



The University of Sydney

School of Civil Engineering

Guide for New Students

2009

<http://www.civil.usyd.edu.au/>

Welcome

On behalf of all staff I extend a warm welcome to The University of Sydney and in particular the School of Civil Engineering.

You are entering a new phase of your life. Your university education and the networks you create will prove to be of utmost importance to your career. Our lecturers at The University of Sydney are world leaders in the field of educating young Australians and international students to achieve their goals. We look forward to working with you to acquire the skills necessary to excel as an engineer.

Acquiring these skills is not a one way street. It is your responsibility to ensure you take full advantage of all teaching available, to attend and participate actively in all lectures and tutorials, and to ensure assignments are submitted on time. By working together and sharing a team spirit, we will all stand proud on the day you enter The Great Hall to graduate and take your place as a civil engineer ready to go anywhere in the world.

I encourage you to participate in discussions during lectures, to interact with fellow students and staff and to engage in the social activities of the University. We hold student-staff meetings and encourage your feedback to improve our teaching. On the social side, you can join the Sydney University Civil Engineering Society (SUCE) or one of the many sports clubs of the University. These clubs are good avenues for meeting fellow students and creating networks.

Thank you for your confidence in choosing Civil Engineering at The University of Sydney.

Yours sincerely



KJR Rasmussen
Professor and Head of School

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Academic Information

Studying Civil Engineering at The University of Sydney

"We employ graduates not for what they know, but for what they do when they don't know" according to one company that employs many engineers from The University of Sydney.

Our engineering programs are designed to produce engineers who are both well educated in the fundamentals and have acquired problem solving and design skills to allow them to work in a large range of industries. They will have sufficient technical knowledge and generic skills to solve those problems "that they don't know".

Our degrees offer

- **technical knowledge** in breadth and depth across a variety of civil engineering disciplines
- **graduate attributes** in the areas of Research & Inquiry, Information Literacy, Personal & Intellectual Autonomy, Ethical, Social & Professional Understanding, & Communication
- a commitment to **lifelong learning** recognising that engineering is continually advancing and will change during our lifetimes.

At The University of Sydney we want to do much more than just teach you how to use technology – we want you to be able to change technology. We hope that you will be able to do more than use existing knowledge, software and design codes – but instead to push the boundaries to find solutions to the problems of today and tomorrow – such as climate change, transportation infrastructure, population changes, renewable and sustainable design, and water.

We do more than just teach. A key part of our jobs is to perform **research**, and it is an integral part of every university's role to uncover knowledge to benefit society. We believe it is important to keep our undergraduate students informed about and involved in our research. We hope that many of our brightest minds take an active role in research at some stage of their careers.

Shared responsibilities in your study

At The University of Sydney our aim is nurture your ability to show **independent and critical thought**. The teaching relationship you had with your teachers in high school is different to the relationship you will have with your lecturers. Lecturers should be considered as your peers or facilitators as you learn. You are expected to take an active role in the learning process.

Students have a responsibility to:

- Attend and actively participate in the learning opportunities offered.
- Devote a suitable time to their studies – both on campus and at home study.
- Act ethically, honestly and professionally.
- Tell us about any problems you have as early as possible.

Our staff have a responsibility to:

- Provide guidance and information through access to suitable lectures, notes, textbooks and online material.
- Make expectations and outcomes clear.
- Provide reasonable and timely feedback on assessments.
- Act ethically, honestly and professionally.

This booklet will provide information on many of these issues.

Successful Learning and Study

Active involvement is one key to success.

Lectures:

- Attend every lecture
- Don't be afraid to ask a question!
- Make use of the summaries given at the start or end of lectures to reinforce what has been done yesterday, today (or tomorrow).
- Read any notes in detail before and after each lecture
- Make a genuine attempt at sample problems as soon as possible – this will immediately reinforce a method or procedure or concept that we have covered that lecture.

Tutorials:

- Attend every tutorial for the full duration and take full advantage of the tutor who is paid to be there for the duration. Staff might not be around the day before the exam.
- Attempt several problems before the tutorial.
- How do I start a problem? Stop, think about it, draw a diagram, and look at the examples for ideas on how you can approach different questions.

Private study:

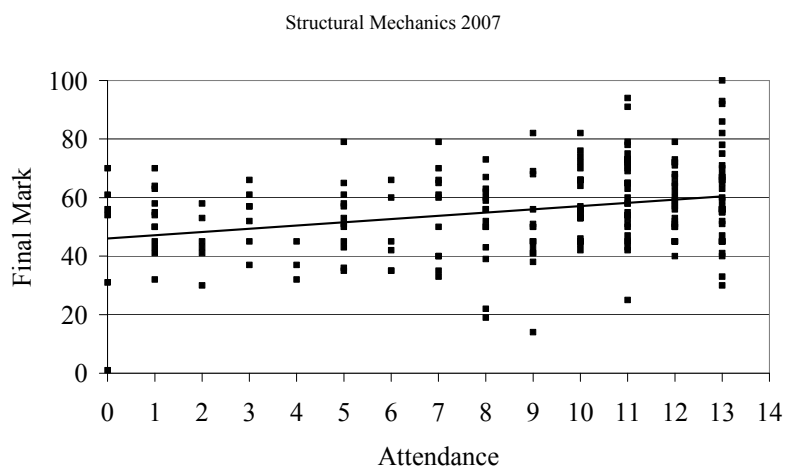
- A mix of working with friends and working alone is good. Getting help from your mates, or helping your mates is part of the learning process. Both parties must make academic intellectual input to the process.
- If you have the solutions, use them properly. Develop your self confidence to do the problems without the solutions. You will not have the solutions to the exam problems in the exam.
- Prepare for the exam by doing a past exam – lock yourself away for 3 hours with no friends, no SMS and no coffee.

