



Why Study Civil Engineering at the University of Virginia?

1) Demand for Civil Engineers is high!

Of positions offered to new grads (all majors, all schools), the National Association of Colleges and Employers (2005) reported that Design/Construction Engineer was one of the top ten most often offered positions.

2) Demand for civil engineers is steady

Civil engineering is one of the most stable professions, since it provides the basic infrastructure of our society, which is always present and always advancing.

3) Civil engineering is a service-oriented profession

Civil engineers provide much of our infrastructure:

- Buildings where we work, live and play
- Transportation networks for travel and commerce
- Water supply and distribution for communities and agriculture
- Waste treatment and pollution prevention to protect the environment

4) Preparation to succeed in a wide range of positions

75% of our recent graduates are working in the field of civil engineering, including in consulting firms, government agencies, and industry. Other career paths of our recent graduates include education, information technology, marine engineering, aviation, law, and environmental policy.

5) Excellent preparation for becoming a Licensed Professional Engineer

The passing rate of our students and alumni on recent Fundamentals of Engineering Exams is 97%.

6) Excellent preparation for graduate and professional school

Over 40% of our recent graduates have pursued or are pursuing advanced degrees, in fields including: engineering, law, business and management, medicine, environmental planning and policy, education, landscape architecture, and applied mechanics.

A quarter of these students are studying within Top 20 ranked engineering programs.

7) Award-Winning Faculty

Faculty recognitions include:

Memberships in the National Academy of Engineering
National Science Foundation Career awards for research and teaching
NASA Innovation Awards
University of Virginia Alumni Board of Trustees Teaching Awards
Wilbur S. Smith Distinguished Transportation Educator Award
AEESP National Award for Outstanding Teaching in Environmental Engineering

8) Undergraduate thesis projects and undergraduate research experiences

Every student in the school of engineering completes a bachelor's thesis project offering an opportunity to interact closely with faculty members, and many complete research experiences.

9) Great Students

High diversity:

The School of Engineering has one of the highest rates of diversity of any engineering school in the country. Approximately one quarter of our students are women and about the same percentage are minorities.

High retention: Our retention and graduation rates are among the highest of any public university – 9 out of 10 students graduate with their degree from UVA.

Highly involved: Our civil students are active in many organizations, including the student chapter of the American Society of Civil Engineers, fraternities and sororities, sports clubs and teams, service organizations, and honor societies.

Talented: The School of Engineering attracts some of the brightest, most talented students from around the country. Just about everyone comes to us from the top ten percent of his or her high school class.

10) Communication skills and impact on society emphasized

The Science, Technology, and Society (STS) courses throughout the curriculum and the undergraduate thesis project push UVA engineering students to become proficient in oral and written communication and to appreciate the broad impacts of engineering. Recent civil graduates rank communication skills as the number one strength of our program, helping them succeed on many career paths.