoke, VA

#### Presentation Outline

- Objectives
- Mercer Background
- MUSE Background
- Program Objectives
- **ABET Criteria**
- Environmental Curriculum
- Assessment Tools

#### **Objectives**

- 1. Describe the goal and objectives established by the Environmental Engineering Department
- 2. Present the new comprehensive Environmental Engineering Curriculum
- 3. Describe the tools used for assessment

#### Mercer Background

- 1. Private, Baptist affiliated university founded in 1833
- 2. Enrollment approximately 7,000 students in undergraduate and graduate programs
- 3. Main campus located in Macon, Georgia
- 4. All students must complete one course in religious studies

### MUSE Background

- 1.MUSE: Mercer University School of Engineering was founded in 1985
- 2. Offers undergraduate degrees in 6 specialty areas: Biomedical, Computer, Electrical, Environmental, Industrial, and Mechanical
- 3.B.S. degrees in Technical Communications, Industrial Management, and Environmental Systems are also offered by MUSE
- 4. A Master of Engineering and Master of Science are offered in several areas

#### Table 1. Criterion 3.

#### **ABET Criteria**

- a) an ability to apply knowledge of mathematics, science, and engineering
- b) an ability to design and conduct experiments, as well as to analyze and interpret data
- c) an ability to design a system, component, or process to meet desired needs
- d) an ability to function on multi-disciplinary teams
- e) an ability to identify, formulate, and solve engineering problems
- f) an understanding of professional and ethical responsibility
- g) an ability to communicate effectively
- h) the broad education necessary to understand the impact of engineering solutions in a global and societal context
- i) a recognition of the need for, and an ability to engage in life-long learning
- j) a knowledge of contemporary issues
- k) an ability to use the techniques, skills, and modern engineering tools necessary for engineering practice

### Environmental Program Goal

The goal of the Bachelor of Science in Environmental Engineering is to produce graduates who are prepared for employment in professional practice or for graduate study.

#### Environmental Program Criteria

- Knowledge of fundamental concepts of waste minimization and pollution prevention.
- Understanding of roles and responsibilities of public institutions and private organizations in environmental management.
- Apply environmental systems and process modeling techniques.
- Proficiency in mathematics through differential equation.
- Proficiency in probability and statistics.
- Proficiency in calculus based physics.

### Environmental Program Criteria

- Proficiency in general chemistry.
- Proficiency in earth science.
- Proficiency in biological science.
- Proficiency in fluid mechanics.
- Knowledge of introductory level of fundamentals in the following major focus areas:water supply and resources, environmental systems modeling, environmental chemistry, wastewater management, solid waste management, hazardous waste management, atmospheric systems and air pollution control, and environmental and occupational health.

#### Environmental Program Criteria

- Proficiency in advanced principles and practice in a minimum of three of the major focus areas.
- Understanding of concepts of professional practice such as procurement, bidding versus quality-based selection processes, interaction of project design and construction professionals.
- The importance of professional licensure and continuing education.

- Waste minimization & pollution prevention: EVE 290, EVE 402, EVE 405, EVE 420
- Environmental management: EVE 290, EVE 402, EVE 405, EVE 420
- Environmental systems & modeling: EVE 290, EVE 402, EVE 403, EVE 405, EVE 406, EVE 420, EVE 421
- Proficiency in math: MAT 191, EGR 191L, MAT 192, EGR 192L, MAT 330

- Probability & statistics: EGR 252
- Calculus based physics: PHY 161, PHY 161L, PHY 162L
- General chemistry: CHM 111, CHM 112
- Earth science: ESC 105 Geology, ESC 110 Meteorology, ESC 210 Environmental Geology
- Biological science: BIO 115 Biology, People, and Society, BIO 210 Introduction to Biology I
- Fluid mechanics: EVE 384 Hydrology and Hydraulics

- Focus areas: water supply and resources EVE 290 & 405; environmental systems EVE 403, 405 and 420; environmental chemistry EVE 410; wastewater management EVE 405; solid waste management EVE 420; hazardous waste management EVE 420; atmospheric systems and air pollution control EVE 402 & 403.
- Advanced principles: water supply & resources EVE 406; wastewater management EVE 406; solid waste management EVE 421; hazardous waste management EVE 421; atmospheric systems and air pollution control EVE 403
- Concepts of professional practice: EGR 108 professional practice EVE 460 Environ. Law.

n. Professional licensure and continuing education: EGR 108 Professional Practices and EVE 488 Senior Engineering Design.