Overall approach to the subject:

- Your lecturers should convince you of the relevance of topics as part of the remainder of the degree and the jobs you will do when you finish. You will keep using these concepts next week, next year and in 10 years time.

Attendance

We cannot stress strongly enough that regular attendance is a very important factor affecting your performance. It is important that you get into the practice of regularly attending all classes. You will find below a comparison of marks in the 2nd year Structural Mechanics course compared with lecture attendance. There is a clear trend between overall performance and attendance rates.



Graduate Attributes

An Engineering degree from The University of Sydney will do more than just teach the equations needed to design a building. There are many *generic skills* or *graduate attributes* that will be developed over the course of your study.

Research and Inquiry. Graduates of the Faculty of Engineering will be able to create new knowledge and understanding through the process of research and inquiry.

Information Literacy. Graduates of the Faculty of Engineering will be able to use information effectively in a range of contexts.

Personal and Intellectual Autonomy. Graduates of the Faculty of Engineering will be able to work independently and sustainably, in a way that is informed by openness, curiosity and a desire to meet new challenges.

Ethical, Social and Professional Understanding. Graduates of the Faculty of Engineering will hold personal values and beliefs consistent with their role as responsible members of local, national, international and professional communities

Communication. Graduates of the Faculty of Engineering will recognise and value communication as a tool for negotiating and creating new understanding, interacting with others, and furthering their own learning.

Visit <http://www.civil.usyd.edu.au/current/undergraduate/attributes.shtml> for full details.

Academic Honesty

Academic honesty is a core value of The University of Sydney. The University is committed to the basic academic right that students receive due credit for work submitted for assessment. Integral to this is the notion that it is clearly unfair for students to submit work for assessment that dishonestly represents the work of others as their own. Such activity represents a form of fraud. The University has a responsibility to the community in general, and the engineering profession in particular, that graduating students have adequately displayed competency in the required areas.

Practices which are considered dishonest include:

- Copying some or all of another student's assignment or from a text book or the internet without acknowledgement
- Obtain or submit a medical certificate and/or a special consideration form that misrepresents the nature or extent of any illness or misadventure.
- Knowingly assisting another student in an act of academic dishonesty

In Engineering it is common for students to work in groups to solve problems. This is perfectly acceptable and we encourage you to work together to help you understand course content. Unfortunately, this approach often leads to students submitting identical assignments. Any written assignment should be only your own work unless the course lecturer has informed you otherwise. In most circumstances, it is acceptable to discuss assignments with other students, compare completed assignments, methods and answers, or ask another student how to do a particular problem.

Read more: <http://www.civil.usyd.edu.au/current/undergraduate/honesty.shtml>.

Special Consideration

Students may suffer from illnesses, hardships or conditions that can cause difficulty with study or attendance at classes or reduce performance in examinations. The University has set up a process for taking these circumstances into account when results are considered.

If you have a serious or long term illness or misadventure that affects your performance over an extended period, you must inform us as soon as possible, and not wait till after the exam, or very late in the semester. Consideration is not given for "illnesses and misadventures that have prevented students from acquiring a Pass level of knowledge/skills (including all illnesses/misadventures resulting in the student missing six weeks or more of lectures or tutorials)".

When assessing applications, staff may consider student performance across the entire semester. For example, consideration for a final exam will only be granted if the student has performed satisfactorily in all other components of the relevant unit of study.

Requests should be made within seven calendar days after the incident. You should attach all relevant documents such as medical certificates and evidence of hardship. Special Consideration Forms for medical reasons must include a

medical certificate that covers the dates concerned and details the effect of the medical condition on your performance.

The completed forms should be returned to the Faculty Office for stamp and a photocopy should be returned to each relevant teaching school office (eg Civil Engineering, Mathematics, Electrical Engineering, etc).

Full details: <http://www.civil.usyd.edu.au/current/undergraduate/special.shtml>.

Students at Risk

There will be some students who experience academic difficulties. The University recognises the value of reliably and efficiently monitoring the progress of students in their studies, and of having systems in place to promote the early detection of students who are making poor or unsatisfactory progress and are therefore at risk of exclusion from their degree.

There are many reasons why students may be performing at poor levels: short or long term personal family or health issues, financial pressures, study difficulties, lack of motivation, inappropriate career choice etc.

