Civil engineering

School of Sustainable Engineering and the Built Environment
College Avenue Commons (CA VC) • 660 S. College Avenue
Arizona State University, Tempe, AZ 85287-3005
480-965-0595 | sebe.advising@asu.edu

BSE in civil engineering

The School of Sustainable Engineering and the Built Environment offers undergraduate and graduate degrees in civil engineering, construction engineering and environmental engineering; as well as in construction management and technology. The school is home to the Del E. Webb School of Construction, which offers students many opportunities to engage with the construction industry. The School of Sustainable Engineering and the Built Environment provides a nexus for education and research that addresses the critical infrastructure needs of our society in an environmentally sound manner.

ssebe.engineering.asu.edu

What are our graduates saying about the civil engineering program?

Looking back, I am not only very lucky to have chosen civil engineering, but I am beyond blessed to have met the people I did. My four years here have helped me change from a nervous freshman to an excited, motivated, confident engineering graduate.

Alexander Owen

Engineering has allowed me to approach problems through a holistic view as I devise solutions. Engineering and research acts as an interface between field work, lab work, and computer modeling and analysis. Thanks to my degree path and experiences I’ve been able to engage in all aspects.

Edward Apraku

I’ve always been really interested in finding out how and why things work, so studying engineering has been perfect for me. The constant challenge of solving new problems keeps it fun and interesting.

Laurel Wright

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Are there opportunities to connect with other engineering students, faculty and industry professionals outside of the classroom?

There are a number of active student organizations on campus that regularly host community events, professional development workshops and industry mixers. Some of those organizations include the ASU student chapters for the American Society of Civil Engineers, Tau Beta Pi, the national engineering honor society and Chi Epsilon, the national civil engineering honor society.

In addition to student organizations, the School of Sustainable Engineering and the Built Environment has created a strong relationship with industry partners through the Friends of Civil and Environmental Engineering, or FOCEE — a group of top-tier civil engineering companies from across Arizona that work to create more opportunities for our students. These include hosting annual career fairs and professional development workshops.

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What is civil engineering?
Civil engineering is a broad field that applies engineering principles primarily to design and sustain infrastructure systems, including transportation, water resources, buildings and other structures such as dams and bridges. Civil engineers plan, design and supervise the construction of facilities such as high-rise buildings, airports, roads, water treatment centers and sanitation plants. Civil engineers balance the needs of society with technical and economic feasibility.

What will I study?
Civil engineering majors in the Ira A. Fulton Schools of Engineering have two choices within the accredited BSE program: civil engineering and civil engineering with the sustainable engineering concentration.

The program’s structure builds upon itself starting with fundamental math and science courses. Those classes set the stage for foundational engineering mechanics courses. With those two elements completed, students will begin a core set of civil engineering classes. Those can include structural, geotechnical, hydrosystems, transportation or another civil engineering focus. Students will have the ability to dive deeper into those areas when selecting elective courses.

The civil engineering BSE degree program at Arizona State University is accredited by ABET, the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology (www.abet.org).

Are there hands-on learning and research opportunities?
There are a number of programs offering students hands-on experience and mentorship from faculty and staff, including the Fulton Undergraduate Research Initiative, or FURI, and the Grand Challenges Scholars Program, or GCSP. There are also opportunities for students to complete internships with industry and government partners. Many classes also include site visits, so students can see what they are learning about in action.

What do civil engineers do?
Civil engineering graduates go on to careers in both the public and private sectors, from small consulting companies to large corporations to government agencies. There is also the opportunity to become your own boss, operating a civil engineering firm.

What is the job outlook?
As long as there are people who rely on infrastructure to live and work, there will be a need for civil engineers to design, create and maintain it.

The job outlook for civil engineers is excellent.

What resources and support are available to students in the civil engineering program?
In addition to resources offered by ASU, the Ira A. Fulton Schools of Engineering hosts a number of tutoring centers open to students at all levels of their academic career. The Fulton Schools also has an engineering-focused career center that can help students create winning resumes and connect students with internships or jobs.

The School of Sustainable Engineering and the Built Environment, where the civil engineering program is located, also has its own team of academic advisors who work with students one-on-one to help students achieve their educational and career goals.