CIVIL ENGINEERING, B.S. (ENGINEERING)

Begin Campus: Any Penn State Campus

End Campus: University Park

Program Description

The program in Civil and Environmental Engineering is designed to provide the basic undergraduate education required for private practice and public service in civil engineering and/or continue formal education. Emphasis is placed on the fundamentals of civil engineering principles and design techniques. Students utilize basic engineering science concepts in several of the different specialty areas (e.g., construction/management, environmental, materials/pavement design/geotechnical, structures, transportation, and water resources). Finally the students are able to choose an area of specialization for professional practice or graduate studies.

The program is broadened by courses in communication, arts, humanities, social and behavioral sciences, as well as other engineering disciplines. Students gain experience in working as members of a team and using interdisciplinary approaches to solve problems. These experiences, as well as those related to engineering principles and design, are provided through exercises in the classroom, laboratory, and field. The program culmination is a capstone design course wherein the students’ knowledge and skills are applied to actual engineering problems.

What is Civil Engineering?

Civil engineering is one of the oldest and most socially-relevant engineering disciplines. Grounded in mathematics and science, civil engineers make a lasting impact as they plan, design, construct, operate, and maintain the everyday, yet critical, infrastructure systems needed in our daily lives. In this challenging and diverse field, civil engineers also find solutions for critical environmental issues, including slowing the progress and mitigating the effects of climate change, eliminating the causes and treating the effects of environmental pollutants, and providing access to clean water. In recent years, the rapid application of new technologies has fostered the development of autonomous vehicles, 3D printing, smart structures, advanced materials, and new forms of renewable energy.

You Might Like This Program If...

- You want to design and build large-scale projects that last a long time.
- You care about the quality of the water that comes out of the faucet.
- You are interested in the operations and safety of future transportation systems.
- You try to find sustainable solutions for every challenge, big or small.
- You would like to use your technical skills in an exciting, people-serving profession.

Entrance to Major

In order to be eligible for entrance to this major, students must satisfy the following requirements by the end of the semester during which the admission to major process is carried out.

- Completed 29-55 cumulative credits (credits completed at Penn State for which a quality letter grade was earned)
- Completed with a C or better the following courses: EDSGN 100, CHEM 110, MATH 140, MATH 141, and PHYS 211
- Attained at least a 2.6 cumulative grade point average

* In the event that the major is under enrollment control, a higher minimum cumulative grade-point average is likely to be needed and students must be enrolled in the College of Engineering or Division of Undergraduate Studies at the time of confirming their major choice.

Degree Requirements

For the Bachelor of Science degree in Civil Engineering, a minimum of 127 credits is required:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Requirement</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>General Education</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Requirements for the Major</td>
<td>109</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

27 of the 45 credits for General Education are included in the Requirements for the Major. This includes: 9 credits of GN courses; 6 credits of GQ courses; 3 credits of GS courses; 9 credits of GWS courses.

Requirements for the Major

To graduate, a student enrolled in the major must earn a grade of C or better in each course designated by the major as a C-required course, as specified by Senate Policy 82-44 (http://senate.psu.edu/policies-and-rules-for-undergraduate-students/82-00-and-83-00-degree-requirements/#82-44).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CHEM 111</td>
<td>Experimental Chemistry I</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GEOSC 1</td>
<td>Physical Geology</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MATH 220</td>
<td>Matrices</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STAT 401</td>
<td>Experimental Methods</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CE 310</td>
<td>Surveying</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CE 321</td>
<td>Highway Engineering</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CE 332</td>
<td>Professionalism, Economics &amp; Construction Project Delivery</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CE 335</td>
<td>Engineering Mechanics of Soils</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CE 336</td>
<td>Materials Science for Civil Engineers</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CE 340</td>
<td>Structural Analysis</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CE 360</td>
<td>Fluid Mechanics</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CE 370</td>
<td>Introduction to Environmental Engineering</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHEM 110</td>
<td>Chemical Principles I</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EDSGN 100</td>
<td>Cornerstone Engineering Design</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EMCH 211</td>
<td>Statics</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EMCH 212</td>
<td>Dynamics</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EMCH 213</td>
<td>Strength of Materials</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENGL 202C</td>
<td>Effective Writing: Technical Writing</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MATH 140</td>
<td>Calculus With Analytic Geometry I</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MATH 141</td>
<td>Calculus with Analytic Geometry II</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MATH 251</td>
<td>Ordinary and Partial Differential Equations</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PHYS 211</td>
<td>General Physics: Mechanics</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
General Education

