UNDERGRADUATE ADMISSIONS AND OUTREACH
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Engineering Science (MEng) (four-year course) Course Information Sheet for entry in 2026

Entry requirements

Visit Admission requirements for 2026 entry to view a summary table of each undergraduate course's entry requirements.

If English is not your first language you may also need to meet our English language requirements.

About the course

Engineering Science encompasses a vast range of subjects, from microelectronics to offshore oil platforms. The course involves the application of creative reasoning, science, mathematics (and, of course, experience and common sense) to real problems.

The Department of Engineering Science at Oxford has a top-level quality assessment rating for teaching and a world-class reputation for research.

We believe that future engineering innovation will benefit from broad foundations as well as specialised knowledge. Because of this, undergraduate teaching is based on a unified course in Engineering Science, which integrates study of the subject across the traditional boundaries of engineering disciplines. Links between topics - in apparently diverse fields of engineering - provide well-structured fundamental understanding, and can be exploited to give efficient teaching.

The Engineering Science programme is a four-year course, leading to the degree of Master of Engineering. The first two years are devoted to topics that we believe all Engineering undergraduates should study.

In the third and fourth years there is scope for specialisation into one of six branches of engineering:

- Biomedical
- Chemical
- Civil
- Electrical
- Information
- Mechanical.

Decisions about which of these will be your specialisation can be deferred until the third year.

The course is accredited every five years by the major engineering institutions. Engineering Science is currently accredited by IChemE, IET, InstMC, IMechE, JBM and RAeS on behalf of the Engineering Council for the purposes of fully meeting the academic requirement for registration as a Chartered Engineer.

- IChemE, IET, InstMC, IMechE, JBM (ICE, IStructE, CIHT, IHE, PWI), RAeS: up to 2027 intakes

Industrial experience is an extremely important adjunct to an academic engineering education, and undergraduates are strongly encouraged to obtain it. One way to do so is by being sponsored.

Further information is generally available through your careers teacher, or from the engineering institutions. If your sponsoring company wants you to spend a year with them before university, you will be asked to declare this at your interview and in your UCAS application.

A typical week

As a guide, in an average week you will have approximately ten lectures and two college tutorials or classes. In some weeks in the first two years, you will also have up to five hours of practical work.

In the third year each student spends an average of one day a week on their group project work. The individual project in the fourth year takes approximately two and a half days a week.

Class and tutorial group sizes are designed to allow students to discuss the contents of specific lectures with a tutor and their peers. In the first two years tutorials are delivered in colleges, typically in groups of 2-4 students. In the third year the department organises tutorials for groups of up to 4 students. In the final year class sizes vary, but there are no more than 15 students per class.

Lectures are delivered by the academic staff of the department, who are experts in their areas of research and typically have years of teaching experience. Tutorials and classes are delivered by a tutor, who might be a member of the academic staff, a postgraduate student – studying at doctoral level – or a postdoctoral research assistant within the department. Practical laboratory sessions are supervised by experienced academics and technical staff.

Visit our Academic Year page to find out more about how our teaching year is structured.

Significant self-study is expected of all students – for further details see workload and independent study information. Undergraduate courses at Oxford are full-time during term time. Students typically spend approximately 40 hours per week on academic work.

Course structure

YEAR 1	
COURSES • Mathematics • Electrical and information engineering • Structures and mechanics • Energy • Engineering practical work	**ASSESSMENT** First University examinations: four written papers; Assessment of Engineering practical work.

YEAR 2	
COURSES • Mathematics • Electrical and information engineering • Structures, materials and dynamics	**ASSESSMENT** Final University examinations, Part A: four written papers; Assessment of Engineering practical work

YEAR 2	
• Energy systems • Engineering practical work	

YEAR 3	
COURSES • Five optional Engineering courses • Engineering in society • Engineering computation • Engineering practical work • Group design project	**ASSESSMENT** Final University examinations, Part B: six written papers; Assessment of Engineering practical work; Project reports (Engineering computation and design Project)

YEAR 4	
COURSES A major project, plus six specialist courses chosen from within the areas of: • Biomedical engineering • Chemical engineering • Civil engineering • Electrical engineering • Engineering mathematics • Information engineering • Mechanical engineering • Production engineering (Not all options may be available every year – these are subject to change, as explained in the Terms & Conditions and for reasons of staff availability and student demand. The department may add extra options.)	**ASSESSMENT** Final University examinations, Part C: six written papers; Project report

The options listed above are illustrative and may change. More information about current options is available on the Engineering Department's website.

Most Oxford courses are assessed by examinations. These are typically at the end of the first and last years but you may have assessments at other times and some courses have exams in the second year also. First year examinations are often called Prelims or Moderations, and you need to pass these exams to progress to the second year. You must pass your final year exams, or 'finals', to pass your degree. For more information on assessment for your course, please see the Course Structure.

Finals also determine the classification of your degree. For some courses you may also be assessed on your practical work, or you may be required to submit a dissertation. Please check the assessment details for your course.

The University will seek to deliver this course in accordance with the description set out above. However, there may be situations in which it is desirable or necessary for the University to make changes in course provision, either before or after registration. For further information, please see the University's Terms and Conditions and information about potential course changes.

You are also referred to the Student Handbook (which is updated every September).

Fees

These annual fees in 2026/27 are for full-time students who begin this undergraduate course here in 2026. Information about how much fees and other costs usually increase each year is set out in the University's Terms and Conditions.

For details of annual increases, please see our guidance on likely increases to fees and charges.

Fee status	Annual Course fees in 2026/27
Home	£9,790
Overseas	£62,820

In the 2027-28 academic year course fees for Home fee status students will rise to £10,050 (in line with the government fee cap.)

Further details about fee status eligibility can be found on the fee status webpage.

Living costs

Living costs for the academic year starting in 2026 are estimated to be between £1,405 and £2,105 for each month you are in Oxford. Students at Oxford can benefit from our world class resources and college provision, which may help to keep costs down. Entitlement to certain types of support may depend on your personal financial circumstances.

Our academic year is made up of three eight-week terms, so you would not usually need to be in Oxford for much more than six months of the year but may wish to budget over a nine-month period to ensure you also have sufficient funds during the holidays to meet essential costs. For further details please visit our living costs webpage.

Living costs breakdown

	Per month		Total for 9 months	
	Lower range	Upper range	Lower range	Upper range

	Per month		Total for 9 months	
Food	£315	£545	£2,835	£4,905
Accommodation (including utilities)	£825	£990	£7,425	£8,910
Personal items	£160	£310	£1,440	£2,790
Social activities	£50	£130	£450	£1,170
Study costs	£35	£90	£315	£810
Other	£20	£40	£180	£360
Total	**£1,405**	**£2,105**	**£12,645**	**£18,945**

In order to provide these estimated likely living costs (which are rounded to the nearest £5), the University in collaboration with the Oxford SU conducted a living costs survey in May 2025 to complement existing student expenditure data from a variety of sources, including the UK government's Student Income and Expenditure Survey and the National Union of Students (NUS).

The current economic climate and periods of high national inflation in recent years make it harder to estimate potential changes to the cost of living over the next few years. When planning your finances for any future years of study in Oxford beyond 2026-27, it is suggested that you allow for potential increases in living expenses of around 4% each year – although this rate may vary depending on the national economic situation.

Additional Fees and Charges Information for Engineering Science

There are no compulsory costs for this course beyond the fees shown above and your living costs.

Regulation - The University of Oxford is regulated by the Office for Students and subscribes to the Office of the Independent Adjudicator for Higher Education student complaints scheme.