

COURSE DESCRIPTION – ACADEMIC YEAR 2025/2026

Course title	Fluid Machines
Course code	42177
Scientific sector	ING-IND/08
Degree	Bachelor in Industrial and Mechanical Engineering
Semester	1
Year	3
Credits	8
Modular	No

Total lecturing hours	50
Total lab hours	30
Attendance	Not mandatory, but strongly advisable
Prerequisites	Engineering Thermodynamics, Heat and Mass Transfer and Fluid Mechanics
Course page	Microsoft Teams

Specific educational objectives	<p>The course of Fluid Machines is a core teaching (“caratterizzanti”) in the context of the degree in Industrial and Mechanical Engineering and specifically it deals with the operative and design aspects of fluid machines that are used for the conversion of energy (production and use).</p> <p>The course consists of 50 hours of frontal lectures and 30 hours of exercises. A part of the lectures will also be involved in the Experiential Learning program of the Faculty with a focus on the development of specific practical projects. The lectures introduce the fundamental concepts and the working principles of the fluid machines using both compressible and non-compressible fluids. The main mechanical and energy conservation principles and equations will be described and applied to fluid machines. Specific procedures for the design of fluid machines, like pumps, turbomachines, compressors, will be presented. In particular, the following topics will be addressed: constructive aspects, behavior of fluids in fluid machines components, aero- and hydro-profile blades and duct design, work exchange mechanisms and thermo-fluid-dynamic transformations in fluid machines, evaluation of the performance. The exercises consist in developing the design procedures of fluid machines and the introduction of such machines in plants, propulsion systems and circuits with the aim to give the students a deeper comprehension and understanding of the topics.</p> <p>The course aims at supplying specific professional skills and knowledge and it has the educational objective of supplying the tools for the design and the evaluation of the performance of fluid machines and their adoption in industrial and civil plants.</p> <p>The contents of this course will be useful for all the engineering professional profiles, in the industry or in the public sector, related to the use of fluid machines and power plants in energy conversion process and propulsion systems. Typical jobs can be related to the design, installation and management of pumps, hydro- gas- and</p>
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	steam-turbines, and the application of fluid power machines. These competences are necessary in the companies designing, managing and maintaining fluid machines and power plants, in industrial processes, in propulsion systems, in utilities' companies and in the industries designing components and solutions for the energy conversion.
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Lecturer	Prof. Massimiliano Renzi https://www.unibz.it/it/faculties/engineering/academic-staff/person/32541-massimiliano-renzi
Contact	Office B1 4.12, Massimiliano.renzi@unibz.it , 0471-017816
Scientific sector of lecturer	ING-IND/08 (new code IIND/06A)
Teaching language	English
Office hours	Wednesdays, from 18:00 to 20:00. On appointment by e-mail or after the lectures.
Lecturing Assistant (if any)	
Contact LA	
Office hours LA	
List of topics	<p>The course covers the following topics:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Introduction and basic definitions: definition of fluid machines; basics of aerodynamics of airfoils and hydrofoils for turbo-machines; conservation equations for real flows in fluid machines' systems and their application to thermal and hydraulic machines; velocity triangles and Eulerian work; fluid transformations in turbomachinery vanes; similarity laws applied to fluid machines; 2. Centrifugal, mixed flow and axial pumps: flow rate and head; efficiency; pump impeller design; cavitation; NPSH; coupling with hydraulic circuits; 3. Hydraulic turbines: Pelton, Francis, Kaplan; constructive aspects; specific speed; turbine wheel or impeller design; cavitation; 4. Compressible fluids: behaviour of compressible fluids, sub-sonic and supersonic flows and implications of their use in fluid machines; 5. Gas and steam turbines: nozzles and diffusers; isentropic and polytropic efficiencies; turbine blades; impulse and reaction turbine; one-dimensional analysis of the flow; design process and calculation of stage performance; 6. Reciprocating and rotary gas compressors: working principles and working cycle; basic design solutions and performance.
Teaching format	The course consists of classroom lectures in which the topics are presented by the lecturer. Design exercises are also foreseen to supply practical examples of the application of the theoretical topics. Some hours will be dedicated to the development, the design and the realization of components to be included in students' projects included in the experiential learning program. Course topics will be presented through presentations. Teaching material will be given to the students; additional material will be provided by the Professor.

