



University of the
West of England



University
Centre
Somerset

DEGREES FOR REAL LIFE

Student Quality Handbook 2025/2026

BEng (Hons) Mechanical Engineering with Nuclear

Programme Leader: **Sreerag Sreekumar**

Campus and Cohort: **National College for Nuclear (Southern Hub)
Cannington**

Aims of the Handbook

The handbook is designed to provide information relevant to the programme. The information in the handbook may also be provided in a number of other electronic or paper sources and this document provides links to the definitive data sources wherever possible.

Please note that the electronic version of the handbook will be kept up to date and you will be notified of any significant changes. If you have taken a hard copy of any information, please remember to refer back to the electronic version to ensure that you are working with the most up to date information.

The University of the West England and University Centre Somerset are both committed to ensuring that people with a disability, including those with specific learning difficulties and/or mental health difficulties are treated fairly. Reasonable adjustments to provision will be made to ensure that students/people with a disability are not disadvantaged. This handbook can be provided in a variety of formats upon request. This handbook is for advice and guidance only and is not a substitute for the formal Academic Regulations and Procedures of the University of the West England. Both University Centre Somerset and the University of the West England wish to create environments where diversity is celebrated, anti-social attitudes and behaviours are challenged and any type of harassment, assault and discrimination are not accepted. We want you to speak up if you see or hear something that is not right.

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Dear Student,

A warm welcome from National College for Nuclear southern hub! Congratulations for getting onboard with this prestigious qualification.

This BEng Degree programme is designed to enable learners to benefit from the interpretation of ideas and the experience of practice, within the wider context of employment and one in which knowledge, understanding and skills are clearly integrated. By focusing on learning within a work context, that is underpinned by both vocational and academic understanding BEng Degrees should demonstrate learning outcomes that are explicitly relevant to both employers', and perhaps also professional, needs.

Furthermore, consideration of sustainability in the application of the knowledge, understanding and skills achieved should enable successful progression both within employment and to Masters level or to other qualifications.

Once again, wish you a very successful career ahead.

1. Programme team information

Programme Leader: Dr. Abdulkareem Karasuwa

Chief external examiners from other institutions are appointed to a suite of programmes to act independently and work with the College in the management of threshold academic standards, ensuring parity of approach to assessment across all awards available.

2. Key Faculty Staff & Academic Calendar

Programme Team:

Name	Contact information
Dr. Burak Unal	unalb@bridgwater.ac.uk
Dr. Abdulkareem Karasuwa	karasuwa@bridgwater.ac.uk
Dr. Xin Liu	liux@bridgwater.ac.uk
Sreerag Sreekumar	sreekumars@ucscollegegroup.ac.uk
Tony Tom	tomt@ucscollegegroup.ac.uk

UCS Contacts

Role	Name	Contact information
For all queries related to HE Polices and procedures such as Extenuating Circumstances Requests, Academic Appeals etc.	Higher Education Team	HE@ucscollegegroup.ac.uk
Registrar (HE Admissions)	Emma Lilley	LILLEYE@ucscollegegroup.ac.uk
HE Student Engagement Officer	Sue Stevens	STEVENS@ucscollegegroup.ac.uk
To solve IT issues	Technology Helpdesk	ITSHelpdesk@ucscollegegroup.ac.uk
Library resources queries and support sessions; HEADstart	The LRC Team	lrcenquiries@ucscollegegroup.ac.uk (for B/W and Cannington) tauntonlrc@ucscollegegroup.ac.uk (for Taunton)
Printing and copying	Reprographics	reprographics@ucscollegegroup.ac.uk
Support with specific difficulties you may be facing	Wellbeing Team	Bridgwaterwellbeing@ucscollegegroup.ac.uk Tauntonwellbeing@ucscollegegroup.ac.uk Canningtonwellbeing@ucscollegegroup.ac.uk
Safeguarding concerns	Campus Specific Safeguarding Officers	Taunton Campus–Helen Windsor: windsorh@ucscollegegroup.ac.uk Bridgwater Campus–Keira Scott: scottk@ucscollegegroup.ac.uk Cannington Campus–Leesa Hayes:

		hayesl@ucscollegegroup.ac.uk
For advice about support tailored to your needs	Student Support	StudentSupport@ucscollegegroup.ac.uk
To help with accommodation queries	Student Liaison Team	Residentialenquiries@ucscollegegroup.ac.uk residentialservices@ucscollegegroup.ac.uk canningtonresidential@ucscollegegroup.ac.uk
Loan and payment queries	Finance Team	Finance@ucscollegegroup.ac.uk
To provide extra support with learning in lessons and exams	Learning Support Team	ALSHESUPPORT@ucscollegegroup.ac.uk
For future course and career options and information	Information and Guidance Team	Info@ucscollegegroup.ac.uk

