Subject Description Form

Subject Code	EE522
Subject Title	Optical Fibre Systems
Credit Value	3
Level	5
Pre-requisite/ Co-requisite/ Exclusion	Nil
Objectives	1. To re-introduce to students the fundamentals of light emission, modulation, detection, amplification, and light propagation in optical fibres. 2. To enable students to understand the operating principle and performance specifications of various fibre-optic components, as well as their applications in modern fibre-optic systems. 3. To equip students with the ability to analyse and design simple fibre-optic communication and sensing systems.
Intended Learning Outcomes	Upon completion of the subject, students will be able to: a. Appreciate recent developments in fibre optic communication systems, importance of fibre optic technology to the development of communications, engineering applications of fibre-optic technologies, and advantages of fibre optic sensors to the electrical engineering industry. b. Understand the principles of different types of optical fibres, fibre components, sensors, and communication systems. c. Know the same function may be achieved by using different technologies and understand the advantages and limitations of each technology. d. Select the most appropriate passive and active fibre-optic components to design fibre-optic sensor systems and fibre optic communication links. e. Have hands-on experience in the use of fusion splicer to make low-loss fibre joints, optical spectrum analyzer to perform spectral measurements, and fibre grating sensors for temperature and strain measurements.
Subject Synopsis/ Indicative Syllabus	1. **Overview:** Introduction to lightwave communication and sensor systems. Historical perspective. Basic concept and components. Channel capacity. 2. **Optical fibres:** Theory of optical wave-guiding. Numerical aperture. Fibre modes. Fibre fabrication. Attenuation and dispersion. Special optical fibres. 3. **Passive fibre components**: Light coupling. Splices and connectors. Couplers and splitters. Optical filters. Wavelength multiplexers/de-multiplexers. Fibre Bragg gratings. Optical isolators and circulators. 4. **Optical sources:** Light emission and absorption. Light emitting diodes. Optical feedback. Threshold condition. Laser modes. Semiconductor lasers. Tunable lasers. Modulation of light. Optical transmitters. 5. **Optical amplifiers:** Rare-earth doped fibres. Optical fibre amplifiers. Semiconductor amplifiers. 6. **Optical detectors:** PIN and avalanche photodiode. Noise and response time. Responsivity. Optical receivers. 7. **Optical fibre communication systems:** System architectures. Operating wavelength and system limitations. Power and rise-time budgets. Noise effects and other source of power penalty.

8. **Optical fibre sensor systems:** Intrinsic and extrinsic sensors. Intensity modulation sensors. Phase modulation sensors. Polarisation modulation sensors. Wavelength and frequency modulation sensors. Fibre grating sensors. Multiplexed and distributed sensing systems.

Laboratory Experiments/Demonstrations:

Observation of fibre modal patterns; Measurement of source spectrums; Optical fibre splicing and insertion loss measurement; Fibre Bragg grating sensors.

Teaching/Learning Methodology

Lectures, quizzes, tests, laboratory experiments, mini-projects, and examination.

Teaching/Learning Methodology	Outcomes				
	a	b	c	d	e
Lectures	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Tutorials		✓	✓	✓	
Demonstration/Experiments				✓	✓

Assessment Methods in Alignment with Intended Learning Outcomes

Specific assessment methods/tasks	% weighting	Intended subject learning outcomes to be assessed				
		a	b	c	d	e
1.Tests/Quizzes	18%	✓	✓	✓	✓	
2. Assignments	8%	✓	✓	✓	✓	
3. Lab and report	6%				✓	✓
4. Self-study report	8%	✓	✓	✓		
5. Examination	60%		✓	✓	✓	
Total	100%					

This subject introduces the theory and applications of optical fibre communication and sensor technology. The outcomes are assessed by quizzes, tests, mini-projects, laboratory experiments and examination.

Student Study Effort Expected

Class contact:	
▪ Lectures/Tutorials/Laboratory demo	39 Hrs.
Other student study effort:	
▪ Mini-project and report	20 Hrs.
▪ Self-study and assignments	46 Hrs.
Total student study effort	105 Hrs.

Reading List and References

Reference books:

1. G. Keiser, Optical Fiber Communications, 3rd Edition, McGraw-Hill, 1999
2. J.M. Senior, Optical Fiber Communications-Principles and Practice, 3rd Edition, Prentice Hall, 2008
3. J.C. Palais, Fiber Optic Communications, 5th Edition, Prentice Hall, 2005
4. G.P. Agrawal, Fiber-optic Communication Systems, 3rd Edition, Wiley, 2002
5. J. P. Dakin and B. Culshaw, Optical Fibre Sensors, Artech House, Vols.1&2, 1989, and Vols.3&4, 1997.