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If you have any questions about courses, applications or student life at Bristol, please contact the Enquiries Team.

### Photography

Dan Rowley, Ad Crossley, Nick Smith  
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# Civil Engineering



Undergraduate study



# Courses

## Single Honours

### **BEng Civil Engineering**

three years H205

### **MEng Civil Engineering**

four years H200

### **MEng Civil Engineering with Study in Continental Europe**

four years H201

### **MEng Civil Engineering with Study Abroad\***

four years

### **MEng Civil Engineering with a Year in Industry†**

five years

\* Entry by transfer from H200 or H201 at the end of the first year.

† Entry by transfer from H200, H205 or H201 at the end of the first year subject to eligibility criteria.

This leaflet contains information for students planning to start university in autumn 2020. We have made every effort to ensure all details are correct at the time of going to press (May 2019). However, since this information is subject to change, you are advised to check the University's website, [bristol.ac.uk/ug-study](http://bristol.ac.uk/ug-study), for the latest updates.

# Why study civil engineering at Bristol?

Civil engineers shape the basic structure of the world we live in. They are responsible for the creation and maintenance of much of the infrastructure that we often take for granted. Every reservoir, dam, bridge, road, tunnel and building is designed and built by civil engineers. They are a vital part of multi-disciplinary teams tackling sustainability challenges in both developed and developing countries.

Bristol's Department of Civil Engineering has an international reputation for quality, with excellent teaching and research. You will learn under the guidance of academics and industry experts involved in cutting-edge civil engineering research and practice. The course structure is continually updated to reflect our work and other advances in civil engineering around the world. Working with professional institutions, we look five to ten years ahead and beyond to anticipate the emerging needs and future shape of the field.

If you want to make a difference to the world and to the quality of people's lives, this is the course for you. Our degree courses will develop your technical and project management skills, giving

you the opportunity to be a future leader in the civil engineering industry. As a small department – one of six in a strongly integrated engineering faculty – we offer a friendly and supportive learning environment. The relatively small number of students admitted each year means that we can get to know you individually and give you the kind of personal attention that is necessary for studio-based design teaching.

Our aim is to inspire and equip the next generation of civil engineers to influence the world we live in.

You will learn about:

- environmental and sustainable engineering;
- designing and building major structures;
- project management;
- community and infrastructure planning, design and liaison;
- disaster risk management;
- urban infrastructure and smart cities.

## 3rd in the UK for Civil Engineering

*Guardian University Guide 2019*

'Bristol is one of the best places in the world to study civil engineering. The lecturers are really inspiring and push you to challenge yourself. The course is very well rounded with elements of architecture and energy. Sustainability is integrated in the course, which is something that I am really passionate about.'

Abdel (MEng Civil Engineering)

## What will you study?

The first two years of all our civil engineering courses cover the basics of engineering analysis and design. This includes structures, mathematics, soil and fluid mechanics, materials, computing and surveying. You will also have options including studying sustainable development, understanding architecture or developing a foreign language.

In years three and four you can study specialist areas through optional units, which may include Sustainable Construction, Sustainable Systems, and Wind and Marine Power, or specialise in earthquake engineering. The third and fourth years offer a major research project in which you can choose a problem related to one of the research areas of the department. Units in professional studies will widen your knowledge of the business, management, ethics and legal sides of the construction industry.

Design is at the heart of our courses. For example, in the first year you will find a creative solution for designing and making a model bridge. Second-year design covers building design and will give you many skills required to work in industry as a practising structural engineer. The third year includes design projects aimed at developing early-stage design skills (scheme design); they may include designing dams, buildings and road intersections. For MEng students, the fourth year sees the culmination of your studies in a design project. These are based on real design problems which have often emerged through our links with industry. The final year projects are recognised by our external examiners and industry partners as being of outstanding quality.

Students on the MEng with Study in Continental Europe or Study Abroad degrees will spend the third year at a partner university in Europe or farther afield. Your study plan will be arranged on an individual basis, depending on where you spend the year abroad – it may include projects and specialist subjects that are not taught at Bristol.

The three-year BEng Civil Engineering is particularly attractive to international students who may not require a four-year MEng degree to qualify as professional engineers in their own countries. It is also attractive to UK and EU students who may not initially want to commit to a four-year degree.

Our course is demanding, but you will be guided by first-class engineers in a friendly and supportive environment. You will be encouraged to ask questions and challenge current thinking. The department provides an excellent teaching environment using a mixture of lectures, example classes, guided reading, computer-assisted learning, site visits, group work in laboratories, and group projects. The course is assessed through a combination of written examinations, reports, and oral or poster presentations.

It is important that you enjoy your university education and feel supported throughout; you will have a personal tutor with whom you can discuss academic or personal matters on an individual basis.



“The best things about the course are the projects in different areas. We’ve explored surveying, design of concrete and steel buildings, and design of a dam, a highway junction and a school. We were also given a vast array of projects to work on in our fourth year.”

