

PROPOSED MODIFICATIONS TO THE CIVIL ENGINEERING PROGRAM AT KFUPM TO FULFILL 2008-2009 ABET CRITERIA AND THE KFUPM PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

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1. INTRODUCTION

The main objective of this report is to modify the current civil engineering program at King Fahd University of Petroleum and Minerals in order to fulfill the 2008-2009 ABET Criteria for Accrediting Engineering Programs while maintaining the KFUPM requirements.

The approach followed in this report was to identify five reputable American universities and another two universities in the Gulf region which are affiliated with American universities. The civil engineering programs at these universities were carefully studied and compared with the existing civil engineering program at KFUPM. In view of this comparison, the current program at KFUPM was modified to fulfill the ABET and KFUPM requirements.

The American universities were selected from top ten universities in terms of their civil engineering programs according to the U.S. News ranking. "The U.S. News ranking of undergraduate programs accredited by the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology is based solely on the judgment of deans and senior faculty who rated each program they are familiar with on a scale of 1 (marginal) to 5 (distinguished)." (<http://colleges.usnews.rankingsandreviews.com/usnews/edu/college/rankings/about/college/rankings>).

The selected universities appear also in other popular ranking sites, such as "World Science & Engineering University Portal" (<http://www.universityportal.net/search/label/Civil%20Engineering>), and the "Students Review College Rankings" (http://www.studentsreviews.com/top_engineering_schools_ranking.html).

The American universities which were reviewed in this report are:

1. Georgia Institute of Technology
2. Stanford University
3. University of California Berkeley
4. Texas A&M University
5. Massachusetts Institute of Technology

The civil engineering programs at both the American University of Sharjah and the American University of Dubai were also reviewed.