# Environmental Program Objective 1

1. Analyze environmental engineering problems related to water/wastewater treatment, air pollution, and solid and hazardous waste issues.



# Environmental Program Objective 2

2. Design solutions and engineering systems using appropriate engineering analysis and evaluation of alternatives to minimize detrimental effects on the environment.





# Environmental Program Objective 3

3. Communicate effectively with technical and non-technical audiences in both written and oral form.



Table 3. New Environmental Engineering Curriculum

#### Freshman Year

Fall Semester LBH CH		LEH LBH CH		Spring Semester		LEH			
UNV 101	Freshman Experience	1	0	1	EGR 107	Intro to Engr Design	2	2	3
EGR 126	Intro to Prob Solving	3	0	3	EGR 108	Professional Pract	3	0	3
MAT 191	Calculus I	3	0	3	MAT 192	Calculus II	3	0	3
EGR 191L	Calculus Lab I	0	3	1	MAT 192L	Calculus Lab II	0	3	1
CHM 111	General Chemistry I	3	3	4	CHM112	General Chemistry II	3	3	4
FYS 101	First Year Seminar	4	0	4	GAXXX	GA/HSS Elective I	3	0	3
		14	6	16			14	8	17

800	h 0 400 0 40	Voor
Sop	homore	rear

Fall Semester		LEH LBH CH LBH CH			Spring Semester		LEH		
PHY 161	General Physics I	3	0	3	PHY 162	General Physics II	3	0	3
PHY 161L	General Physics I Lab	0	3	1	PHY 162L	Gen. Physics II Lab	0	3	1
MAT 330	Intro to Diff. Equations	3	0	3	EGR 252	Appl. of Eng. Math	3	0	3
EGR 232	Statics/Solid Mechanics	3	0	3	EGR 233	Dynamics	2	0	2
EGR 244	Electrical Fund I	3	2	4	EGR 235	Thermodynamics	3	0	3
EVE 290	Intro to Environ Engr	3	0	3	EGR 245	Electrical Fund II	3	0	3
					EGR 245L	Electrical Fund Lab	0	3	1
					EGR 300	Junior Level Exhibits	0	0	0
		15	5	17			14	6	16

Fall Semeste		Junior Year											
Fall Semester LBH CH		LEH LBH CH		Spring Semester		LEH							
TCO 341	Tech Communication	3	0	3	EGR 386	Engr. Systems Analysis	3	0	3				
EGR 312	Engineering Economy	3	0	3	EVE 405	Water /Wastewater Trt.	3	0	3				
EVE 384 I	Hydraulics/Hydrology	3	0	3	EVE 420	Solid Waste Systems Design	3	0	3				
EVE 410 I	Process Chemistry	3	0	3	XXX	Biological or Earth Science	3	3	4				
	Biological or Earth Science	3	3	4	GAXXX	GA/HSS Elective II	3	0	3				
		15	3	16			15	3	16				

Senior Year											
Fall Semester LBH CH		LEH	LBF	н сн		Spring Semester	LEH				
EVE 487	Engineering Design Exhibit I	0	6	2	EVE 488	Engineering Design Exhibit II	0	6	2		
EVE 406	Adv. Water/WW Trt.	3	0	3	EVE 4XX	Technical Elective	3	0	3		
EVE 402	Air Pollution Control	3	0	3	EVE 403	Air Resource Mgt.	3	0	3		
EVE 421	Adv. Solid Haz. Waste Management	3	0	3	EVE 460	Environ. Law, Regs, Specifications	3	0	3		
EVE 485	Environ & Occup Health	2	0	2	EVE 445L	Environmental Lab	0	3	1		
GA XXX	GA/HSS Elective III	3	0	3	GA XXX	GA/HSS Elective IV	3	0	3		
						Graduation Exhibit	0	О	0		
		14	6	16			12	9	15		

#### Tentative Assessment Strategy

- Course Portfolios
- Junior and Senior Level Exhibits
- External Evaluations
- Student Portfolios
- Faculty Portfolios

#### Conclusions'

- A comprehensive Environmental Engineering curriculum was developed.
- Two courses in water/wastewater, air pollution, and solid and hazardous waste were established to teach fundamentals and advanced principles in each focus area.
- Course portfolios and Jr./Sr. level exhibits will be utilized as the primary assessment mechanisms.