We want to be in a position to provide the appropriate help to students in difficulties - whether that be specific study or enrolment advice, or referral to appropriate counseling and support services. In some cases the best action is deferment or leaving university. The last thing we want is to exclude a student for continued poor performance, and we hope that students avail themselves of the services and support provided before that last option has to be taken.

<http://www.civil.usyd.edu.au/current/undergraduate/studentsatrisk.shtml> has full details.

WAM and Honours Ranking

It is never too early to think about excelling. Your results from second year onwards will have an effect on your “weighted average mark” (WAM or GWAM) and awarding of honours at graduation. The calculation is weighted to put extra emphasis on later year subjects.

The Honours ranking is decided by your HWAM using the following formula:

$$\text{HWAM} = \text{Sum (M x C x Y)} / \text{Sum (C x Y)}$$

Where M= mark obtained (out of a 100) in a given unit of study (UoS) (first year units are not included)
C = credit point value of the UoS (2x for honours thesis)
Y = nominal year of the unit of study.

There are also specific rules relating to the inclusion of a **research thesis** in your final year to qualify for honours. Students should note that failures are also included in the calculation process. With respect to **combined degree students**, the Faculty policy is that all the units of study that count towards either the Engineering degree or the second degree are adopted in the GWAM calculation.

The various grades of Honours are awarded as follows:

First Class Honours	$75\% \leq \text{GWAM} < 85\%$
Second Class Honours Division 1	$70\% \leq \text{GWAM} < 75\%$
Second Class Honours Division 2	$65\% \leq \text{GWAM} < 70\%$
Pass	$\text{GWAM} < 65\%$

The University Medal may also be awarded to the highest student who achieves an HWAM of 85% and satisfy some other criteria.

Student Feedback & Student/Staff Liaison Committee

The Student Staff Liaison Committee (SSLC) provides a relatively informal means for communication between staff and students about the quality of teaching and facilities within the School of Civil Engineering. The function of the SSLC is to:

- provide an outlet for the expression of students' views or concerns about the course or educational facilities;
- establish a platform on which feedback on these concerns can be provided, and on which proposals for improvement can be discussed;
- provide a mechanism for discussion about individual units with members of staff not involved in that unit;
- assist with representative assessment of teaching quality for each unit and across the course as a whole;
- provide student input to School policy decisions; and
- actively promote discussion between staff and students over a range of issues.

Students should always feel welcome to make any feedback or give any comments about any aspect of their University experience at any stage. Visit <http://www.civil.usyd.edu.au/current/undergraduate/feedback.shtml>.

Civil Engineering Foundation

The Civil Engineering Foundation has the aim of bringing together members of the civil engineering industry to make available their practicing advice towards education of civil engineers, to provide funds beyond those from Government sources for the assistance in postgraduate study, and to facilitate communication between industry and the School in research and technical services.

The Foundation is involved in many activities which assist undergraduate students:

- Foundation member companies are involved in some of the teaching of the practical and theoretical issues of engineering
- Many of our students complete their work experience, and find employment with member companies.
- Several foundation member companies provide student scholarships.
- The Civil Engineering Foundation is involved in organising key functions such as the careers information sessions, and the annual research Conversazione. The Foundation also promotes seminars and short courses for industry.

Details on the Civil Engineering Foundation and the list of member companies are available at <http://www.civil.usyd.edu.au/foundation/>.

Careers Advice

The Careers Centre provides many services such as newsletters, Graduate Recruitment Programs, Career Workshops and a CV Checking Service. Visit <http://www.careers.usyd.edu.au>

The School of Civil Engineering also passes on job and work experience vacancy information to students on notice boards, email and via the school website.

Support & Administrative Information

Student Advisors & Teaching Staff

The **Undergraduate Administrative Advisor** is the primary contact for students for all administrative queries (eg change of enrolment, change of stream, referrals, credit point assessment, etc).

Mrs Cynthia Papangelis

Room 410 (Monday to Thursday, 10:00 to 12:30 / 2:30 to 4:00)

(w) 9351 5438

C.Papangelis@civil.usyd.edu.au

Academic enquiries by students are welcomed and these can best be directed to the **First Year Advisors** for Civil Engineering.

A/Prof Abbas El-zein [2009 Year Advisor (Surnames A-K)]

Room 339

(w) 9351 7351

A.Elzein@civil.usyd.edu.au

A/Prof Itai Einav [2009 Year Advisor (Surnames L-Z)]

Room 407

(w) 9351 2113

I.Einav@civil.usyd.edu.au

Head of School

Prof Kim Rasmussen [2006 (A-K) Year Advisor]

(w) 9351 2136

K.Rasmussen@civil.usyd.edu.au

Steel structures – stability; structural testing; linear and non-linear analyses; thin-walled structures; stainless steel structures; aluminium structures.

School Director of Teaching and Learning

A/Prof David Airey [2003 (and earlier) and 2007 (A-K) Year Advisor]

(w) 9351 3342

D.Airey@civil.usyd.edu.au

Soil mechanics; sophisticated laboratory soil testing; triaxial testing; model testing.

