It’s a win for all of us.

EY Technologies provides students with diverse, real-world industry experience while they in turn offer us innovative approaches and solutions we would not otherwise have considered.

Dr. Rathna Perera, EY Technologies Engineering Director of New Product Development and Technology

Possible criteria for your project design:

- Do you have an idea or need for a new mechanical or electro-mechanical device or process, but don’t have the time or skills to do it yourself?
- Might a custom spreadsheet or database application improve decision making or record keeping in your manufacturing or service operations?
- Are you thinking about utilizing mobile applications in your business?
- Would you like to analyze, optimize, and clearly document work procedures to reduce process and product variability?
- Do you do something manually that could be done more efficiently if it was automated?

Here’s what we ask of our sponsors:

- An appropriate scope or project challenge to be completed in a 24-week timeframe. A conceptual solution is created within the first 12 weeks, and implementation, testing, and revision of that solution is completed in the following 12 weeks.
- Project sponsors and student teams must commit to the following elements of the project: fully defined design specifications from project start to completion; consideration of multiple design alternatives; implementation, testing, and revision of the design.

Over the course of the project, the client typically makes several trips to UMass Dartmouth to meet with the student team and may also host the team for onsite visits. The most successful projects are those that have the highest sponsorship involvement. Project mentors and student team leaders must outline a communication plan that ensures project success.

Project sponsors may loan equipment and appropriate waivers will be provided.

By default, any Intellectual Property (IP) created by the student team during a project belongs to the students. However, other arrangements are possible.
Senior Capstone Project timeline and student milestones

A sample timeline for a project is noted below. It is possible to extend an internal company project or add on to a current research program. The most successful projects are an overlap of student expertise and interests and industry priorities. If you have a short joint research project on site at your company or want to suggest a research idea on campus, please let us know.

Sample timeline

Late September–mid October
- Form team and select project
- Meet with sponsoring organization and generate comprehensive project requirements list
- Conduct background research and begin benchmarking
  Key milestone: Background Report document

Mid October–early November
- Translate project requirements list into quantitative and testable specifications
- Complete benchmarking
- Consider multiple potential solutions to design problem
  Key milestone: Preliminary Proposal document

Early November–mid December (end of 1st term)
- Devise testing procedures for all project specifications
- Select one design solution from options described in Preliminary Proposal
- Specify ALL aspects of selected design solution
  Key milestone: Final Proposal document

Winter Break (mid December–early January)
Very useful for part delivery lead times.

Early January–early February
- Construct prototype (product projects) or prepare for implementation (process projects)
  Key milestone: Evaluation of prototype or process prior to testing and revision

Early February–mid April
- Test and revise prototype or process to meet project requirements
  Key milestones: Final presentation and evaluation of prototype or process;
  Final Report document; Project Poster for Engineering Expo

May (end of 2nd term)
- Capstone Project Presentation at UMD Engineering Expo

Please contact the College of Engineering to discuss your interest:
508.910.8539 • coe@umassd.edu
Download a Capstone Project Application Form @ www.umassd.edu/capstone