Academic Calendar

Autumn Term 2025	
Start of term: Monday 15 September 2025	End of term: Thursday 18 December 2025
Reading week: Monday 27 October – Friday 31 October 2025	

Spring Term 2026	
Start of term: Monday 5 January 2026	End of term: Thursday 2 April 2026
Reading week: Monday 16 February – Friday 20 February 2026	
Easter Holidays: Friday 3 April – Friday 17 April 2026	

Summer Term 2026	
Start of term: Monday 20 April 2026	End of term: Friday 12 June 2026
Reading week: Monday 25 May – Friday 29 May 2026	

UCS and College are open throughout the year, except for the Christmas period shown above and Bank Holidays.

The dates shown above signify principal teaching and learning dates, key administrative times, and College closures.

3. Programme specific information

The curriculum has been designed to promote access to higher education to learners working in the nuclear sector. The delivery and assessment strategy ensures the development of knowledge, skills and graduate attributes within a professional environment. Graduates from this programme will be in a position to make an immediate impact on their business environment, something that has been assured by the collaboration with leading employers from the sector in the development of these programmes of study. The programmes provide a vehicle for close engagement between UWE, the National College for Nuclear and employers in the Nuclear Sector to meet the demands for the sector as set out by UK Government. The programme is an example of the collaboration between UWE and the National College for Nuclear.

The delivery mode for the BEng programme at NCfN is based upon an ‘investigate and discover’, project-based learning methodology, using industry-sponsored equipment and materials to produce outcomes that can then be mapped against fully accredited engineering degree modules. This approach is perceived by the UK nuclear primes and supply chain partners as not only desirable, but also necessary in order to produce the work-ready talent pool for industry. It also fully aligns with the UK Government’s apprenticeship and funding reforms.

Key programme outcomes:

On completing the programme, students will

- Hold work ready competence that enables them to perform to the highest operational levels more quickly
- Achieve an academic, university level BEng Degree, delivered in a professional/vocational context
- Gain interaction with systems that applies theory, principles, data and methods to human factors in order to optimise human and overall system performance.
- Develop and understand resilience, gaining the capacity to be robust under conditions of pressure, stress and change.
- Experience a unique, task- and project-led C³ Curriculum that emits and draws knowledge and core competencies together at the point of work, equipping learners with the skills and core behaviours that enable them to perform their occupation roles and responsibilities to a higher level more rapidly.
- Are taught in an environment that brings together the Nuclear Community where their skills, knowledge and professionalism can flourish and transfer.
- Have the opportunity to learn in the geographically significant NCfN Southern hub which complements stakeholder vision and ambition.

- Study a Degree and Apprenticeship Standard that is recognised by Engineering and Science Councils, such as the IET, giving them access to Chartered Status.
- Gain Nuclear Delta recognition which is embedded within the Degree and Apprenticeship Standard, and which ensures that graduates are compliant with industry expectations, giving them access to the Nuclear Institute.
- Are immersed in an environment that exceeds industry expectations and ensures graduates adopt the behaviours expected of those who work within the nuclear industry.

The programme provides graduates with the knowledge, skills and capabilities required by the civil and defence nuclear industries for the specification, design and delivery of solutions to problems involving mechanical, electrical and electronic systems. Work-based learning is embedded in the programme design to develop individuals who think and communicate effectively, who can conduct inquiry, solve problems, undertake critical analysis and deliver effective systems solutions. Graduates from this programme are able to be effective and make an early impact on their work environment both prior to and after graduation.