Learning outcomes	Intended Learning Outcomes (ILO)	
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	<p><u>Knowledge and understanding</u></p> <p>Through the application of the principles of thermo-fluid-dynamics to fluid machines, students should be able:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To know and understand the fundamental mechanical components used in the fluid machines and their operative function 2. To know and understand the fluid-dynamics of the fluid machines, the design of the fluid-machines components and the introduction of the fluid machines within the industrial and civil plants and devices <p><u>Applying knowledge and understanding</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. to apply the fluid-dynamic laws to the design of thermal and hydraulic machines' components 4. to apply the studied fluid-machines to industrial and civil plants and devices 5. to apply the design principles in practical projects developed by the students in the experiential learning platform <p><u>Making judgements</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 6. to make autonomous judgements in the choice of the design solutions, of the suitable machines and of the plant solutions in relation to their applications <p><u>Communication skills</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 7. to correctly and properly present the concepts acquired in the course both in written and oral form 8. to use the proper technical terms to describe the design solutions of the fluid machines <p><u>Ability to learn</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 9. to acquire lifelong learning skills, as well as the required material and information, in the field of fluid machines by applying the methods and the concepts acquired in the course
Assessment	<p>Examination of the course is conducted via a written exam. The written exam consists of two parts: i) an exercise on the basic design of one of fluid machines presented during the course to assess the ability of the student to apply the topics of the course in practical applications, the comprehension of the theoretical concepts and the ability to make judgments; students will be asked to define the main geometrical dimension of the machines, the blades design, the velocity triangles, the performance of the machine and additional evaluations regarding the application of the machine in a real plant; ii) at least two open written questions to assess the knowledge and understanding of the course topics, the theoretical aspects, as well as the ability to transfer these skills to case studies of fluid machines. Specifically, the main thermo-fluid dynamic transformations, the main design parameters and formulations, and the most important sketches and charts describing the performance of the machines will be requested.</p>

	<p>The student can choose to have an additional optional oral exam to further assess his/her preparation.</p> <p>Summative assessment</p> <table><tr><th>Form</th><th>%</th><th>Length /duration</th><th>ILOs assessed</th></tr><tr><td>Written exam – exercises</td><td>50%</td><td>1 exercise (1.5 hours)</td><td>2, 3, 4, 6</td></tr><tr><td>Written exam – theory</td><td>50%</td><td>2 open-ended questions (1 hour)</td><td>1, 2, 5, 7, 8</td></tr><tr><td>Oral (optional)</td><td>-</td><td>2 open-question</td><td>1, 2, 5, 7, 8</td></tr></table>	Form	%	Length /duration	ILOs assessed	Written exam – exercises	50%	1 exercise (1.5 hours)	2, 3, 4, 6	Written exam – theory	50%	2 open-ended questions (1 hour)	1, 2, 5, 7, 8	Oral (optional)	-	2 open-question	1, 2, 5, 7, 8
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Oral (optional)	-	2 open-question	1, 2, 5, 7, 8														
Assessment language	English																
Assessment Typology	Monocratic																
Evaluation criteria and criteria for awarding marks	<p>Students regularly enrolled at the 3rd year of the Bachelor in Industrial and Mechanical Engineering are eligible for the attendance of the lessons and the exam. Other exceptional cases have to be discussed with the Professor.</p> <p>Written exam - exercise</p> <p>The written exam assesses the ability of the student to apply the topics of the course in a practical dimensioning exercise and the ability to make independent judgments. The following criteria will be taken into account:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Correctness of the design choices: the student is asked to identify the proper machine for a specific application, select the main design criteria and identify the proper procedure to design the machine- Correctness of the dimensioning procedure: the student is asked to define the calculations to design in details the machine ducts, the machine blades and its performance- Correctness of the numerical solution: the student is asked to run calculations on the machine design and performance, and to be able to judge the correctness of the numerical results- Appropriate use of measurement units <p>Written exam – theory (open-end question)</p> <p>The written exam on the theory assesses the knowledge and understanding of the course topics, the knowledge of the fluid-dynamic behavior of compressible and incompressible fluids in the components of the fluid machines, as well as the ability to transfer these skills to case studies and to make judgment. The following criteria will be taken into account:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Theoretical knowledge, correctness of formulations, charts and sketches- Ability to provide examples/applications of theoretical concepts- Communication skills and master of the technical language <p>Oral exam (optional)</p>																

	<p>The following criteria will be taken into account:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Theoretical knowledge, correctness of formulations, charts and sketches - Ability to provide examples/applications of the theoretical concepts - Communication skills and master of the technical language <p>The exam will be weighted as follows: written (50%), oral (50%). It will not be possible to pass the exam if the exercise or the questions will not have a sufficient mark singularly.</p>
Required readings	<p>Slides presented during the lecture (available in the reserve collection); additional material supplied by the lecturer (typically available in the reserve collection).</p> <p>Subject Librarian: David Gebhardi, David.Gebhardi@unibz.it and Ilaria Miceli, Ilaria.Miceli@unibz.it</p>
Supplementary readings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • S. Sandrolini, G. Naldi, "Macchine, Vol. 1: Fluidodinamica e termodinamica delle turbomacchine", Pitagora Editrice • S. Sandrolini, G. Naldi, "Macchine, Vol. 2: Le turbomacchine motrici e operatrici", Pitagora Editrice • R. Della Volpe, Macchine, Editore Liguori, Napoli • G. Minelli, "Macchine idrauliche", Pitagora Editrice • R. Della Volpe, Esercizi di macchine, Editore Liguori, Napoli
Software used	Spreadsheets or Matlab