IT Resources at UT Austin and in the Department of Mechanical Engineering, for Students

Available computers and accounts:
(1) Mechanical Engineering Technology and Educational Resource (METER) services are available to support the teaching efforts of the department. They include a general purpose computer lab, called the METER Lab, located in ETC 2.126, and a virtual desktop environment that can be accessed remotely.

http://www.me.utexas.edu/meter/ and http://www.me.utexas.edu/meter/virtual_desktop.php
Both services require authentication with a permanent UT EID:  https://idmanager.its.utexas.edu/eid_self_help/

NOTE: You must have both registered and paid your tuition/fees before you can log on with your UT EID! On the first day of classes you will need to visit the following website to add yourself to the METER Lab group: http://www.engr.utexas.edu/itg/ and select “Enable Your Account”.  NOTE: Due to lab maintenance students will not be able to log on to machines in the lab until the first day of classes.

(2) The METER also provides access to high-speed Linux servers for research and graduate level support via our High Performance Computing (HPC) systems: http://hpc.me.utexas.edu/

Building and METER Lab Access:
Physical access to the ETC Building and to the METER Lab is available via proximity card. 24/7 Proximity card access will be given to all enrolled ME students the day after the 12th class day of each long semester, and after the 4th class day in the summer. Go to this web site to find out about proximity cards: http://www.utexas.edu/its/help/id-center/1597

Communication with Students:
University Electronic Mail Student Notification Policy (Use of E-mail for Official Correspondence to Students).
http://www.utexas.edu/cio/policies/ “The University will exercise the right to send e-mail communications to all students, and the University will expect that e-mail communications will be received and read in a timely manner. Every student must provide the University with his or her official e-mail address using the online update form in UT Direct: https://utdirect.utexas.edu/utdirect/bio/address_change.WBX. The student's official e-mail address is the destination to which the University will send official e-mail communications.”

Network and Responsible Use: http://www.utexas.edu/vp/it/policies/
The ETC Building is part of The University of Texas at Austin Network (UTNet) and has both wired and wireless network coverage available throughout the building. All public network ports and wireless access require authentication with a UTEID. UTNet is a shared resource and all users must adhere to the UT Acceptable Use Policy:
NOTE: “It is not responsible to use disproportionate amounts of information resources. Examples of disproportionate uses generally include activities such as the misuse of peer-to-peer (P2P) applications, streaming media at high bit rates, or serving a multi-user game.” Your network connection will be disabled if network bandwidth is over-utilized.

Knowing Bandwidth Usage and Limits: http://www.utexas.edu/its/help/wireless-and-wired-public/403
As a user of the Public Network, you have a limited amount of external bandwidth that you may consume each week at no cost. Restrictions to external bandwidth consumption are in place to ensure that bandwidth is distributed equally among users of both the Public Network and UTnet, the campus backbone network.

Computer Security: http://security.utexas.edu/
All computers connected to the network on the UT Campus and in the ETC building are REQUIRED to have critical security patches and anti-virus software up-to-date. They must be free of viruses and free of any other malicious code that could damage or reduce/remove the availability of resources to other computers. Your network connection will be disabled if your machine is found to be infected or vulnerable.

Other Computing Resources:
(1) Computing resources available at The University of Texas Information Technology Services (ITS) Department.
http://www.utexas.edu/its/
(2) Software, such as anti-virus software, available to Students, Faculty, and Staff of The University of Texas at Austin. This software may be obtained on-line at the following link. http://www.utexas.edu/its/bevoware/
(3) Computing resources, including support for classroom projection systems, available in the Cockrell School of Engineering (CSE) are located at: http://www.engr.utexas.edu/itg/

Where to get computer help:
(1) The ME Help Desk provides many services for all faculty, staff and students in the Department of Mechanical Engineering. It is located in ETC 2.126A, inside the METER Lab, and is open M-F from 8 to 5 pm. Contact us at: mailto:helpdesk@me.utexas.edu or call 471-5951.  (2) The UT ITS Department Help Desk: http://www.utexas.edu/its/helpdesk/