4. Programme Structure

BEng Mechanical Engineering with Nuclear - Module Breakdown by Years & Credits			
	Module Name	Module code	Module Credits
Year1	Nuclear Science, Materials and Design	UFMFRP-30-1	30
	Solid Mechanics	UFMFSP-30-1	30
	Thermofluidic Dynamics	UFMFTP-30-1	30
	Electromechanical Systems Engineering	UFMFQP-30-1	30
Year2	Heat Transfer and Power	UFMFXP-30-2	30
	Electromechanical Systems and Design	UFMFVP-30-2	30
	Electromechanical Systems Analysis	UFMFWP-30-2	30
	Advanced Nuclear Science & Project Management	UFMFYP-30-2	30
Year3	Stress, Materials and FEA	UFMF9Q-30-3	30
	Thermofluid Systems and CFD	UFMFAQ-30-3	30
	Industrial Nuclear Science and Technology	UFMFBQ-20-3	20
	Engineering Project with Nuclear	UFMFGY-40-3	40

	360 Credits
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Students will attend UCS online and in person for lectures, seminars, tutorials and study days and are also expected to study independently throughout the programme for assignments and to improve knowledge base and understanding. There will be periods of time when students are not expected to attend UCS or to study for modules. This may coincide with Christmas and Easter when the Taunton campus is closed. The way in which the programme runs is negotiated with employers and it may be that the standard leave dates advertised on the UCS webpages do not apply to you. However, UCS closure dates are relevant, refer to the academic calendar in section 2 of this handbook.

You

are asked to pay particular attention to assessment dates and ensure you check with your academic team if you are unsure when assessments are due. Students are expected to be available during these periods and absence from scheduled assessments may have a significant impact on your studies. Please take care to avoid these dates when planning any holidays.

5. Communication

UCS College Group

The main communication channel used by UCS College Group is via your college email accounts and Teams. Microsoft Teams contains your course specific information and is used by staff to send important announcements and updates regarding your programme.

You are also expected to check regularly (at least twice a week) as this is the email address that the College will use to contact you and will not be responsible if you miss important information such as details about classes, assessments, examinations, or results. You can set up your college email account to re-direct emails to your personal account if preferred.

UWE

Blackboard provides the main communication channel for module specific information and should be checked regularly for new content and announcements. This is accessed with your UWE account. Other communications will be on Teams and via UCS email. It is important that you regularly access both your UWE and UCS email accounts.

In myUWE you can access your UWE student email account, which you are expected to check regularly (at least twice a week) as this is the email address that the University will use to contact you. If you do not activate this account, or choose to automatically forward emails to a different email account, then the University will not be responsible if you miss important information such as details about classes, assessments, examinations, fees,

registration etc. You can find more [information on all aspects of your myUWE portal](#) on the website.

Changes to your Programme

We strive, and are expected, to continually enhance our Programmes by responding to feedback from students and other Stakeholders, ensuring the curriculum is kept up to date and our graduates are equipped with the knowledge and skills they need. We may make any such changes to our Programmes without consulting you if the changes will not involve a Material Change.

There may be circumstances where we have to make a Material Change to the Material Information. In these circumstances, we will give you advance notice of the change and inform you about how this change will impact on your Programme and work with you to ensure you understand the reasons for, and the effect of, the change.

A Material change would be a change to the programme from the information we provided to you when we made you an offer of a place on your Programme, which includes:

- the published details of your Programme, including: Programme title; entry requirements; what you will study (for example core modules);
- method of study (for example, lectures, seminars, work placements); expected workload including number of contact hours and expected self-study;
- the overall assessment strategy for your Programme (not a change to the balance of assessment within individual modules);
- the award you will receive on successful completion of your Programme;
- location of study or possible locations;
- length of your Programme;
- whether your Programme is accredited by a professional, statutory or regulatory body (PSRB).

Examples of reasons for making a Material Change to your Programme may include:

- a commissioning or accrediting body requires us to add new course content to your Programme;
- in response to feedback from stakeholders or our students;
- where there is an insufficient number of students applying to the Programme/module of a Programme to make running the Programme or module impractical to provide a suitable student experience and/or financially viable;
- to reflect the introduction of new technologies;

- where staff have taken extended leave or left the University;
- following changes to the funding we receive or that students may be eligible for;
- Government legislation

Where we wish to make a material change your rights are defined within the University's [Terms and Conditions](#)

6. Regulations/Policies

Late Submission Window

If students encounter unexpected difficulties, a 48-hour late submission window is available to all students, during which they can submit their assignment without penalty. An assignment cannot be submitted after the late submission window has ended. Failure to submit the assignment within the 48-hour late submission window will result in a non- submission being recorded.

