

OUTREACH OUTLINE

Required Materials:

- *Chalkboard or large paper* to write down student ideas, definition of BME (in bold below), and design matrix grid
- *Large markers/chalk* to write with
- *4 to 5 video game controllers* having distinct characteristics:
 - i.e. varying between early Nintendo controller (extremely basic) and brand new Wii or Xbox controller (sophisticated)
- *Individual design matrix sheets* for each group of students (please see outreach overview)
- *Design project poster* (to present to the class if time at the end)

Presentation/Activity:

I. Introductions

- Self (name, where from)
- Group: Senior biomedical engineering students at UW-Madison
We're here to talk to you about what biomedical engineering is and all of the really cool things that biomedical engineers do!

II. Define BME: What comes to mind when you hear the words "biomedical engineering?"

- Ideas on board:

Examples!

medical imaging	prosthetics	organ transplants
drug delivery systems	artificial organs & tissues	
laparoscopic surgery	LASIK	medication dispensing
devices for persons with a disability (motor or sensory, or cognitive)		
diabetes monitoring		

If no ideas, let's break it down: Give us anything related to any of these words (bio, medical, or engineering)

- Good ideas! – they all fit into the broad definition of BME:

"The application of science and technology to solve problems in biology and medicine."

III. Activity: BRAINSTORMING/DESIGNING

First activity = **Brainstorming** w/ candy

- A big part of BME at Madison is a set of classes where we learn how to design medical devices for doctors and companies...

- We're going to lead you guys through the design process now:

- Everything starts with brainstorming, so we want you guys to help us brainstorm the best video game controller possible:

> How do you want it to look? Feel? What should it do?

(Don't be afraid to give us really crazy ideas! Do you want it to feed you popcorn? Control the lights or volume? Blow cold air on you?)

Ideas on board

Divide into matrix categories:

- *Functions* - *Cost* - *Looks* - *Ergonomics* - *Easy to learn*

Second part = **Design evaluation in groups**

- We're skipping the construction of rough prototypes now and pretending that these controllers are our alternative designs.

- We need to look at all of our alternatives and figure out which one our client prefers and/or the most people would actually want to buy!

Use pre-drawn matrix, add categories + controllers

- > Each group gets a controller and rates it on a scale of 0-5
 - Function: 0 = not cool, 5 means it can do a lot of cool things
 - Cost: 0 = expensive! 5 = cheap
 - Looks: 0 = ugly 5 = cool-looking
 - Ergonomics: 0 = uncomfortable 5 = easy to use and hold
 - Easy to learn: 0 = needs an manual 5 = could pick it up + use right away
- > Tally results, best will be closest to max of 25
- > Choose “final” design, talk about next steps (functional prototype, testing)

IV. **Life as a BME:**

a. You guys just helped us solve a design problem...

BUT, that’s not all BMEs do: there are several **main tracks** BME students can take

- talk about our individual tracks, what those types of BMEs do

- 1) Sara – Biomechanics
- 2) Emily – Health Care Systems
- 3) Michele - Biomaterials

- bring up remaining tracks: Bioinstrumentation, Medical Imaging

b. Now it may seem like a lot of these things that BMEs do are all **math and science related**, but within the engineering process, there are a lot of **different directions**:

Raise your hand if:

- you like doing creative things, or thinking of new ways to do things? → R&D (research and design) engineer!
- you like to get your hands dirty/build things/take things apart? → Manufacturing
- you like to convince other people that your ideas are right? Or if you like to work with other people in general ... → Sales/Marketing!
- you like doing experiments or if you are good at paying attention to details? → Testing/Validation!

We’ve just brought up a bunch of things you guys could do in industry (working at a business right after graduation), but **BMEs actually end up in a lot in a lot of areas**:

- industry (GE, 3M)
- grad school (take more classes [usually things no one else is learning about anywhere] and leading their own research)
- medical school (at least 4 more years of school, but can become anything from a dermatologist to a surgeon)
- OR a totally different field: law school, business school, etc.

V. **Our senior design project** (if time):

- Biology component (understand asthma + medications)
- Electrical component (circuit – temperature sensing)
- Computer programming (“brains”)
- Mechanical component (automatic inhaler shaking + pushing down)