Other teaching staff members

Dr Nigel Balaam

(w) 9351 2193

[***N.Balaam@civil.usyd.edu.au***](mailto:N.Balaam@civil.usyd.edu.au)

Software development, Windows, Geotechnical engineering.

Dr Jurgen Becque

(w) 9036 7517

[***J.Becque@civil.usyd.edu.au***](mailto:J.Becque@civil.usyd.edu.au)

Structural Stability, Stainless Steel and Aluminium Structures, Structural Analysis, Finite Element Analysis, Computer Methods in Engineering

A/Prof Itai Einav [**2005 (L-Z) Year Advisor**] and [**2009 (L-Z) Year Advisor**]

(w) 9351 2113

[***I.Einav@civil.usyd.edu.au***](mailto:I.Einav@civil.usyd.edu.au)

Engineering mechanics; soil mechanics; solid mechanics; plasticity; offshore geotechnics; computer analysis.

A/Prof Abbas El-Zein [**2005 (A-K) Year Advisor**] and [**2009 (A-K) Year Advisor**]

(w) 9351 7351

[***A.Elzein@civil.usyd.edu.au***](mailto:A.Elzein@civil.usyd.edu.au)

Contaminant migration in soils, Thermo-mechanical consolidation for radioactive waste disposal, Modelling of health impacts of climate change, Environmental risk perception

Prof Gregory J Hancock (**Dean of The Faculty of Engineering and Information Technologies**)

(w) 9351 4739

[***G.Hancock@civil.usyd.edu.au***](mailto:G.Hancock@civil.usyd.edu.au)

Steel structures; thin-walled metal structures and cold-formed steel structures; structural stability; structural dynamics; non-linear finite element analysis.

Adjunct Professor Ian SF Jones

(w) 9351 4586, 9351 4585

[***otg@civil.usyd.edu.au***](mailto:otg@civil.usyd.edu.au)

Greenhouse gas mitigation; ocean wave predictions; satellite measurement technologies; engineering innovation; environmental loading on offshore structures; underwater robotics; underwater acoustic imaging.

A/Prof Liaquat Hossain

(w) 9036 9110

[***L.Hossain@usyd.edu.au***](mailto:L.Hossain@usyd.edu.au)

Project Management

Dr Li Liu [**PE&M Overall Year Advisor**]

(w) 9351 2123

[*L.Liu@civil.usyd.edu.au*](mailto:L.Liu@civil.usyd.edu.au)

Enterprise level Project Management, Organizational Structure and Control in Project-Based Organizations, Management Control, IS/IT Project Management, Project Portfolio and Program Management, Technology and Innovation.

Dr Bee Lan Oo

(w) 9351 2122

[*B.Oo@civil.usyd.edu.au*](mailto:B.Oo@civil.usyd.edu.au)

Project Management and Constructions

Mr Matthew Mason

(w) 9351 2457

[*M.Mason@civil.usyd.edu.au*](mailto:M.Mason@civil.usyd.edu.au)

Wind engineering, severe storm modelling, mesoscale modelling, computational fluid dynamics, natural hazard modelling, wind tunnel modelling

Dr John P Papangelis

(w) 9351 3837

[*J.Papangelis@civil.usyd.edu.au*](mailto:J.Papangelis@civil.usyd.edu.au)

Steel structures; thin-walled metal structures and cold-formed steel structures; structural stability; computer software.

Dr Gwenaelle Proust

(w) 9036 5498

[*G.Proust@civil.usyd.edu.au*](mailto:G.Proust@civil.usyd.edu.au)

Materials

Dr Gianluca Ranzi [**2006 (L-Z) Year Advisor**]

(w) 9351 5215

[*G.Ranzi@civil.usyd.edu.au*](mailto:G.Ranzi@civil.usyd.edu.au)

Steel-concrete composite structures, time dependent behaviour of concrete, finite element analysis

A/Prof Stuart G Reid [**2007 (L-Z) Year Advisor**]

(w) 9351 2121

[*S.Reid@civil.usyd.edu.au*](mailto:S.Reid@civil.usyd.edu.au)

Concrete structures – technology and design; structural reliability; risk analysis; earthquake resistant structures; loads on structures; glass strength and safety.

Dr Luming Shen [**2008 (L-Z) Year Advisor**] and [**2004 (L-Z) Year Advisor**]

(w) 9351 2126

[*L.Shen@usyd.edu.au*](mailto:L.Shen@usyd.edu.au)

Mechanics of Materials, MultiScale Modelling and Simulation, Advanced Structural Materials, Blast Resistant Design, Nano-Mechanics and Materials, Finite Element Methods and Meshfree Methods.

Dr Tim Wilkinson [**2008 (A-K) Year Advisor**] and [**2004 (A-K) Year Advisor**]

(w) 9351 5104

[***T.Wilkinson@civil.usyd.edu.au***](mailto:T.Wilkinson@civil.usyd.edu.au)

Steel structures, cold-formed tubular structures, connections, welding, structural analysis, finite element analysis, teaching and learning for engineering information technology in engineering education.