Assessment Offences

In order to ensure that all students are assessed fairly and equitably, it is important that markers are able to be sure it is your own work which is being assessed and that all your assessed work is done within the University rules and regulations. If a marker or invigilator believes that you have committed an assessment offence this will be reported and the allegation will have to be investigated. The University take the committing of assessment offences very seriously. Action is always taken to investigate and follow through any such cases that are reported. The process and consequences can be found within the [UWE Assessment Offences policy](#)

An assessment offence is defined by the University as 'any action which has the potential to give a student an unfair advantage in an assessment.' Plagiarism, collusion, and contract cheating are examples of the use of unfair means of presenting work for assessment.

Plagiarism – Demonstrating that you have read a wide range of material (books, journals or other sources) in writing a piece of coursework is essential, but so is ensuring that you acknowledge that work properly through correct referencing i.e. the naming of authors/sources and the use of paraphrasing, quotation marks or indented paragraphs.

Collusion – You may be asked to work with other students on a project, in class or analysing data, it is essential that any work you hand in for assessment purposes is written up by you on an individual basis. The text and diagrams / pictures etc. you use must be your own. You must be particularly careful if you are sharing a computer with another student or passing information between yourself and others in an electronic

format such as email that you do not use someone else's words – or that they use your words.

Non-compliance – it is important that you follow the instructions given to you by staff and adhere to the regulations of the University. For example, non-compliance could include taking unauthorised papers or items into an examination room.

Regulations

[The University regulations](#) are designed to ensure consistency and equity for students and to provide clarity in how they will be treated by the University in any given situation.

Please see the UWE website for more information about [how your degree will be calculated](#)

In addition to the academic regulations, students should pay particular attention to the [IT Acceptable Use Policy](#) as this defines what you can or cannot do for the protection of systems and of individual users.

Details of the [Assessment Content Limit Policy](#) can be found on the website.

Referencing guide

Referencing is the technique used to direct readers of a piece of written work to the sources of information that have been used in the preparation of the written work.

If you wish to refer to something you have read you MUST give a reference for this material. [The University Library provides advice on managing references.](#)

Health and Safety

Use of the Simulation Suite and other facilities will be subject to all students following guidance and policies in place. These are under continuous development due to the new initiative and building taking place. Updated guidance and code of conduct to be signed will be in you Course Team.

Student representation

The programme team recognise the importance students place on the feedback they receive and, as a programme team, we value feedback from all students. Similar to the feedback you value, we also value positive and developmental feedback so that the programme team can continuously improve student experiences and maintain the quality of the programme. Feedback to the programme team can be provided formally and informally in various ways. Further information will be given regarding the nomination of students to represent each intake (set reps.) Representatives will be asked to attend

informal regular student engagement meetings and also more formal Programme Committee meetings (PCM).

Students are encouraged to ensure that student representatives are informed about your views as individuals and groups on all aspects of the programme. Students will also be invited to evaluate the modules and clinical learning experiences (by each module team) at specific points throughout the year. Students may also comment on the programme with academic personal tutors, module and programme leaders as well as the programme management. Students will also be asked to complete student surveys. Putting yourself forward as a student representative is beneficial in terms of skills development and is viewed positively by employers thereby boosting your C.V. Each course is asked to recruit at least one rep for each year. Further information is available from your Course Lead.

7. Advice and Support

Academic Support is provided through a number of roles and students should seek advice from academic staff on specific matters relating to teaching and learning.

Programme Leader programme related issues, issues impacting on a number of modules within the programme, programme specific activities happening outside modules

Module Leader module related issues, issues that affect that module only

[BTC / UCS Student Portals](#)

[Online resources and learning support, together with advice from Library Services](#) on managing references and improving your learning, writing and research skills are available.

At UWE, if you need help with a particular mathematical or statistical problem, then just pop along to an [espressoMaths session](#), sit down at the espressoMaths table, and have a chat with one of the staff on duty; this person will be able to provide you with free user-friendly advice concerning your problem.

8. Values, Safeguarding and Prevent

[UWE Information on Equality and Diversity](#)

UWE Bristol and UCS are committed to:

Supporting and promoting the welfare of our students, staff and visitors. The provision of a safe environment that's conducive to work, study and the enjoyment of a positive experience for all members of our community.

Prevent:

Government legislation has placed a statutory duty on Higher Education Institutions to have due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism. The legislation, known as the Prevent Duty, applies to all kinds of extremism, such as the far right, Islamist groups and animal rights groups. The objective is to safeguard individuals from being radicalised and drawn into terrorism.