ABOUT THE COLLEGE

Engineering is an exciting profession, but one of its greatest advantages is having a positive effect on everyday life. Engineers solve problems and design things that matter. You can come up with solutions no one else has thought of. Cars are safer, sound systems deliver better acoustics, medical tests are more accurate, and computers and cell phones are a lot more fun. You’ll be giving back to your community.

Engineering is a great outlet for the imagination — the perfect field for independent thinkers. Creative problem solving will take you into uncharted territory, and the ideas of your colleagues will expose you to different ways of thinking. Be prepared to be fascinated and to have your talents stretched in ways you never expected.

Engineering takes teamwork, and you’ll work with all kinds of people inside and outside the field. Whether they’re designers or architects, doctors or entrepreneurs, you’ll be surrounded by smart, inspiring people.

An engineering degree offers you lots of freedom in finding your dream job. It can be a launching pad for jobs in business, design, medicine, law and government. To employers or graduate schools, an engineering degree reflects a well-educated individual who has been taught ways of analyzing and solving problems that can lead to success in all kinds of fields.

Imagine what life would be like without pollution controls to preserve the environment, life-saving medical equipment, or low-cost building materials for fighting global poverty. All this takes engineering. In very real and concrete ways, engineers save lives, prevent disease, reduce poverty and protect our planet.

For detailed descriptions of engineering careers, check out our brochures on individual programs at engineering.umaine.edu.

The college also offers Bachelor of Science degree programs in engineering technology, curricula which place less emphasis on design and theoretical principles, but stress the application of engineering practice and the implementation of technological advances for the benefit of humanity. Engineering technology education focuses primarily on analyzing, applying, implementing and improving existing technologies and is aimed at preparing graduates for the practice of engineering closest to the product improvement, manufacturing, and engineering operational functions.

A series of minors is designed to enhance the basic undergraduate degree. For example, mechanical engineering majors are earning a minor in electrical or computer engineering or robotics to build on their basic competency in mechanical engineering. Other popular minors include engineering leadership, biomedical engineering, construction management, power, and innovation engineering.

The college offers graduate study leading to Master of Science, Professional Science Masters, and Doctor of Philosophy degrees.

UMaine’s Foster Center for Student Innovation offers courses in innovation engineering.

UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH AND SCHOLARSHIP

Thanks to faculty success in garnering research grants exceeding $10 million per year, the college has multiple opportunities for its students to participate in research. Based on their research participation, undergraduates have presented papers at national conferences, published in leading professional journals, and even received patents. Co-ops also are a popular venue for building industrial experience.
Engineering awards a variety of scholarships to incoming students based on their academic achievements in high school. Students are encouraged to apply online (engineering.umaine.edu/prospective-students/scholarships) for consideration for the fall. Annually, the college awards more than $100,000 with awards ranging from $500 to $2,000. In addition, departments and the Pulp & Paper Foundation also make awards.

STUDENT AWARDS AND RECOGNITION

UMaine engineering students excel at both serious academics and fun competitions. Engineering majors have received nationally competitive scholarships, such as the Udall Scholarship and Tau Beta Pi Fellowships. Three have been named the National Outstanding Student in Electrical Engineering. In national competitions, UMaine engineering teams have consistently placed near the top in events such as human-powered submarine, chemical car, clean snowmobile, concrete canoe and coaster car.

ABOUT OUR GRADUATES

UMaine graduates find excellent job placement with two-thirds staying in Maine, and find themselves nationally competitive for jobs around the country. About 10 percent decide to go on to graduate school, winning teaching and research assistantships to fund their advanced studies at UMaine and other top engineering schools. Demand for UMaine engineering graduates is significant and the campus hosts a special job fair just for engineering companies to meet, interview, and hire our graduates.

HOW DO I APPLY?

Visit go.umaine.edu for an application, as well as information about academics and life at UMaine.

“UMaine has taught me to always be open to new ideas and thoughts about everything. You can have your opinion on matters but sometimes listening to other people’s views can be twice as interesting and may even change your thoughts.”

— Zoe Berke ‘15, Duncan, British Columbia, Canada, 2015 Outstanding College of Engineering Graduating International Student