Coming to UNSW as a first year student can be daunting. When I started studying at UNSW I was taken aback by the change in pace, learning style, and the sheer number of people around. In due time, thanks to the guidance of older students and helpful staff I settled in and took advantage of countless opportunities.

There is no shortage of things you can get involved in, and you may even find that by the end of your degree you wish you had more time!

This guide aims to be a starting place, providing essential info on academics, important contact details, and tips on how to get the most out of your first year. Use this guide as a springboard to find out more information on something you’re interested in, like Student Projects and Societies.

UNSW Engineering provides a diverse array of opportunities and these are just two.

There is no shortage of opportunities outside of Engineering either—whether it comes from Arc (via their volunteering programs, clubs, or sports) or in the broader uni community. By getting involved you can meet new people and make lifelong friends whilst having fun and growing as a person.

Everyone goes through this experience as a first year student so don’t be afraid to ask for help. The uni journey is what you make of it so dive right in and make the most of this year!

Good luck and go conquer!
Andy
5th year Chemical Engineering student and Student Ambassador
Creating your timetable

Enrolling involves not only selecting which courses (i.e. subjects) to enrol in, but also which times to attend for each of your lectures, tutorials and labs. Sometimes you will have a long list of times to choose from and sometimes there will be only one choice. You enrol in courses via my.unsw.edu.au

Student Central

Student Central provides essential services not specific to the Faculty of Engineering, such as your student ID card and program deferrals. For more information, visit https://student.unsw.edu.au/central

Engineering Student Services

The Engineering Student Services is located on Level 1, in the Ainsworth Building J17 (above Coffee on Campus). Opening hours and online enquiry forms can be found here:
https://www.engineering.unsw.edu.au/students/how-can-we-help/engineering-student-support-services

FAQs:
https://www.engineering.unsw.edu.au/students/how-can-we-help/faqs

Useful terminology/lingo

Program = Degree for example Bachelor of Engineering(Hons)
Plan = Specialisation - E.G Mechatronic Engineering or Aerospace Engineering
Course = Subject – E.G MATH1131 or PHYS1121

Checkout the UNSW Handbook

This is your guide to your program, specialisation and courses throughout your degree. It specifies which courses you must complete, and if applicable, in which year. It also provides information on electives and general education subjects on offer, as well as other requirements such as industrial training.

https://www.handbook.unsw.edu.au

Are you a Flexible First Year Student?

For more info go to:
http://www.engineering.unsw.edu.au/flexible-first-year-program

First Year Electives for all first-year students:

In your first-year you can choose some electives. The list of first year electives can be found here:
http://www.engineering.unsw.edu.au/study-with-us/first-year-engineering-electives-list

Creating your timetable

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KEY DATES NOT TO MISS

Key dates for enrolment, census and exams can be found here

- https://student.unsw.edu.au/dates

A simplified view of semester, exam, and term break dates can be seen via the academic calendar:
https://student.unsw.edu.au/calendar

Moodle

Moodle is an online learning platform that is used to deliver your courses. You will access lecture recordings, tutorial notes and course materials through this site throughout your degree.

https://student.unsw.edu.au/moodle-support

You are always expected to manage your own enrolment and class schedule.

Plan your next terms using online tool Bojangles. Bojangles allows you to drag, drop and move around class times to make the perfect timetable for you - whether that means less days at uni, sleeping in, or more breaks within classes.

http://tdransfield.net/utilities/bojangles

Useful Apps

Timeweave allows you to import your UNSW class timetable and see all your friends’ timetables. It’s handy for when you want to schedule lunch/coffee with friends, or just have an hour free between classes and want some company.

Lost on Campus provides a map of campus buildings and room, as well as essential amenities like microwaves. A must have for students unfamiliar with the campus.

Aileen Lu
4th year Chemical Engineering Student

TAKE TIME TO TIMETABLE!

I ALWAYS LOVED AFTERNOON CLASSES TO AVOID THE RIDICULOUSLY LONG BUS LINE IN THE MORNINGS.