Vessy (MEng Civil Engineering)

## Facilities and links with industry

### Our facilities

The department's research activity provides a stimulating environment in which to study civil engineering. Our geotechnical, structural and hydraulic water engineering facilities are world class, and undergraduate students use these in their learning. The earthquake shaking table, the most advanced in Europe, is the heart of the Earthquake Research Centre and can test structures up to 15 metres high.

The recent Engineering Growth Project invested £14 million to equip the Faculty of Engineering for the next generation of research, practice and innovation. This major expansion has meant our facilities now include state-of-the-art equipment and large, flexible teaching, design, study and workshop spaces, enabling interactive teaching and learning. Our new atrium and café act as social learning and meeting spaces, with the option to book project and study rooms.

### Industrial Liaison Office

The Industrial Liaison Office (ILO) manages the Faculty of Engineering's links with a diverse set of world-class engineering and technology companies and works to ensure that our students engage with industry from the very start of their studies.

As an engineering student at Bristol, you will benefit from an outstanding range of activities designed to enhance your employability. These include our Inside Track lecture series, where business insiders offer first-hand insight into the engineering industry. Our industrial mentoring and internship schemes provide opportunities to gain valuable experience and make important connections, and our regular newsletter highlights further opportunities and industry events. See our website for more information: [bristol.ac.uk/engineering/ilo](http://bristol.ac.uk/engineering/ilo).

'The Faculty of Engineering comprises a close-knit academic team, uniquely placed to take on the engineering challenges of the 21st century.'

Professor Ian Bond,  
Dean of the Faculty of Engineering



[bristol.ac.uk/ug-study](http://bristol.ac.uk/ug-study)



## Careers and graduate destinations

Bristol graduates are recognised as being among the best in the country and are actively sought after by top employers. We regularly feature toward the top of national graduate employment tables.

Major recruiters of civil engineering graduates include:

- consultants – who plan and design projects and may supervise or plan implementation;
- contractors – who organise the execution of designs on sites, oversee the labour force and materials, and consider time, cost and safety constraints;
- utility companies and local authorities, including water, highways and drainage – who may act in both design and site management capacities;
- the Army, particularly the Royal Engineers;
- other large engineering industries, including petroleum and mining, public transport, power generation and supply companies.

The University Careers Service provides careers information, advice and guidance for all students. This includes help on writing CVs, cover letters and application forms, setting up mock interviews, and organising relevant workshops, talks and presentations.

**85 per cent of MEng Civil Engineering graduates were in work or further study six months after graduation, and 95 per cent of those working entered professional or managerial roles.**

Destinations of Leavers from Higher Education survey, graduates from 2016/17



### Graduate employers

Skanska UK  
Arup  
Ramboll  
Mott Macdonald  
Tony Gee and Partners



### Career destinations

Graduate Civil Engineer  
Graduate Structural Engineer  
Graduate Geotechnical Engineer  
Delivery Analyst  
Assistant Operations Manager

Source: Destinations of Leavers from Higher Education survey 2016/17. Find out more at [bristol.ac.uk/careers/be-inspired](http://bristol.ac.uk/careers/be-inspired).



'The best part about studying civil engineering at Bristol is the ability to use the world-class civil engineering laboratories. In my third-year research project I spent most of my time in the labs using machinery and instruments that many young engineers can only dream of.'

Emily (MEng Civil Engineering)

# Making your application

Visit [bristol.ac.uk/ug20-civilengineering](http://bristol.ac.uk/ug20-civilengineering) for more information about our courses.

## Typical offer for BEng/MEng Civil Engineering

**A-levels** A\*AA including A\*A (in any order) in Mathematics and a science-related subject (contextual AAB including AA in Mathematics and a science-related subject).

**IB Diploma** 38 points overall with 18 at Higher Level, including 7, 6 (in any order) at Higher Level in Mathematics and a science-related subject (contextual 34 points overall with 17 at Higher Level, including 6, 6 at Higher Level in Mathematics and a science-related subject).

Our contextual offer is a grade reduction of up to two grades below the standard entry requirements, made to applicants from under-represented groups. Find out more at [bristol.ac.uk/contextual-offers](http://bristol.ac.uk/contextual-offers).

**GCSEs** No specific subjects required.

**Selection process** UCAS.

For other accepted qualifications, and for our English language requirements, visit [bristol.ac.uk/ug20-civilengineering](http://bristol.ac.uk/ug20-civilengineering).