Connecting career and curiosity, the General Education curriculum provides the opportunity for students to acquire transferable skills necessary to be successful in the future and to thrive while living in interconnected contexts. General Education aids students in developing intellectual curiosity, a strengthened ability to think, and a deeper sense of aesthetic appreciation. These are requirements for all baccalaureate students and are often partially incorporated into the requirements of a program. For additional information, see the General Education

Requirements (https://bulletins.psu.edu/undergraduate/general-education/baccalaureate-degree-general-education-program/) section of the Bulletin and consult your academic adviser.

The keystone symbol appears next to the title of any course that is designated as a General Education course. Program requirements may also satisfy General Education requirements and vary for each program.

Foundations (grade of C or better is required.)
- Quantification (GQ): 6 credits
- Writing and Speaking (GWS): 9 credits

Knowledge Domains
- Arts (GA): 6 credits
- Health and Wellness (GHW): 3 credits
- Humanities (GH): 6 credits
- Social and Behavioral Sciences (GS): 6 credits
- Natural Sciences (GN): 9 credits

Integrative Studies (may also complete a Knowledge Domain requirement)
- Inter-Domain or Approved Linked Courses: 6 credits

University Degree Requirements

First Year Engagement

All students enrolled in a college or the Division of Undergraduate Studies at University Park, and the World Campus are required to take 1 to 3 credits of the First-Year Seminar, as specified by their college First-Year Engagement Plan.

Other Penn State colleges and campuses may require the First-Year Seminar; colleges and campuses that do not require a First-Year Seminar provide students with a first-year engagement experience.

First-year baccalaureate students entering Penn State should consult their academic adviser for these requirements.

Cultures Requirement
6 credits are required and may satisfy other requirements

United States Cultures: 3 credits
International Cultures: 3 credits

Writing Across the Curriculum
3 credits required from the college of graduation and likely prescribed as part of major requirements.

Total Minimum Credits
A minimum of 120 degree credits must be earned for a baccalaureate degree. The requirements for some programs may exceed 120 credits. Students should consult with their college or department adviser for information on specific credit requirements.

Quality of Work
Candidates must complete the degree requirements for their major and earn at least a 2.00 grade-point average for all courses completed within their degree program.

Limitations on Source and Time for Credit Acquisition

The college dean or campus chancellor and program faculty may require up to 24 credits of course work in the major to be taken at the location or in the college or program where the degree is earned. Credit used toward degree programs may need to be earned from a particular source or within time constraints (see Senate Policy 83-80 (http://senate.psu.edu/
policies-and-rules-for-undergraduate-students/82-00-and-83-00-degree-requirements/#83-80)). For more information, check the Suggested Academic Plan for your intended program.

**Program Educational Objectives**
The educational objectives of our undergraduate program will prepare our graduates to:

- begin and sustain a career in consulting, industry, or state and federal government agencies, such as the departments of transportation and departments of environmental protection;
- lead and work in interdisciplinary teams needed to design sustainable and resilient infrastructure through knowledge and application of environmental, geotechnical, materials, structural, transportation, and water resources engineering;
- engage in life-long learning opportunities, including graduate school; and
- obtain and maintain professional licensure

**Student Outcomes**
Student outcomes describe what students are expected to know and be able to do by the time of graduation. The Civil Engineering program is designed to enable students to:

1. Identify, formulate, and solve complex engineering problems by applying principles of engineering, science, and mathematics
2. Apply engineering design to produce solutions that meet specified needs with consideration of public health, safety, and welfare, as well as global, cultural, social, environmental, and economic factors
3. Communicate effectively with a range of audiences
4. Recognize ethical and professional responsibilities in engineering situations and make informed judgments, which must consider the impact of engineering solutions in global, economic, environmental, and societal contexts
5. Function effectively on a team whose members together provide leadership, create a collaborative and inclusive environment, establish goals, plan tasks, and meet objectives
6. Develop and conduct appropriate experimentation, analyze and interpret data, and use engineering judgment to draw conclusions
7. Acquire and apply new knowledge as needed, using appropriate learning strategies.