Aileen Lu
4th year Chemical Engineering Student
UNSW Counselling and Psychological Services (CAPS)

- http://www.counselling.unsw.edu.au/

UNSW CAPS provides a free and confidential service to all students. A range of services are offered:

- Counselling for individuals
- Orientation to UNSW and the University experience
- Motivational support
- Seminars and workshops to enhance student success
- Personal skills development
- Self-help resources to develop personal and academic effectiveness
- Advisory services for staff & students
- Self-help resources to develop personal and academic effectiveness

Location: Level 2, East Wing, Quadrangle (Map Ref E15)
Tel: +61 (2) 9385 5418 Email: counselling@unsw.edu.au
Opening Hours: Mon to Thurs, 9:00am - 5:00pm

Disability Support Services

- https://student.unsw.edu.au/disability

The Disability Services provides advice and assistance for students to have a fair and equitable opportunity to fully participate and succeed in their studies. DSU offers educational support and programs for any student who:

- Managing a disability, health or learning difficulty, or is studying under difficult personal circumstances such as a career, single parent looking after a child with a disability or student in day release program
- Lives in regional or remote New South Wales
- Has the potential to succeed at university, but has never been encouraged to think about going belongs to a minority group
- Has encountered harassment or discrimination from another student or staff member while on campus.

Location: Ground Floor, John Goodsell Building (Map Ref F20)
Tel: +61 (2) 9385 4734
Email: disabilities@unsw.edu.au
Opening Hours: Monday - Friday, 10.00am – 4.00pm

UNSW Careers and Employment


Careers and Employment provide services to assist students in the development of career management skills. These include workshops, online job search facilities, careers expos and one-on-one assistance to help with resumes and interview techniques. Sign up for their free fortnightly e-Newslist service for upcoming events and current job opportunities.

Location: Level 2, East Wing, Quadrangle (Map Ref E15)
Tel: +61 (2) 9385 5429
Email: careers@unsw.edu.au

EngScope newsletter

Every second Tuesday during term time you’ll receive the EngScope newsletter, brought to you by the UNSW Engineering Society. The newsletter includes lots of useful content like:

- Lots of events to get involved with
- Internship and job opportunities
- A student blog and news article
- Special announcements from UNSW and the Faculty of Engineering

REMEMBER: EngScope newsletter will be sent to your zID student email. Check it out.

Check your emails!

Your student email is where all UNSW communication will be sent to including notifications from your lecturers and communications from the Faculty of Engineering. It is recommended that you check your student email on a regular basis. You can access instructions on how to access your student email can be seen via the following link:

- https://student.unsw.edu.au/emails
UNSW ENGINEERING SCHOOLS

The Faculty of Engineering is made up of eight different schools who specialise in specific areas of engineering. You can find out more about each school through their website below.

SCHOOL

- **BIOMEDICAL ENGINEERING**
- **CHEMICAL ENGINEERING**
- **CIVIL AND ENVIRONMENT ENGINEERING**
- **COMPUTER SCIENCE ENGINEERING**
- **ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING**
- **MECHANICAL AND MANUFACTURING ENGINEERING**
- **MINERAL AND ENERGY RESOURCES ENGINEERING**
- **PHOTOVOLTAIC AND RENEWABLE ENERGY ENGINEERING**

STUDENT SOCIETIES

Want to make new friends, gain new skills and work as part of a team? There are hundreds of student societies at UNSW to get involved in! Below is a list of the student societies for the Faculty of Engineering and its schools. Like them on Facebook and get involved in their programs and events!

- **Engineering Society**
  - [https://www.facebook.com/groups/unswengsoc/](https://www.facebook.com/groups/unswengsoc/)
- **Women in Engineering Society**
  - [https://www.facebook.com/wieunsw/](https://www.facebook.com/wieunsw/)
- **Engiqueers**
  - [https://www.facebook.com/EngiqueersUNSW/](https://www.facebook.com/EngiqueersUNSW/)
- **Biomedical Engineering Student Society**
  - [https://www.facebook.com/UNSWBESS/](https://www.facebook.com/UNSWBESS/)
- **Chemical Engineering Undergraduate Society**
  - [https://www.facebook.com/ceus.unsw/](https://www.facebook.com/ceus.unsw/)
- **Civil and Environmental Engineering Society**
  - [https://www.facebook.com/cevsoc/](https://www.facebook.com/cevsoc/)
- **Computer Science and Engineering Society**
  - [https://www.facebook.com/csesoc/](https://www.facebook.com/csesoc/)
- **Electrical Engineering Society**
  - [https://www.facebook.com/eeunsw/](https://www.facebook.com/eeunsw/)
- **Mechanical Engineering Society**
  - [https://www.facebook.com/UNSWMECHSOC/](https://www.facebook.com/UNSWMECHSOC/)
- **Mineral and Energy Resources Engineering Society**
  - [https://www.facebook.com/UNSWIMERESOC/](https://www.facebook.com/UNSWIMERESOC/)
- **Society for Photovoltaic and Renewable Energy Engineers**
  - [https://www.facebook.com/groups/resoc.unsw/about/](https://www.facebook.com/groups/resoc.unsw/about/)

