



UNSW Engineering

Bachelor of Engineering (Honours) (Environmental Engineering)

What do environmental engineers do?

Environmental engineers focus on the impact of engineering activities on the environment. They apply a broad knowledge of engineering, scientific and environmental processes to identify environmental problems and develop effective solutions. They also coordinate the activities of various specialist groups such as biologists, ecologists and geologists within major projects.

Environmental engineers also work on providing sustainable infrastructure. They improve current degraded environments and minimise the disruption of today's engineering activities on tomorrow's environment.

What will your study involve?

You'll gain a fundamental understanding of Science together with elements of Civil Engineering to equip you to solve problems in ethical

infrastructure and environmentally sustainable design. When studying at the UNSW School of Civil and Environmental Engineering, you'll focus on Management, System Design, Water, Geotechnical and Transport Engineering. You'll also study aspects of Chemical Engineering, Biological Sciences and Environmental Engineering. You can now incorporate a Humanitarian Minor into your program.

UNSW Civil & Environmental Engineering

- 1st in Australia and 24th globally for Civil and Structural Engineering (QS Subject Rankings 2025).
- We have close links with key professional, commercial and industrial organisations, allowing us to offer exciting and innovative student-led projects and industry-based training.
- Our degrees place a strong emphasis on practical design and problem-solving.

Program details

Lowest Selection Rank (2025): 92.00

Duration: Four-year embedded honours degree

Study areas: Environmental Engineering, Environmental Studies, Geotechnical Engineering, Transport Engineering, Water and Waste Engineering

Assumed knowledge: HSC level Mathematics Extension 1, Physics

Portfolio Entry: UNSW offers the Faculty of Engineering Admission Scheme (FEAS) which is a pathway for students interested in studying undergraduate engineering to support their academic results, find out more at unsw.to/feas

Accreditation

Your Bachelor of Engineering (Honours) degree is recognised globally, is accredited with Engineers Australia, and is also acknowledged by the Washington Accord, which lets you work in over 20 countries across the globe upon graduation.

Career options

There is a broad range of rewarding career opportunities available to environmental engineers across the water, construction, energy and manufacturing industries. Graduates also consult on major tender projects such as recycling or desalination plants and play a large role in planning sustainable infrastructure and government policy.

Student Testimonials

"This degree provides excellent job flexibility as there is such a wide range of industries you can work in and positively impact. This year I helped organise the Inter-Uni Appropriate Technology Competition for Engineers Without Borders, and I loved seeing all the unique designs and discussing ideas with other students."

- Cassie Murphy
Environmental Engineering

Example Study Plan



Year 1		Year 2		Year 3		Year 4	
Term 1	DESN1000 Engineering Design and Innovation	Term 1	General Education Course	Term 1	CVEN3203 Applied Geotechnics	Term 1	CVEN4050 (6 UoC) Thesis A OR CVEN4951 (4 UoC) Research Thesis A
	BIOS1301 Ecology, Sustainability & Environmental Science		ENGG2500 Fluid Mechanics for Engineers		CVEN3701 Environmental Frameworks, Law & Economics		Discipline Elective Course
			MATH2018 Engineering Mathematics 2D OR MATH2019 Mathematics 2D (2E)		CVEN3501 Water Resources Engineering		General Education Course
Term 2	MATH1131 Mathematics 1A	Term 2	DESN2000 Engineering Design & Professional Practice	Term 2	Discipline Elective Course	Term 2	CVEN4051 (6 UoC) Thesis B OR CVEN4952 (4 UoC) Research Thesis B
	CHEM1011 Chemistry 1A		CVEN2002 Engineering Computations		CVEN3402 Transport Engineering & Environmental Sustainability		CVEN4701 Planning Sustainable Infrastructure
	PHYS1121 Physics 1A OR PHYS1131 Higher Physics 1A		CVEN2701 Water and Atmospheric Chemistry		CVEN3502 Water and Wastewater Engineering		Free Elective Course
Term 3	CVEN1701 Environmental Principles and Systems	Term 3	CEIC2009 Material and Energy Balances	Term 3	CVEN3702 Solid Wastes and Contaminant Transport	Term 3	Discipline Elective Course
	ENGG1811 Computing for Engineers		CVEN3202 Soil Mechanics		CVEN3101 Engineering Operations and Control		Free Elective Course
	MATH1231 Mathematics 1B						CVEN4953 Research Thesis C (4 UoC)

NOTES

You'll be required to complete 60 days of Industrial Training throughout your degree.

This degree example is indicative only and subject to change at any time without prior notice.
For the latest degree information visit the relevant UNSW Handbook page at www.handbook.unsw.edu.au.

UNSW's new 'flex-semester' calendar is scheduled to start in 2028.
For more information see <https://www.unsw.edu.au/academic-calendar-project>.



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Degree
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