**Academic Advising**
The objectives of the university’s academic advising program are to help advisees identify and achieve their academic goals, to promote their intellectual discovery, and to encourage students to take advantage of both in- and out-of-class educational opportunities in order that they become self-directed learners and decision makers.

Both advisers and advisees share responsibility for making the advising relationship succeed. By encouraging their advisees to become engaged in their education, to meet their educational goals, and to develop the habit of learning, advisers assume a significant educational role. The advisee’s unit of enrollment will provide each advisee with a primary academic adviser, the information needed to plan the chosen program of study, and referrals to other specialized resources.

READ SENATE POLICY 32-00: ADVISING POLICY (https://senate.psu.edu/policies-and-rules-for-undergraduate-students/32-00-advising-policy/)

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**Suggested Academic Plan**
The suggested academic plan(s) listed on this page are the plan(s) that are in effect during the 2022-23 academic year. To access previous years’ suggested academic plans, please visit the archive (https://bulletins.psu.edu/undergraduate/archive/) to view the appropriate Undergraduate Bulletin edition (Note: the archive only contains suggested academic plans beginning with the 2018-19 edition of the Undergraduate Bulletin).

**Civil Engineering, B.S. at University Park Campus**
The course series listed below provides only one of the many possible ways to move through this curriculum. The University may make changes in policies, procedures, educational offerings, and requirements at any time. This plan should be used in conjunction with your degree audit (accessible in LionPATH as either an Academic Requirements or What If report). Please consult with a Penn State academic adviser on a regular basis to develop and refine an academic plan that is appropriate for you.

If you are starting at a campus other than the one this plan is ending at, please refer to: http://advising.engr.psu.edu/degree-requirements/academic-plans-by-major.aspx

**First Year**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Fall Credits</th>
<th>Spring Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CE 100S (or other First Year Seminar)†</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>CHEM 111</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHEM 110 (GN)ᵗᵉᵗ</td>
<td>3 ECON 102 or 104 (GS)ᵗ</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENGL 15, 30H, or ESL 15</td>
<td>3 MATH 141 or 141E (GQ)ᵗᵉᵗ</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EDSGN 100*</td>
<td>3 PHYS 211 (PHYS 211L and PHYS 211R (GN))ᵗᵉᵗ</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MATH 140 or 140E (GO)ᵗᵉᵗ</td>
<td>4 General Education Course†</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Education Course†</td>
<td>3 General Education Course (GHW)†</td>
<td>1.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>17</strong></td>
<td><strong>16.5</strong></td>
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**Second Year**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Fall Credits</th>
<th>Spring Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CAS 100A or 100B (GWS)ᵗᵉᵗ</td>
<td>3 CMPSC 200 or 201</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EMCH 211*</td>
<td>3 EMCH 212*</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GEOSC 1</td>
<td>3 EMCH 213 or 213D*</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MATH 251*</td>
<td>4 IE 424 or STAT 401</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>3</strong></td>
<td><strong>3</strong></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

*‡† indicates a prerequisite for the listed course.

**‡‡** Suggested courses taken during the fall and spring semesters of the student's senior year.

**§§** Suggested courses taken during the fall and spring semesters of the student's junior year.
### Third Year

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>Fall</th>
<th>Spring</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CE 310†</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>CE 321†</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CE 332‡</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>CE 335‡</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CE 336‡</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>CE 337‡</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CE 340‡</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>CE 370‡</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CE 360‡</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>ME 201</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Education Course†</td>
<td>1.5</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Credits</strong></td>
<td><strong>17</strong></td>
<td><strong>17</strong></td>
<td><strong>17</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Fourth Year

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>Fall</th>
<th>Spring</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ENGL 202C (GWS)‡‡</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Civil Engineering Capstone Design</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Civil Engineering Elective</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Civil Engineering Elective</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Civil Engineering Elective</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Technical Elective</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Technical Elective</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Technical Elective</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Education Course†</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>General Education Course†</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Credits</strong></td>
<td><strong>15</strong></td>
<td><strong>15</strong></td>
<td><strong>15</strong></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Total Credits 127**

* Course requires a grade of C or better for the major
‡ Course requires a grade of C or better for General Education
# Course is an Entrance to Major requirement
† Course satisfies General Education and degree requirement

### University Requirements and General Education Notes:

US and IL are abbreviations used to designate courses that satisfy University Requirements (United States and International Cultures).