Erisha Chand  
2nd year Mechatronic Engineering Student

CHECK OUT AND JOIN ALL THE AVAILABLE SOCIETIES, STUDENT PROJECTS AND CLUBS DURING O-WEEK! A GREAT WAY TO MAKE SOME FRIENDS, DO SOME NETWORKING AND GET INVOLVED OUTSIDE OF YOUR DEGREE. MY ADVICE WOULD BE TO JOIN A BUNCH IN YOUR 1ST YEAR AND THEN YOU CAN COMMIT TO A FEW AFTER YOUR TASTE TEST!
From solar cars to space technology and social enterprises to humanitarian initiatives in developing economies; each of our Student Projects come with their own unique set of opportunities and learning outcomes.

Student Projects emphasise:
- cross-disciplinary collaboration,
- complex project management,
- smart use of technology and global engagement.
- Technical skills through working in the Makerspaces

Interested in getting involved? Find out more by visiting our website.

STUDENT PROJECTS

Matthew Holohan
Mechatronic Engineering student and Project Manager of Sunswift
“Sunswift is all about hands-on training, using tools and learning how to use materials. It’s one thing to design something on a computer, but it’s an entirely new challenge to actually build it.”

Hiruni Walpola
Renewable Energy Engineering and Commerce student and member of Impact Engineers
“Working with Impact Engineers has not only given me the opportunity to gain hands-on experience practically applying my engineering skills to humanitarian projects, but it has also pushed me forward to greater heights.”

Dominik Daners
Mechatronic Engineering student and member of Competitive Robotics
“I’ve learnt how to implement robotics theory in a number of different languages, on a variety of different platforms in order to perform complex tasks autonomously.”

Helena Kertesz
Mechatronics and Computer Science student
“It was surreal. On the first anniversary of doing my HSC, I was on a plane to Poland becoming part of the first ever Australian team to participate in the European Rover Challenge. It was one of the best experiences I’ve ever had.”

Makerspaces are a collaborative and social space where students can work together on their practical projects and explore their creativity. Makerspaces adopt a strategic and coordinated approach to hands-on project-based learning, coursework and prototyping on campus. There is a network of Makerspaces located throughout UNSW’s Kensington campus which provide students with access to an extensive range of equipment and training. The Makerspace Mentoring Program aims to educate students on the use of fabricating equipment. In 2019, this program will grow to further include facilitation skills, empowering mentors to run Design Thinking workshops, Hackathons and Product Design Sprints.

Sign up here to complete a Makerspace induction:

Search: UNSW Making to find out more!
BECOME PART OF OUR COMMUNITY

Women in Engineering Development Program
Join now at unsw.to/wied
DevelopME is a leadership program providing female engineering students with the opportunity to make life-long friends and develop the skills and confidence you need to kickstart your career! Each term you will be able to take part in a workshop to build your personal or professional skills, programs to develop your entrepreneurial mindset, industry contacts and technical skills, and volunteering opportunities to inspire younger girls to consider a career in STEM. This program has been accredited by UNSW Advantage, which means that students who participate fully in the program can have it listed on their university transcript as an extra-curricular activity.

Women in Engineering Student Society (WIESoc)
facebook.com/wieunsw/
With more than 2000 members from a diverse range of engineering disciplines, WIESoc provides female engineering students with a broad range of events and activities to build friendships and develop skills while studying. These include a packed social calendar (with games nights, cocktail events and annual WIESoc Ball), a sought-after mentorship program and multiple industry events from speed networking to design challenges.