Dr Hao Zhang

(w) 9351 3923

[***H.Zhang@civil.usyd.edu.au***](mailto:H.Zhang@civil.usyd.edu.au)

Structural analysis and design, finite element analysis, structural reliability, uncertainty modeling in structural engineering, earthquake engineering

Honorary Teaching Staff Members

Honorary A/Prof Andrew Abel

(w) 9351 3208

[***A.Abel@civil.usyd.edu.au***](mailto:A.Abel@civil.usyd.edu.au)

Metallurgy; metal properties generally; materials technology; fatigue; fracture; plasticity of metals; welding; corrosion

Honorary A/Prof Peter Ansourian

(w) 9351 2120

[***P.Ansourian@civil.usyd.edu.au***](mailto:P.Ansourian@civil.usyd.edu.au)

Structural stability; shell structures; computer analysis; thin-walled metal structures; storage bins and silos; structural analysis; steel and concrete composite bridges and buildings; steel structures

Mr Ian Bowie

(w) 9351 2171

[***office@civil.usyd.edu.au***](mailto:office@civil.usyd.edu.au)

Transportation engineering.

Mr Noel Ings

(w) 9036 6384

[***N.Ings@civil.usyd.edu.au***](mailto:N.Ings@civil.usyd.edu.au)

Surveying

Dr Richard Watkins

(w) 9351 3895

R.Watkins@civil.usyd.edu.au

Fluids engineering; wind energy; water energy; wind tunnel testing; wind effects of and on buildings; fluid flows in pipes and channels.

Honorary A/Prof Robert Wheen

(w) 9351 2122

R.Wheen@civil.usyd.edu.au

Bridges; concrete structures; construction; major construction projects; prestressed and reinforced concrete structures; ingenuity competitions; invention; innovation and entrepreneurship; laboratory and field testing of structures.

Adjunct Teaching Staff Members

Dr Logan Apperley

(w) 9351 2171

L.Apperley@civil.usyd.edu.au

Mr Ted Tooher

T.Tooher@civil.usyd.edu.au

Project Engineering Management

Mr Richard Weber

R.Weber@civil.usyd.edu.au

Construction

Ms Julie Wright

julie.wright@malleasons.com

Project Engineering Management

Schools and Faculties – what are they?

The content of the course for the degree in any branch of engineering is mainly the responsibility of a school. This means that the School of Civil Engineering looks after the course leading to the degree of Bachelor of Engineering in Civil Engineering and contributes about three-quarters of the teaching effort over the four years. The remainder of the teaching is carried out by the other schools within the Faculty of Engineering and Information Technologies – Chemical & Biomolecular; Electrical and Information; Aerospace, Mechanical & Mechatronic; and Information Technologies; and schools from the Faculty of Science, all within the first two years.

The five schools in this University together form the Faculty of Engineering and Information Technologies which is responsible for common rules across all Engineering, the processing and endorsing of examination results and matters such as enrolments.

There are 16 faculties in the University and this faculty has strong links with the Faculty of Science and the Faculty of Architecture together with the other faculties involved in the double degrees: Economics, Arts and Law.

University Policies and the Faculty Handbook

The University has many rules and policies that apply during your candidature. The most relevant rules that apply to engineering students are given in the Engineering Faculty Handbook available at <http://www.usyd.edu.au/handbooks/>.

The Handbook has details of the units of study (subjects) in which you are enrolled together with the titles of useful books and references.

All university policies are available at <http://www.usyd.edu.au/policy>.

Offices

The accompanying plan on the back page gives the locations of some buildings that you may not yet have encountered.

The School of Civil Engineering has its office in Room 418, on the second floor of the Civil Engineering Building, next to Shepherd Street. For specific enquiries relating to Civil Engineering course or enrolment or timetable matters, please contact the Undergraduate Student Administrative Advisor, in Room 410 (Monday to Friday, 9:30 to 4:30).

The Engineering Faculty Office is on the ground level walkway through the Link Building. During the teaching semester, the Office is open from 11 am to 1 pm and 3 pm to 4 pm, Mondays to Fridays inclusive. Special Consideration Forms are initially submitted at the Faculty Office.

The University's Student Centre is on Level 3 of the Jane Foss Russell Building (beside Wentworth Bldg). Typical transactions here include reporting **lost student cards**, and advice on **transport passes**.

Notice Boards

The primary method of posting notices to students is via the electronic bulletin board on our web site, <http://www.civil.usyd.edu.au>.

Paper noticeboards for Civil Engineering students are located along the passageway of the Civil Engineering Building, Level 3.

Books

The main place to buy text and reference books is the University Cooperative Bookshop in the building between the swimming pool and the Chemical Engineering Building. Lifetime membership of the Cooperative for a one-off payment of \$20 is a bargain, quickly recouped by the discounts offered on book purchases by members. Textbooks should be bought after the commencement of lectures, on the advice of course lecturers.

Later courses may require the use of Australian Standards, and it is essential that students obtain their own personal copy on the recommendation of the course lecturer.

