Describe your overall duties/responsibilities as an Assembly Systems Engineer:

Powertrain Manufacturing Engineers at Ford are responsible for overseeing the development, validation, implementation and launch of the high volume assembly lines that produce our powertrain components (engine, transmission, axle, and electrification). We work with equipment suppliers and plant operations teams to develop robust systems that can meet the demand of our customers with quality and efficiency. Day-to-day responsibilities can range from reviewing design concepts with suppliers, to performing equipment validation studies, to process optimization and general project management.

Explain the skills/abilities that are required for being successful in your role:

Manufacturing Engineering at Ford can take on a number of different forms so flexibility to job function is key. To be successful, the engineer must have a solid technical background and understanding of common place manufacturing processes to identify and correct root cause problems. We work with all other skill teams, from product development to UAW, so manufacturing engineers must also possess the leadership and personal skills to work with all members of the production and engineering teams.

What advice would you give to students who are considering majoring in Mechanical Engineering?

Mechanical engineering is a very broad and challenging program at Ohio State that can take you in any number of directions. As you are exposed to a wide range of disciplines throughout school, take this time to learn what you like and don’t like to do. I would also strongly recommend utilizing the internships and co-ops through ECS as this will also help you get a better understanding of your own career goals.