Environmental engineering program
School of Sustainable Engineering and the Built Environment
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B.S. in environmental engineering

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 events, professional development activities and industry mixers. Those organizations include Tau Beta Pi, the national engineering honor society, Engineers Without Borders, the Society of Environmental and Water Leaders, and the ASU student chapter of the American Society of Civil Engineers.

The School of Sustainable Engineering and the Built Environment also works with industry partners to host civil and environmental engineering-focused career fairs and professional development opportunities throughout the academic year.

What are graduates saying about the environmental engineering program?

"Environmental engineering is really important because its goal is to make sure things like the waste we produce don’t cause us harm. I’ve learned it is really important to understand the social impacts of the work you do.

Smith Pittman"

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What is environmental engineering?
The environmental engineering BSE degree program educates tomorrow's engineers, preparing them to solve complex environmental problems and design systems at the human, urban and planetary scale. Environmental engineers design systems that protect, preserve and purify Earth's resources. They use artificial intelligence for analyzing and visualizing environmental data and combating climate change. Their work can help address pollution challenges through monitoring and control techniques, deploying sensors to measure pollutant levels, analyzing pollutants' fate and transport, and cleaning up contaminated soil. These engineers also apply sustainable design principles, design waste management systems and protect the nation's water supply.

If you care about sustainability and human impacts on the environment, becoming an environmental engineer might be right for you.

What will I study?
Reflecting the interdisciplinary nature of environmental engineering challenges, the degree program incorporates courses from other Ira A. Fulton Schools of Engineering programs, including civil engineering and chemical engineering. Engineering courses build on strong foundations in chemistry, biology, geology, physics and mathematics. Courses cover fundamental engineering concepts and their applications in environmental processes and environmental engineering design, and offer experiential learning opportunities through the required internship or research experience and the capstone design course.

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

What is the job outlook?
According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, most of the projected employment growth for environmental engineers is in professional, scientific and technical services, as governments at all levels draw on the industry to help address environmental challenges and advance public health through clean air and water. The federal government's requirements to clean up contaminated sites are expected to help sustain demand for these engineers' services. In addition, upgrades and improvements in wastewater treatment are needed to minimize the release of pollutants to the environment and advance water reuse.

What resources and support are available to students in the environmental engineering program?
In addition to resources offered by ASU, the 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 environmental engineering program is located, also has their own team of academic advisors that will work with students one-on-one to help students meet academic requirements.

What do environmental engineers do?
Environmental engineering graduates work for engineering consulting firms, all levels of government, health departments, regulatory agencies, industry and non-governmental organizations.

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.