B.Sc. (Honours) Physics

DISCIPLINE SPECIFIC ELECTIVE COURSE - DSE 24: SENSORS AND DETECTORS

Course Title and Code	Credits	Credit Distribution of the Course			Pre-requisite of the course
		Lecture	Tutorial	Practical	
Sensors and Detectors DSE 24	4	3	0	1	DSC 13 - Electromagnetic Theory (Sem. V) and DSC 8 - Thermal Physics (Sem. III) of this program or its equivalent.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

To make students familiar with the constructions and working principle of different types of sensors and transducers. To make students aware about the measuring instruments and the methods of measurement and the use of different transducers.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

At the end of the course, a student will be able to:

- Use concepts in common methods for converting a physical parameter into an electrical quantity.
- Classify and explain with examples of transducers, including those for measurement of temperature, strain, motion, position and light.
- Choose proper sensor comparing different standards and guidelines to make sensitive measurements of physical parameters like pressure, flow, acceleration, etc.
- Predict correctly the expected performance of various sensors.
- Locate different type of sensors used in real life applications and paraphrase their importance.
- Set up testing strategies to evaluate performance characteristics of different types of sensors and transducers and develop professional skills in acquiring and applying the knowledge outside the classroom through design of a real-life instrumentation system.

SYLLABUS OF DSE 24
THEORY COMPONENT
(Hours: 45)

Unit I **(13 Hours)**

Transducers, Classification of transducers on different basis, Types of transducers (Basic idea of Mechanical, resistive, capacitive, inductive, piezoelectric, optical and digital).
Sensor, Components of sensor, Direct and complex sensor (Basic idea)
Distinction between Sensor and Transducer, Characteristics of Transducers/Sensor: Static characteristics and static calibration (Calibration accuracy and component error), Dynamic characteristics.
Inductive sensor: Variable Inductance Sensors, Plunger type displacement sensor, Variable Gap Sensor, LVDT: Construction, working, output characteristics. Idea of RVDT (Qualitative).
Capacitive sensors: Variable distance-parallel plate type, variable area- parallel plate (serrated plate/teeth type), variable dielectric constant type; Sensitivity of capacitive sensors, Stretched diaphragm type

Unit II **(9 Hours)**

Magnetic Sensors: Magnetoresistive Sensors and Hall effect sensor (performance and characteristics).
Temperature sensor: RTD (construction, working and temperature coefficient), thermistor, categories of thermistor (PTC and NTC: material, shape, ranges, RT curve and accuracy specification), Thermo emf sensor (thermoelectricity generation, thermos-emf measurement, Thermocouples (construction, characteristics), and Pyroelectric sensors (pyroelectric effect and output voltage-temperature relationship).

Unit III **(13 Hours)**

Pressure sensors: Direct versus indirect pressure measurement, Different types of gauges and their working range, Mechanical gauges (McLeod Gauge), Thermal Conductivity Gauges (Thermocouple and Pirani gauges) and Ionization gauges (hot & cold cathode), advantages and limitations of various types of gauges, Gauge calibration (Static: Manometric method and dead-beat tester, dynamic calibration).
Radiation Sensors: Basic Characteristics (Concept of Work Function, Spectral Sensitivity, Spectral threshold, Quantum yield, time lag, linearity, Status and dynamic response), Types of Photodetectors: Photoemissive Cell, Photo Multiplier, Photo conductive Cell (LDR), Photovoltaic cells, photodiodes. Detection of Nuclear Radiation: Qualitative treatment of Geiger Muller counters and Scintillation detectors.

Unit IV **(10 Hours)**

Applications of Sensors and detectors: Basic principles of Remote sensing, Introduction to LiDAR (principles, applications and benefits), Types of LiDAR (air-borne and ground based) Applications of motion sensors in accelerometers and gyroscopes (qualitative analysis of working principle).
Biomedical Sensor: Electrochemical sensor (electrochemical cell, cell potential, three electrodes system, working principle).

PRACTICAL COMPONENT: SENSORS AND DETECTORS
(Hours: 30)

At least 5 experiments to be done from the list below:

1. Characteristics of LDR as a function of distance from light source.
2. Light characteristics of Photodiode.
3. Measurement of Strain using Strain Gauge.
4. To study the characteristics of a Linear Variable Differential Transformer (LVDT).
5. To study the characteristics of a Resistance Temperature Device (RTD).
6. To study the frequency response of a loudspeaker.
7. Determine characteristics of an Infrared (IR) emitter-receiver module.
8. Create vacuum in a small chamber using a mechanical (rotary) pump and/or secondary pump and measure the chamber pressure using a pressure gauge – Pirani and/or CC gauge.
9. Measurement of thermos-emf in thermopile and to calculate the Seebeck coefficient.
10. Study the pyroelectric effect and generation of induced voltage with temperature change.

REFERENCES

Essential Readings for the Theory Component

1. Experimental Methods for Engineers, J.P. Holman, McGraw Hill
2. Introduction to Measurements and Instrumentation, A.K. Ghosh, PHI Learning Pvt. Ltd.
3. 3.Transducers and Instrumentation, D.V.S. Murty, 2nd Edition, PHI Learning Pvt. Ltd.
4. Instrumentation Devices and Systems, C.S. Rangan, G.R. Sarma, V.S.V. Mani, Tata
5. McGraw Hill
6. Electronic circuits: Handbook of design & applications, U.Tietze, Ch.Schenk, Springer
7. Electronic Instrumentation by H. S. Kalsi (Mc Graw Hill Publisher)
8. Sensors and Transducers, D Patranabis, PHI Learning Pvt. Ltd.
9. An Introduction to Sensors and Instrumentations, Sobnath Singh, Narosa
10. Handbook of Modern Sensors, Jacob Fraden, Springer
11. Handbook of Thion film Technology, Maissel and Glang, Tata McGraw Hill
12. Instrumentation, Measurement and Analysis, Nakra and Chaudhry, McGraw Hill

Additional Readings for the Theory Component

1. Radiation detection and measurement, G.F. Knoll, Wiley
2. Measurement, Instrumentation and Experiment Design in Physics & Engineering, M.Sayer and A. Mansingh, PHI

References for the Practical Component

1. Electronic circuits: Handbook of design and applications, U. Tietze and C. Schenk, Springer
2. Basic Electronics: A text lab manual, P. B. Zbar, A. P. Malvino, M. A. Miller, McGraw