Enrolment Confirmation

Early in the first semester, you will receive written notification of the courses in which you are enrolled. **Check this immediately and thoroughly** to make sure that it agrees with your intended enrolment. If there are discrepancies, report them to the Engineering Faculty Office. Keep a copy of the enrolment confirmation document for future reference.

Classes begin on Monday 2nd March for Semester 1. You **must complete your enrolment changes for Semester 1 subjects by Friday 13th March**. You can **drop courses up to 31st March**. You may **discontinue courses without failure (DNF) until 24th April**, but you will incur a HECS liability after **31st March**.

Classes begin on Monday 27th July for Semester 2. You **must complete your enrolment changes for Semester 2 subjects by Friday 7th August**. If you have made changes in your enrolment, a second enrolment statement will be sent to you. This should also be checked carefully, since it is your responsibility to ensure correct enrolment.

For Semester 2 subjects, you may not add new subjects after week 2 of Semester. You **may discontinue subjects without failure (DNF) until Friday 11th September**, but you **will incur a HECS liability after 31st August**.

These enrolment changes can be over the web on MyUni <http://myuni.usyd.edu.au/> or, if this is not possible, with a variation of enrolment form submitted to Cynthia Papangelis in Room 410 (Monday to Thursday, 10:00 to 12:30 and 2:30 to 4:00).

Change of Address or Contact Details

It is important to promptly inform us of any changes to your semester or vacation address or your name or phone number to allow results and other correspondence to reach you. Please be consistent in the form of your name that you use in order to avoid administrative difficulties including possible loss of marks. Failure to notify the University of any change in your contact address(es) can be very much to your disadvantage if we need to get in touch with you urgently. Please note that this also applies to your email address.

It is possible to change your address on the internet via MyUni.

Library

The New [SciTech Library](#) opened in July 2008, bringing together all our collections across Engineering, IT, Architecture, Maths, Physics, Chemistry & Biological Sciences.

This new world class facility will provide much better facilities for online research, study and collaboration. The library also provides access to world-wide electronic data through online eBooks and eJournals.

Some features of the new library include

- Spaces for group discussion and quiet study
- Computer and online access
- Tutorial rooms for library classes
- Professional help from staff
- Books & journals and other material, in both hardcopy and electronic formats
- Borrowing, printing, photocopying, scanning

- Document Delivery & Interlibrary Loans
- Multi-media area upstairs

Early acquaintance with the online catalogue is recommended. Keyword searching is very convenient, as are subject, author, title and other ways of searching. The library computers can also be used for database and Internet searching, remember you need your library borrower number for access.

The University Library's web pages are at www.library.usyd.edu.au; from there you can access the online catalogue and a huge range of databases and other electronic resources. Make a point about finding out how you access these, on or off campus, and what to use them for. The major ones are Compendex, Factiva and Web of Science. You will also find a number of Internet subject guides for engineering there.

The library holds copies of previous examination papers for most units of study. Exams from 1997 onwards are available electronically at <http://www.library.usyd.edu.au/exams/>. Many course readings are also available electronically through E-reserve, via the online catalogue.

In order to use the photocopiers and printers in any of the University's libraries, you will need a photocopy card. Use your student ID card, an existing plastic card, or buy one for \$2 at Fisher Library and then load it with some money. Australian copyright laws do permit a small amount of copying of books but excessive copying is an offence.

Most of the books you need will be in the Science and Technology Library, but there are times when you may have to go to Fisher Library for other books. To borrow books you need to present your student ID card. Most loans are for two weeks with a maximum of five renewals. Some books in high demand are also available from 'Reserve' for short loans: two hours, overnight or three days.

The University of Sydney library system has a wide range of books that can help you with study skills. Just search the online catalogue using keywords such as "writing skills", "learning skills" or similar.

Computing Facilities, MyUni and Email

MyUni (<http://myuni.usyd.edu.au/>) is The University Intranet System and can be found by clicking the *MyUni* icon from the university homepage or the links at the Civil Engineering web site.

Your **unikey** is your username to access most university information online.

Your unikey and password will be included in your “Confirmation of Enrolment” letter which you will receive after you enrol. MyUni provides students with an email account, and access to other important electronic tools, such as change of enrolment, exam seat numbers, exam results and access to some online teaching material through WebCT.

Students should check their university supplied email account regularly, as some lecturers will use email to communicate important information to students. *Alternatively, you can configure your university email account to automatically forward all email to another address of your choice.*

The University is continually moving to greater use of email for dispatch of its mass mailings to students, rather than the postal service. **Some official correspondence, such as information to requests for special consideration may be sent to your university email account.**

The University provides computer access laboratories (<http://www.usyd.edu.au/ict/switch/labs/>), equipped with PCs with common applications such as Word, Excel, Powerpoint, and an internet browser free of charge to all students. Extra options, such as printing, extra disk space, modem access can be purchased at competitive rates. Computer access laboratories are located in the Faculty of Engineering Link Building (next to the Faculty Office), Carslaw, Fisher Library, and the Education Building. First and second year students are encouraged to use these computer access labs.

