STEM Careers

It is estimated 72% of all UK businesses rely on people with Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) skills, while 58% of all new jobs will be STEM related. Therefore, graduating with an engineering or a science related degree will provide you with better job prospects.

A career in STEM is also very rewarding. It is the engineers, scientists and technicians who will move this world forward, and build a better world for all. Some of the contributions you can make to the world with a career in STEM are below:

- Cure diseases
- Create renewable energy and contribute towards building a sustainable world
- Design safer transportation systems
- Help solve pollution, resource shortage and climate change issues
- Space exploration
- Develop more efficient methods of producing food

Value of Art

Street dancing played a big part in my life journey as it gave me another dimension. It helped me manage stress and get through university. It was part of the reason I became an engineer. It also gave me so many creative ideas for my business.

If you have hobbies in your life, I would encourage you to keep hold of them. They can help you stand out from everyone else. It can help open up new doors and meet new people. Universities have a vast number of social clubs and events. Try many different activities while you are a student. It is only by trying you will be able to discover things you love doing. Even if you don't want a make a career out of your hobby it may play a big part in your journey.

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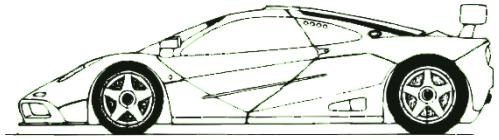
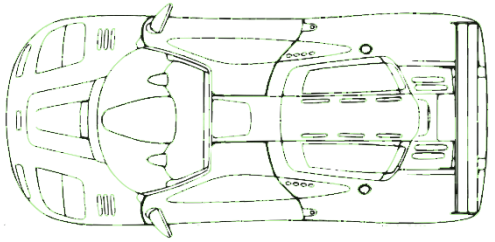
Career in Engineering

I graduated with a master's degree in Aerospace Engineering from the Queen Mary University of London. I then went on to become a stress engineer for Rolls-Royce, as well as becoming a professional street dancer. This leaflet is intended to give students guidance and information about a career in engineering based on my own personal experience. There is also some information about how art may help your journey.





Why Engineering

Engineering is a great degree that can help you open up many possibilities in life, while helping to make a great contribution to the world.

From building hospitals, transportation systems, electronic devices and biomedical equipment the possibilities are endless. A career in engineering can be fun and interesting. Skills you learn as an engineer such as critical thinking, planning and problem solving are transferrable, and valued in other industries such as finance and entertainment.

Engineers are wanted around the world, which means you have the possibility to travel to any part of the world to work.

Choosing the Right Degree

Universities offer a vast selection of engineering degrees to choose from. Some of the most common ones are listed below:

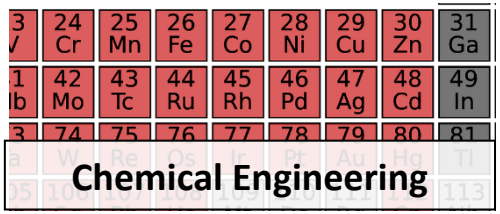
Electrical Engineering

Aerospace Engineering

Civil Engineering

Biomedical Engineering

Mechanical Engineering



Chemical Engineering

If you are not sure which industry you would like to work in, I would recommend studying mechanical engineering. The reason for this is that, it gives you a broader education in to engineering, and you will have a wider selection of jobs to apply from when you graduate.

If you are certain that you would like to work in a specific industry; such as aircraft/space/civil/electronic/medical industry, then go for a specialist degree. This does not mean you cannot apply for other engineering jobs, but it's likely the mechanical engineers will have the edge during the selection process for jobs.

Do as much research as possible on your selected degree. The modules and content of the same degree can differ between universities. Most degrees provide you the opportunity to specialise in certain subjects in the final years.

I would also recommend you to consider doing a ***master's degree***. This is usually an additional year on top of your three-year Bachelor's degree. Having a master's degree can improve your chance of getting a better job, more pay and working for a bigger company.

This website has a lot of information on what the various types of degrees offer, and a list of top universities for engineering:
https://www.topuniversities.com/courses/engineering/guide

You can usually receive an undergraduate student loan to complete a four-year Master's programme. However, if you decide to do a Bachelor's degree, and your Master's separately, student loan will not usually fund this.

Also, it is not just the degree you have to think about. Take a tour of the university or better go and take a visit. Go to open days and ask many questions about the university life, and support services.

Finding the Right Job

Regardless of which engineering degree you study, there will be certain modules/subjects within the curriculum that you will enjoy more than others. A lot of engineers upon graduation tends to relocate for jobs, so it is essential to find the right job for you.

Think about the modules you enjoy studying while you are at university, and apply for a job that you will have fun doing. It is tempting to accept the first job offer you receive but consider your options. More practical and non-repetitive your job is, more likely that you will enjoy it. For example, designing, manufacturing and testing a model car can be a good deal of fun. You will enjoy seen the results of your work in the real world.

Don't settle and try to explore until you find a job that's enjoyable. The more you enjoy it, the more likely you will also be good at it.

Finally, if you are a graduate, do not limit yourself to applying for just graduate jobs. I was initially turned down by Rolls-Royce for their graduate scheme, however I gained entry in to the company by applying for an available direct job, skipping the whole graduation process.