O-WEEK WELCOME
13 FEBRUARY
The Women in Engineering community will be there on day one to welcome you to UNSW. At our O’Week welcome, we will share all the information you need to get involved with the WIE Development Program, WIESoc and our calendar of events.
Sign up here ➤ https://goo.gl/forms/yJnx8SA2wY8E2LVK2

International Women’s Day
7 MARCH
There can be no better day to acknowledge the impact of women in engineering are making all around the world. We celebrate IWD with a special brunch event hosted by WIESoc, for the Women in Engineering community and industry guests.
Watch out for this event on the WIESoc Facebook Page ➤ https://www.facebook.com/wieunsw/

Peer 2 Peer Mentoring Program
The Engineering Society’s Peer 2 Peer Mentoring Program aims to help you make a smooth transition to university life and to assist with common enquiries that first year students ask. Mentees are usually matched with a mentor studying the same engineering plan and EngSoc hold fun events as part of the program like a board games night and an Amazing Race event. We strongly encourage all new engineering students to join the mentoring program and make the most of what it has to offer. Participating in the program is also a great way to make friends and get the answers to all your questions!

Keep an eye on your student email and on Facebook for how to get involved in 2019.

EngSoc Volunteer Development Program
The EngSoc Volunteer Development Program provides a fantastic, low-commitment way to jumpstart your uni involvement. With workshops on important soft skills like communication and teamwork and flexible volunteering, you can give back to the community with fellow engineering students across all years and schools.

SPECIAL EVENTS TO GET YOU STARTED

GET INVOLVED!

UNSW Student Advantage
➤ https://student.unsw.edu.au/advantage
UNSW Advantage accredits over 450 volunteer and professional development opportunities available here at UNSW. Check out all the different opportunities to get involved! And the best part, participating in these programs will ensure what you learn is listed on your AHEGS when you graduate. All of these experiences help you develop yourself and gain the skills and confidence to be the best you can be.

Like and follow the UNSW Engineering Society to find out how to get involved! ➤ facebook.com/groups/unswengineering/

Brian Au
3rd year Civil Engineering student

“THROUGHOUT MY INVOLVEMENT IN THE WIE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM, I CONTINUE TO BE IMPRESSED BY THE EFFORT UNSW PUTS INTO ENCOURAGING WOMEN TO PURSUE ENGINEERING, ALLOWING US TO GRASP NEW AND INTERESTING OPPORTUNITIES THAT EQUIP US WITH SKILLS FOR THE FUTURE.”
Karen Kuan
4th year Civil Engineering and Architecture student

“YES! WHETHER IT’S GOING TO THAT FIRST SOCIAL EVENT WITHOUT KNOWING ANYONE OR VOLUNTEERING FOR A SOCIETY, JUST SAY YES TO EVERY OPPORTUNITY YOU CAN IF YOU DON’T FIND A PASSION, YOU’LL CERTAINLY MAKE FRIENDS AND CONNECTIONS ALONG THE WAY!”
Brian Au
3rd year Civil Engineering student

HANDY HINTS

How to get to Uni:
1. An express bus service (891) runs from Central Station to UNSW.
2. The bus line in the morning is ridiculous! Plan for it or organise afternoon classes.
3. If you’re driving to UNSW, make sure you arrive early to get a parking spot near campus and minimise the walk. Parking at gate 14 is expensive and a parking fine is worse!
4. Trip view app: An absolute must for all commuters. Find it in the app store.
5. Follow the link to get details for other buses and transportation options:
   - gettingstarted.unsw.edu.au/maps-and-public-transport

Campus Map:
1. UNSW is big, confusing and busy... the campus map is your best friend. Download and highlight your classes before day 1! Some of us even highlighted what looks to be a suitable path.
2. O-week campus tours run by the Yellow Shirt leaders are a sure-fire way to get familiar with campus!
3. You must download lost on campus (app) before day 1!!
   - Map out the route to your class beforehand, so you’re not walking in late in front of everyone.

Campus Map:

Food:
UNSW has no shortage of food and coffee joints. If you’re on lower campus, Stellini Pasta Bar offers a wide range of tasty pastas, or you can visit Guzman Y Gomez for a burrito. On upper campus, Subway and Boost offer familiarity, or you can check out Southern Wok for a wide range of noodle and rice dishes. The Mathews food court offer a variety of cuisines from Indian to Japanese.

If you’re in the middle, visit Q-Lounge to mix and match your own lunch (there are always lines during lunch time!), or check out the daily deals at the Whitehouse ($10 Schitty on Wednesdays!). After class you can hit the Roundhouse for happy hour drinks with your mates.