The School of Civil Engineering has its own well-equipped C.A Hawkins Computing Laboratory, which is in Room 365 on the first floor of the Civil Engineering Building. This laboratory is used exclusively by students enrolled in 3rd and 4th year units of study.

Civil Engineering Web Site – <http://www.civil.usyd.edu.au>

This page contains useful links and important notices of concern to all civil engineering students.

- Important messages and advice to students
- Links to key policies
- Links to MyUni to access your university email account and access to a large amount of other information
- Links to the homepages for various units of study

The screenshot shows the homepage of the Civil Engineering department at The University of Sydney. The header features the university's crest and name, a search bar, and navigation links for University Home, Civil Engineering, Contacts, Library, and Sitemap. The main content area includes a large banner for the School of Civil Engineering with images of a storm and a person in a lab. Below the banner, there is a 'Civil Engineering' section with a description of the department's research and a 'Latest News & Events' section featuring articles on the Master of Professional Engineering and school leavers. A 'Civil spotlight' sidebar highlights Dr. Itai Einav's research. The left sidebar contains navigation links for Future Students, Current Students, Research & Consulting, and About Us.

The University of Sydney Civil Engineering

Enter search terms University Home **Civil Engineering** Contacts Library Sitemap

Future Students

- Future Undergraduates
- Future Coursework Postgraduates
- Future Research Postgraduates

Current Students

- Undergraduates
- Postgraduates

Research & Consulting

- Publications
- Seminars

About Us

- Welcome
- Our people
- Contacts
- Our location
- Civil Engineering Foundation
- Faculty of Engineering and Information Technologies

School of Civil Engineering

Civil Engineering

Civil Engineering at Sydney provides research solutions and prepares graduates for the complex infrastructure challenges that face our society.

We have research strength in structures and geomechanics, and are expanding our expertise and facilities to encompass sustainability, climate change and renewable energy.

We offer undergraduate degrees accredited by Engineers Australia, and coursework and research degrees, as well as the on-line Project Management Graduate Programme.

Our staff expertise and laboratory facilities are much sought after by our profession and industry partners as part of our consulting services.

Latest News & Events [Read all Civil Engineering news](#)

Master of Professional Engineering

The MPE provides pathways to meet the demand for engineers by supporting the training and retraining of overseas engineering students, and local engineers and non-engineering graduates to switch disciplines and specialisations. [Read more on the MPE](#)

School leavers - thinking about civil engineering?

Just got your UAI and want to know about Civil Engineering? Visit us on **Tuesday 6 January 2009 for Information Day** or browse our [future student website](#).

Find a research supervisor [here](#)

Civil spotlight

Dr Itai Einav is developing new theories in breakage mechanics for applications such as soil mechanics, pharmaceuticals, and minerals handling.

Find out more...

Safety

The University pays serious attention to government safety regulations. Students must also play their part in ensuring safe working conditions.

A rule for working in Laboratories is that proper shoes must be worn. Thongs are totally inadequate and unacceptable. An even better approach is to buy a proper pair of industrial safety shoes with reinforced toecaps. These cost less than an average pair of normal shoes and last well beyond a university course. Some Science laboratories, such as Chemistry, require eye protector glasses to be worn (obtainable from the Wentworth Building).

In the later years of the Civil Engineering course, there will be visits to construction sites. It is useful to obtain one's own safety hard hat, rather than having to rely on borrowing one.

Sydney University Civil Engineers Society (SUCE)

Sydney University Civil Engineers, SUCE, is the undergraduate social society that operates within the School of Civil Engineering. It is run by fellow students, aiming to improve the lifestyle and experience of your degree. SUCE run regular BBQs and pub-crawls, whilst also providing free tea and coffee to members in the Student Common room (Room 338).

You are encouraged to participate. Membership is just \$10 for life and entitles you to reduced prices at events, plus free tea and coffee for the next four years.

SUCE also need committee members from each year group, including first year. So if that interests you, ask at one of the first BBQs of the year.

Engineers Australia

The engineering profession in this country has an organisation that is responsible for the spread of knowledge and for recognising the levels of achievement and expertise of its members. The organisation is Engineers Australia, the Sydney Division office of which is located at Chatswood (Tel. 9410 5600, web: <http://www.engineersaustralia.org.au>).

Most engineers proceed through their training to become full or ‘corporate’ members of the Institution. The term “Chartered Professional Engineer” is used to mark this level and this is usually attained after a few years of suitable engineering experience following graduation from university.

Before this important landmark in an engineering career, the Institution does have two earlier grades of membership, namely those of Student and Graduate which entitle the respective members to put StudIEAust and GradIEAust after their names. Obvious advantages come from recognition of student membership by prospective employers, either long-term or for practical experience. There is also an active Young Engineers Sydney (YES) programme based on Sydney Division of the Institution, involving students and recent graduates. Our students often do well in the public speaking sections of the YES activities. Young Engineers information is on www.youngengineers.com.au.

The Institution is currently offering free membership to students until graduation. A good time to join as a student member would be at the beginning of second year. Application forms are kept in the Faculty Office.