Read more about how we support you when you are here:

[bristol.ac.uk/students](http://bristol.ac.uk/students)

[bristol.ac.uk/ug-study](http://bristol.ac.uk/ug-study)

## Application advice for civil engineering courses

We will look closely at your potential academic ability, based on previous examination results and predicted grades, and your intellectual motivation. We also look at what you say about your personal interests, including your extracurricular activities and positions of responsibility, and the report provided by your academic referee. In particular, we are looking for:

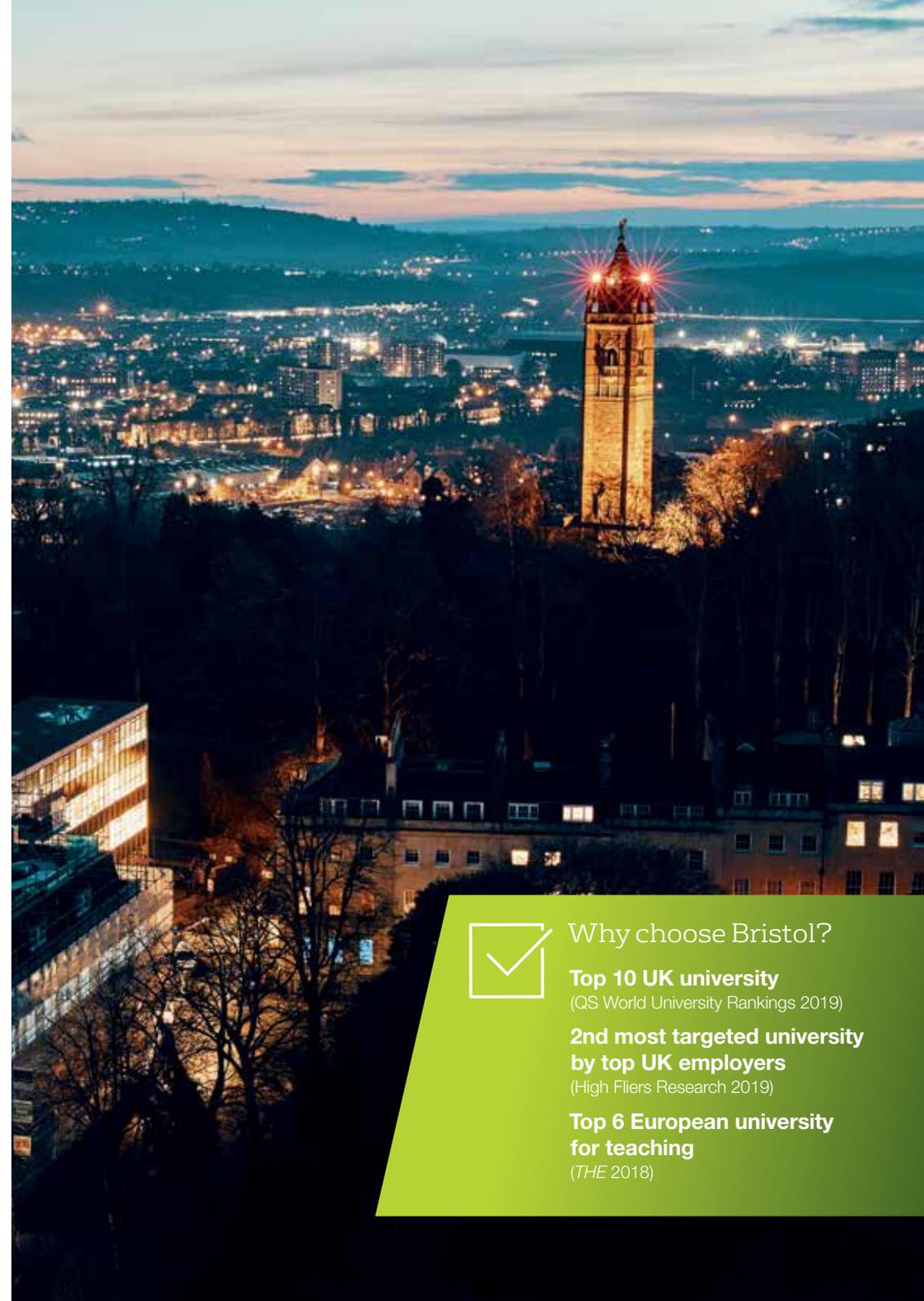
- your interest in and commitment to the subject;
- evidence of clear thinking and understanding;
- problem-solving and analytical skills;
- clear evidence of relevant reading or research into the subject area;
- your standard of written English.

Additional criteria we consider include your response to any challenges faced, teamwork skills, and how appropriate our civil engineering course is to your declared interests and aspirations.

## Further information

- Find out more about the Department of Civil Engineering: [bristol.ac.uk/civilengineering](http://bristol.ac.uk/civilengineering).
- Institution of Civil Engineers: [www.ice.org.uk](http://www.ice.org.uk)
- The Chartered Institution of Highways & Transportation: [www.ciht.org.uk](http://www.ciht.org.uk)
- Institution of Structural Engineers: [www.istructe.org](http://www.istructe.org)
- Engineering Council: [www.engc.org.uk](http://www.engc.org.uk)
- Engineering Development Trust – The Year in Industry: [www.etrust.org.uk/the-year-in-industry](http://www.etrust.org.uk/the-year-in-industry)

This information is correct at the time of printing (May 2019), but we recommend you check the University website for the latest information: [bristol.ac.uk/ug20-civilengineering](http://bristol.ac.uk/ug20-civilengineering).



## Why choose Bristol?

**Top 10 UK university**  
(QS World University Rankings 2019)

**2nd most targeted university by top UK employers**  
(High Fliers Research 2019)

**Top 6 European university for teaching**  
(THE 2018)