WH Smith
The one-stop-shop for all stationary, lab needs and workbooks! Prices aren’t too bad either!
- Located at the Quad (next to Q-Lounge) or at the top of the Basser Steps (near Boost).

IGA:
Near Gate 2 off High Street, under the university terraces, IGA has all the snacks you need.

Other Services
We have banks, an Australia Post outlet, pharmacy, STA Travel and the UNSW Health Service.
- See the full list of food and retail outlets on campus here:
  - https://bacs.unsw.edu.au/property/retail

Student support groups
This is a BIG one (trust us!). Whilst your lectures are great, it’s your classmates that get us through each course.
1. Join the Facebook page AND group chat for each of your courses. Here you can ask questions, get reminded of due dates, get solutions and hints for quizzes and even get week by week revision notes from some of the best and brightest!

STUDY HINTS!
University life is busy. Hedge your bets and maximise your marks!

1. Every percentage counts: DO NOT slack on any weighted work. Whether it is an 8% maple coding test or a 1% weekly MMAN1300 quiz, do it and do it well. It might seem tedious but come end of term exams, having the comfort of an extra 15% you’ve grinded for during the semester not only reduces stress but will often get you over the line if is going to be a close pass!
2. “Compulsory” attendance: attendance IS compulsory. It doesn’t matter if you technically don’t have to attend the class to pass, don’t be silly. Anything can happen in that final exam and you’ll be livid if your over confidence cost you the ability to sit a supp!
3. Become a demonstrator: Being a demonstrator in your later years not only looks great on the resume but also puts a little extra cash in your pocket! Your lecturers will tell you about these opportunities when they arise.
4. Study buddies: Make your best effort to make some study friends! It’ll help you more than you could imagine.

COFFEE LOVERS! BRING A KEEP-CUP TO SAVE SOC AND THE ENVIRONMENT AT MOST CAFES ON CAMPUS.

TEXTBOOKS COST AN ARM AND A LEG. UNLESS YOUR LECTURER SPECIFICALLY ADVISES, DON’T BUY TEXTBOOKS BEFORE YOU START UNI! ALSO, ALWAYS CHECK FOR LEGAL ONLINE COPIES BEFORE HittiNG UP THE BOOKSHOP.

Isabella Notarpietro
1st year Chemical Engineering student
With over 300 different Clubs & Societies to pick from, you’re spoilt for choice. EngSoc is your constituent society so be sure to check them out, and then venture from your comfort zone with something new like Adventurers Club, Debating Society or Engineers Without Borders.

Get moving! A healthy body leads to a healthy mind, and there are plenty of chances to get the blood pumping with Arc Sport. There are over 30 Sport Clubs, Social Sport on campus every afternoon, intervarsity glory at Nationals, She Can for the ladies and pick-up-and-play whenever you want.

Roundhouse is the home of good times all year round. Hit up UniBar for your classic engi-beers and stay later for live music and parties. There are huge prizes, delicious burgers, unmissable gigs every week and Arc Members get exclusive access to everything.

Give back to the community and ramp up your resume with volunteering. You can commit as much or as little time as you like to improving campus or undertaking a sustainable development project afar and abroad. Volunteering with Arc is a great way to meet people, feel the fuzzies and learn practical skills.

Sometimes this just don’t go to plan. If you suffer a misfortune that is related to a legal issue or university issue you can get in touch with Arc Legal & Advocacy. They’ll help you with the serious stuff like tenancy contracts, employment and special consideration. Check out Arc Wellness for tips on self-care and helping others.

Being an Arc Member gets you heaps of perks throughout your university year. You’ll get discounts from retailers on campus, off campus and online. There’s free stationery, bike repairs, cheap trips around Sydney, free food and plenty more.
CONTACT US
WE LOOK FORWARD TO WELCOMING YOU TO UNSW ENGINEERING IN 2019.

Engineering Student Services
Room 104, Level 1, Building J17 (Ainsworth)
9.30am – 4.30pm Monday to Friday
Ph: +61 2 9385 8100

Submit an enquiry unsw.to/webforms

Join us on social media for all the latest news and updates

Facebook: UNSW Engineering
Twitter: unswengineering
Website: https://www.engineering.unsw.edu.au/students