Support Services for Students

The University provides a comprehensive range of support services for students. The entry portal for these services can be found at <http://www.usyd.edu.au/stuserv/>

Counselling service

The counselling Service provides a free, confidential service to assist students to overcome personal and university-related problems which may arise during the course of their studies. Located at:

Level 5, Jane Foss Russell Bldg (beside Wentworth Building)
GO2, City Road

Tel: 8627 8433 Fax: 8627 8482

Email: counsell@stuserv.usyd.edu.au

<http://www.usyd.edu.au/stuserv/counselling/>

Disability Services

Disability services is the principal point of contact and support for students with disabilities. Located at:

Level 5, Jane Foss Russell Bldg (beside Wentworth Building)
GO2, City Road

Tel: 8627 8433 Fax: 8627 8482

Email: disserv@stuserv.usyd.edu.au

<http://www.usyd.edu.au/stuserv/disability/>

Financial Assistance Office

The University has interest free loans funds to assist students who experience financial difficulties. Loans are available for essential living and study expenses to supplement other income and in cases of emergency. Located at:

Level 5, Jane Foss Russell Bldg (beside Wentworth Building)
GO2, City Road

Tel: 9351 2416 Fax: 8627 8482

Email: fao@stuserv.usyd.edu.au

http://www.usyd.edu.au/stuserv/financial_assistance_office/index.shtml

International Student Services Unit (ISSU)

The ISSU provides counselling, pre-departure orientation and returning home programs for international students. Trips and activities programs are also available. Located at:

Level 5, Jane Foss Russell Bldg (beside Wentworth Building)

GO2, City Road

Tel: 8627 8437 Fax: 8627 8482

Email: info@issu.usyd.edu.au

<http://www.usyd.edu.au/stuserv/issu/>

Learning Centre (LC)

The Learning Centre provides a wide range of programs to assist students to develop the academic and language skills necessary for the acquisition and communication of knowledge and ideas in a university setting. Located at:

Level 7, Education Building, A35 (beside Manning House)

Tel: 9351 3853 Fax: 9351 4865

Email: lc@stuserv.usyd.edu.au

http://www.usyd.edu.au/stuserv/learning_centre/contact.shtml

Mathematics Learning Centre

The Mathematics Learning Centre offers help to students who enter the University with insufficient preparation in mathematics. Located at:

Level 4, Room 441, Carslaw Building, F07

Tel: 9351 4061 Fax: 9351 5797

Email: mlc@mail.usyd.edu.au

http://www.usyd.edu.au/stuserv/math_learning_centre/contact.shtml

University Health Service

The University Health Service provides a fully experienced general practitioner service, and emergency medical care for staff and students. The Health Service bulk bills for the cost of consultations. Located at:

Level 3, Wentworth Building, G01

Tel: 9351 3484 Fax: 9351 4110

Or Main Entrance, Holme Building, A09

Tel: 9351 4095 Fax: 9351 4338

Email: Director@unihealth.usyd.edu.au

<http://www.usyd.edu.au/stuserv/welfare/uhs.shtml>

The Wentworth Building also contains a pharmacy, dentist and optometrist.

Student Organisations

Student organisations are an important part of university life. Being involved in non-academic interests at university helps you to develop a network of friends and to broaden your outlook and skills.

The University of Sydney Union

The University of Sydney Union is an independent organisation providing benefits and services for students. Despite its name, it is not a trade union. The University of Sydney Union many services including: catering services, commercial services and shops, entertainment and activities, clubs and societies, discount movie and theatre tickets, child care, and much more.

<http://www.usydunion.com/>

Students Representative Council (SRC)

The SRC advocates for students on an individual and collective basis to the University Administration. It makes representations to government and non-government organisations in the wider community, using its resource base to research and prepare submissions. The various portfolio officers run activist campaigns, forums and rallies around a wide range of issues affecting students. SRC members hold positions on many committees within the University, enabling the student voice to be heard.

Contact option:

In person: Level 1 Wentworth Building

Access from City Road (underneath the footbridge)

By mail: PO Box 794 Broadway NSW 2007

Ph 9660 5222

Fax 9660 4260

Email: help@src.usyd.edu.au

<http://www.src.usyd.edu.au/>

Sydney University Sport & Fitness

Sydney University Sport administers more than 40 different sport and recreation clubs, organises sporting and recreation events, and manages a wide range of facilities. Membership of Sydney University Sport entitles you to use the facilities such as the pool and gymnasium, participate in all sport and recreational activities, as well as become a member of any of the 42 registered clubs at members' rates.

Head Office

Lowerground level

University Sports & Aquatic Centre
Cnr Codrington St & Darlington Ave
Darlington NSW 2008

Postal address:

University Sports & Aquatic Centre
Building G09
The University of Sydney NSW 2006
T: +61 2 9351 4960
F: +61 2 9351 4962
Email: admin@sport.usyd.edu.au

University Sports & Aquatic Centre

Cnr Codrington St & Darlington Ave
Darlington NSW 2008
T: +61 2 9351 4978
F: +61 2 9351 4982
Email: nmrc@sport.usyd.edu.au

<http://www.susf.com.au>

Map

