Increasing the role of design in engineering education in Iran

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Abstract
Design is presumably the pinnacle of engineering endeavors. Using their creativity and professional skills, engineers have a prominent role in shaping our present world. While the emphasis of engineering education on engineering design has increased in recent years, there still remains a strong need for promoting the role of creative thinking and engineering design in Iran's engineering education. This goal can be archived by adding a new design course to the curriculum or putting more weight on teamwork and design in the contents of the final BSc project that students need to undertake in order to graduate. Design definition and domain, engineering design process, design methods and means, and design management are among the topics that must be covered in a basic design course. This paper presents the structure, syllabus, and teaching procedures of a conceptual design course proposed for undergraduate engineering programs in Iran.

Keywords: Engineering education, engineering design, conceptual design, undergraduate engineering, Iran.