Get ready for MSc Civil Engineering

I am very pleased to welcome you to the start of your MSc Civil Engineering studies here at UWE Bristol. The course is part of the School of Engineering, which is one of the schools in the College of Arts, Technology and Environment.

Our **MSc Civil Engineering** programme provides the technical top up towards the educational base for becoming a Chartered Engineer, on top of an undergraduate degree.

As the Programme Leader, I warmly welcome you to the programme and look forward to your academic journey with us.

Dr Dominic Hames
Programme Leader

Before you start

We are looking forward to welcoming you in the week commencing 14 September for the Starting Block and the beginning of your programme.

The Starting Block will help you settle into university life, and to help you get to know your teaching team and course mates. We will help you find your way around, get used to our systems, and practise the skills you need to make a strong start. Look out for further emails and explore the Starting Block website with more details.

Your timetable will be available to you via MYUWE (login required) once you have started the enrollment process. Please visit the 'Understanding your teaching timetable' website to find out when your timetable will be published.

Preparing and arrival
You can find everything you need to know about enrollment, Starting Block and the start of teaching, on our Preparing and Arrival webpage. Take a look at our website to familiarise yourself with our facilities and services such as the library, study skills, academic support, health and wellbeing support and much more.

You can also explore our support for careers and enterprise**.** UWE Careers & Enterprise provide a range of workshops, appointments and a huge range of online resources to support students in realising their future ambitions. The Careers Toolkit is our online portal to finding vacancies, booking onto events and accessing a range of resources.

Registration
Once you have satisfied all admissions requirements, we'll send you your login details for our IT systems to enable you to activate your university email account.

Once your account has been activated, you'll gain access to the MYUWE platform where you can enrol. Note that your login details for MYUWE are different to those used for the UWE Welcome website. Registration for September programmes will only be open from August onwards. You can find guidance and further information on our Registration website.

ID card - upload your photo now
We can only print your ID card if you have added your photo to MYUWE. To avoid delays, upload your photo as soon as you receive login details. For help, go to our student card guidance.

Engage with your programme

Start your learning
Have a go at these activities to start preparing for your course and induction:

We strongly encourage all students joining us to refresh their mathematics skills ahead of the start of term. A range of resources are available from MathCentre where we specifically recommend working through the following sections:

- Engineering > Algebra
- Engineering > Differentiation

Another popular online maths resource is KhanAcademy, which provides an alternative approach to revising algebra and differentiation.

Read around your subject
To help you to enhance these skills and be ready to engage with your studies, you should start to read and research around your subject before you arrive.

These are just examples of resources that provide prior knowledge for the postgraduate programme. You do not have to buy or read all of them as you may already have similar ones that you studied during your undergraduate studies.

- Essential Knowledge Text No. 6 to 19. These provide useful information to prepare you for the structures and soil mechanics modules. They are available from IStructEresources. These resources are available for students to access for free as student members of the Institution of Structural Engineers. Any student can get free membership. When you do sign up, the process only takes a couple of minutes (just enter name/email/address/D.O.B. and course details), once you click approve, membership is instant so you would be able to access any materials straight away.
- Matlab software: you may find the following MATLAB tutorials video clips useful.
- The Association for Project Managements report Projecting for the Future highlighting emerging trends in the project management profession.
- Local Transport Today / Transport Extra
- Park, G and Hewson, N. (2008) ICE Manual of Bridge Engineering. 2nd Edn.Thomas Telford.

- Department for Transport (2007). Manual for Streets. London: Department for Transport.
- Young, A. et al. (2010) Manual for streets 2: wider application of the principles. London; Chartered Institution of Highways and Transportation.
- Department for Transport (2020). Cycle Infrastructure Design (LTN 1/20). London: Department for Transport.

Connect with others

Other useful organisations to follow include:

- Institution of Civil Engineers (ICE)
- The Institution of Structural Engineers (IStructE)
- Institute of Highway Engineers (IHE)
- Chartered Institute of Highways & Transportation (CIHT)
- The Institution of Engineering and Technology (IET)

Be prepared

Access support

Check the information on our Disability web pages so you know what you need to do. If you need any urgent additional mobility or other support to fully access all activities during your studies, contact me as your programme leader.

Get equipped

The University has computers on all our campuses for you to use during your studies. These provide access to our core digital learning tools and any specialist software required for your course. You may have scheduled sessions in computer labs or other specialist facilities, and you will be able to use open-access PCs for self-study.

UWE Bristol licenses many specialist software packages for use on personal laptops for the duration of your course. If you're struggling to meet the financial demands of your course, please contact the Student Money Service team for advice and guidance.

See the UWE website for detailed information on choosing your IT equipment including recommended specifications.

The core software used in your course includes:

- **Autodesk AutoCAD and AutoCAD Civil 3D**
- **Autodesk Revit**
- **Autodesk Robot Structural Analysis**
- **ABAQUS**
- **Matlab**

These packages will run on Windows devices, but not on Macs, tablets or Chromebooks.

For this programme we recommend the **Enhanced Specification**.

You will need clothing for field, laboratory and site work:

- Safety boots with steel toe caps and steel mid soles. These must be lace-up boots providing ankle support and not safety trainers, safety wellington boots or rigger boots. You will receive email notification about getting these boots from the School of Engineering.
- Walking boots for field work. If your safety boots are comfortable, with good ankle support and a cleated sole tread, then they may be used in place of specific walking boots. We recommend specific walking boots as they are often much more comfortable.
- Waterproof raincoat
- Waterproof over-trousers
- Sun hat

International students

The Global Student Support Team offer information and advice to ensure you receive all the support you need to get the best from your time at UWE Bristol. They are here to help you to settle in when you first arrive at UWE Bristol and organise social events to help you to adapt to your new environment.

Who to contact if you have questions

For any questions about the programme, please contact me: **Dominic Hames** via email at dominic.hames@uwe.ac.uk

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Please note: this information has been provided on the assumption that you will meet the conditions of your offer and be eligible to take up your place.

Entry: September 2026 Last updated: Spring 2026