W, M, X, and Y are the suffixes at the end of a course number used to designate courses that satisfy University Writing Across the Curriculum requirement.

GWS, GQ, GHW, GN, GA, GH, and GS are abbreviations used to identify General Education program courses. General Education includes Foundations (GWS and GQ) and Knowledge Domains (GHW, GN, GA, GH, GS, and Integrative Studies). Foundations courses (GWS and GQ) require a grade of 'C' or better.

Integrative Studies courses are required for the General Education program. N is the suffix at the end of a course number used to designate an Inter-Domain course and Z is the suffix at the end of a course number used to designate a Linked course.

All incoming Schreyer Honors College first-year students at University Park will take ENGL 137H/CAS 137H in the fall semester and ENGL 138T/CAS 138T in the spring semester. These courses carry the GWS designation and replace both ENGL 30H and CAS 100. Each course is 3 credits.

### Career Paths

Civil engineers are responsible for designing, building, and maintaining the critical systems that support society and protect the environment. Graduates of the civil engineering program are prepared to be innovative leaders in a diverse range of industries. Students are routinely recruited for positions in the public sector with government agencies or in the private sector at consulting firms or construction companies. Students may also choose to continue their formal education by pursuing advanced degrees, and many remain in academia upon graduation.

### Careers

Our graduates work in a variety of fields to develop solutions for challenges in design, construction, research, and education. Civil engineering graduates work in the public sector for government agencies or in the private sector at consulting or construction firms. Some civil engineers hold supervisory or administrative positions, while others pursue careers in design, construction, or education.

MORE INFORMATION ABOUT POTENTIAL CAREER OPTIONS FOR GRADUATES OF THE CIVIL ENGINEERING PROGRAM (https://www.asce.org/careers/)

CAREER RESOURCES FOR CIVIL ENGINEERING STUDENTS (https://www.cee.psu.edu/academics/resources/career-resources.aspx)

### Opportunities for Graduate Studies

In our graduate programs, students learn in the classroom and the laboratory, finding a broad network of mentors and collaborators. After graduation, many career options await.

- **CE Elective**: CE Electives must be selected from two of these specific technical areas in the program: Structures (X40); Water Resources Engineering (X60); Environmental Engineering (X70).
- **Health and Physical Activity Elective**: Students who complete the ROTC Program may substitute 3 ROTC credits for the GHW requirement and 3 ROTC credits for M E 201.
- **Technical Elective**: Select from department list. Students who complete the Cooperative Education Program may substitute the 3-credit sequence of ENGR 295, ENGR 395, and ENGR 495 for a Technical Elective.
- **‡ If a student is pursuing the Structural sub-discipline in Civil Engineering, if CE 340 is not taken in the 5th semester it may delay graduation.**

- **‡‡ Course requires a grade of C or better for General Education**
- **‡‡‡ Course requires a grade of C or better for General Education**
- **‡‡‡‡ Course is an Entrance to Major requirement**
- **‡‡‡‡‡ Course satisfies General Education and degree requirement**

MORE INFORMATION ABOUT OPPORTUNITIES FOR GRADUATE STUDIES (https://www.cee.psu.edu/academics/graduate/)

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>Fall</th>
<th>Spring</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PHYS 212 (PHYS 212L and PHYS 212R (GNI)†)</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>MATH 220</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Education Course†</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Credits</strong></td>
<td><strong>17</strong></td>
<td><strong>17</strong></td>
<td><strong>17</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Professional Resources

- American Concrete Institute (https://www.concrete.org/)
- American Society of Civil Engineers (https://www.asce.org)
- PSU Civil and Environmental Engineering Professional Organization Student Chapter List (https://www.cee.psu.edu/academics/resources/student-organizations.aspx)

Accreditation

The baccalaureate program in Civil Engineering is accredited by the Engineering Accreditation Commission of ABET, https://www.abet.org/.

MORE INFORMATION ABOUT ABET ACCREDITATION (https://www.abet.org/)

Professional Licensure/Certification

Many U.S. states and territories require professional licensure/certification to be employed. If you plan to pursue employment in a licensed profession after completing this program, please visit the Professional Licensure/Certification Disclosures by State (https://psu.edu/state-licensure-disclosures/) interactive map.

Contact

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