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About us

Welcome…

We would like to take this opportunity give you the latest information and news from around the School.

Birmingham has one of the largest concentrations of Chemical Engineering expertise in the UK, with an excellent reputation in learning, teaching and research.

This reputation is reflected in our RAE rating which shows us to be in the top five Chemical Engineering Schools in the country; 20% of our outputs were in the highest 4* category (highest-international, world-leading) and 45% in the 3* (high international) ranking.

Chemical Engineering at Birmingham combines teaching from lecturers who are global experts in their field, together with leading edge teaching facilities and laboratories to enhance the learning experience for our students. We also have strong links with key employers who provide projects and work placements for our students and regularly recruit our graduates, including Procter & Gamble, bp, ConocoPhilips, ExxonMobil, Cadbury Trebor Bassett, Unilever, AstraZeneca, GlaxoSmithKline.

New buildings

Investment totalling over £3.5 million in our buildings has resulted in some of the best teaching, computing and laboratory facilities anywhere in the UK.

Modern and innovative degree programmes

We have recently redesigned our degree programmes to make them amongst the most relevant in the world. We aim to train you for a top job in chemicals, pharmaceuticals, food, environmental engineering and emerging areas such as nanotechnology.

We have consistently attained high rankings in the League Tables. Our teaching methods include lectures, enquiry based learning, tutorials, laboratory practicals and computer classes

Top of the class for research

The RAE shows us to be in the top five Chemical Engineering Schools in the country; 20% of our outputs were in the highest 4* category (highest-international, world-leading) and 45% in the 3* (high international) ranking.

The enthusiasm that the academic staff have for their research comes through in their teaching and ensures that they and you are at the cutting edge of chemical engineering.

Read on for an introduction to the different aspects of the School...

History of the School

Our School is amongst the most prestigious in the United Kingdom. Although it is one of the largest it has a history of excellent community spirit. We are very proud of how friendly it is. Chemical Engineering at Birmingham developed from the Department of Oil Engineering which was founded in the early 1900s. Chemical Engineering was recognised as a discipline in the late 1940s, which was when the Department changed its name to its current title. Chemical Engineering at Birmingham prides itself on being up to date and on addressing the needs of industry and we have recently formed the Research Centre for Formulation Engineering.

Formulation Engineering is the most modern aspect of today's chemical engineering. It concerns itself with products rather than processes. It is all about delivering the right molecule in the right place at the right time, whether that molecule is a drug targeted to somewhere in the body, part of a chocolate bar that has to taste and feel OK in someone's mouth, or many other examples. Full history of the school here.

Undergraduate degree programmes (/schools/chemical-engineering/undergraduate/index.aspx)

Each year approximately 75-85 students enter the undergraduate School and there are some 25 academic teaching staff. One the major advantages of having such a large School lies in the resources available to students.

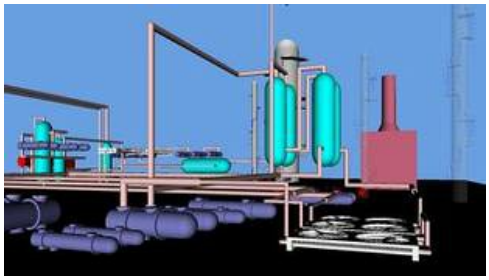
Staff can deliver a broad curriculum supported by excellent facilities. For example, there is a computer laboratory which contains 68 new PCs which are available to all undergraduate and taught-course postgraduate students.

The computer laboratory is used for academic work, provides email facilities and gives access to the World Wide Web. There is a significant amount of specialist mathematical software (MATLAB) as well as computer aided design software (AutoCAD) and subject-specific software, including InvenSys-SimSci PRO/II.

If you are interested in any of our undergraduate courses, please get in touch, as we are always seeking for suitably qualified candidates.

There is a wide variety of facilities for students including a Coffee Shop and social area in The Atrium as well as an e-learning facility. The Students' Chemical Engineering Society organises social events and industrial visits.

Chemical engineers are highly sought after by employers, and are well paid. If you are interested, why not consult **www.whynotchemeng.com (http://www.whynotchemeng.com/)** for much more information.



Taught MSc programmes

MSc/Postgraduate Diploma in Biochemical Engineering with themes in Pharmaceutical Technology, Food Engineering, Hydrogen Energy and Business Studies.

One Year MSc taught course in Biochemical Engineering.

Biochemical Engineering concerns the use of biological organisms or processes by manufacturing industries. It is a multidisciplinary subject, requiring the integration of engineering and bioscience knowledge to design and implement processes used to manufacture a wide range of products; from novel therapeutics such as monoclonal antibodies for treating cancer, vaccines and hormones, to new environmentally friendly fuels such as bio-hydrogen. New in 2010 was themes in Food Engineering, Hydrogen Fuel Cell technology and Business studies. **Course details (/postgraduate/courses/taught/chemical-engineering/biochemical-engineering.aspx)** .

MSc/Postgraduate Diploma in Advanced Chemical Engineering with themes in Pharmaceutical Technology, Food Engineering, Hydrogen Energy and Business Studies.

Chemical engineering now extends far beyond its traditional roots in oil and gas processing. In this course we consider the aspects of chemical engineering that deal with the design and development of formulated products such as food and pharmaceuticals. New in 2010 was the theme of Hydrogen Fuel Cell technology. **Course details (/postgraduate/courses/taught/chemical-engineering/advanced-chemical-engineering.aspx)** .

MSc/Postgraduate Diploma in Food Safety, Hygiene and Management

This postgraduate programme is designed to provide broad academic training in Food Safety, Hygiene and Management. **Course details (/postgraduate/courses/taught/chemical-engineering/food-safety-hygiene.aspx)** .

Research (/schools/chemical-engineering/research/index.aspx)

As Chemical Engineering at Birmingham is one of the largest departments in the UK, you will not be surprised to hear it has a well established tradition of wide-ranging experimental research. Our research in the Centre for Formulation Engineering covers chemical, bioprocess, food, environmental, minerals and materials processing in extensive and well-equipped laboratories.

Many of our research projects involve collaboration with industrial and government organisations and the excellence of our research is reflected by our Research Assessment Exercise 2008 rating. In order to maintain our position as one of the major centres for engineering research in Europe, we seek to recruit excellent research students and staff with engineering and science backgrounds. We also run a range of post-experience courses allied to expertise and the requirements of industry.

Continuing Professional Development (/schools/chemical-engineering/continuing-professional-development/index.aspx)

The School has a significant activity in Continuing Professional Development including modular suites of courses designed for graduates and professional industry.

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