

DEFINITIVE COURSE RECORD

Course Title	HNC Engineering (General Engineering) (RQF)
Awarding Bodies	Pearson
Level of Award ¹	FHEQ Level 4
Professional, Statutory and Regulatory Bodies Recognition	None
Credit Structure ²	120 Credits Level 4: 120 Credits
Mode of Attendance	Full-time and part-time
Standard Length of Course ³	1 year full-time / 1.5 years part-time
Intended Award	HNC Engineering (General Engineering)
Named Exit Awards	None
Entry Requirements ⁴	60 UCAS tariff points or above (or the equivalent)
Delivering Institution(s)	University of Suffolk at East Coast College (Lowestoft)
UCAS Code	H100

This definitive record sets out the essential features and characteristics of the HNC Engineering (General Engineering) course. The information provided is accurate for students entering level 4 in the 2024-25 academic year⁵.

Course Summary

This Edexcel/Pearson HNC Engineering (General Engineering) has been approved for delivery by the University of Suffolk, under whose frameworks, policies and procedures it is offered, in line with Pearson requirements for such courses. It is intended to provide a vocationally-based level 4 programme of study for those seeking progression from level 3 in a related discipline, those seeking to improve their career choices and who may already be working in the sector. As such, it presents study areas identified as requirements of employers in the local area and beyond to provide a broad skills-base to students and equip them for employment or further study.

Course Aims

- developing a range of skills, techniques, personal qualities and attributes essential for successful performance in working life and thereby enabling the student to make an immediate contribution to employment at the appropriate professional level;
- Preparing students for a range of technical and managerial careers in mechanical/electronic/electrical engineering;

¹ For an explanation of the levels of higher education study, see the [QAA Frameworks for Higher Education Qualifications of UK Degree-Awarding Bodies \(2014\)](#)

² All academic credit awarded as a result of study at the University adheres to the [Higher education credit framework for England](#).

³ Where the course is delivered both full-time and part-time, the standard length of course is provided for the full-time mode of attendance only. The length of the part-time course is variable and dependent upon the intensity of study.

⁴ Details of standard entry requirements can be found in the [Admissions Policy](#) and further details about Disclosure and Barring Checks (DBS) can be found on the [University's DBS webpage](#)

⁵ The University reserves the right to make changes to course content, structure, teaching and assessment as outlined in the [Admissions Policy](#).

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- Equipping individuals with knowledge, understanding and skills for success in employment in the mechanical/electronic/electrical engineering industries;
- Providing specialist studies relevant to vocations and professions in which students are working (or intend to seek employment) within mechanical/electronic/electrical engineering and related industries;
- Enabling progression to or counting towards an undergraduate degree or further professional qualification in mechanical/electronic/electrical engineering or related area;
- Providing a significant educational base for progression to Incorporated Engineer level.

Course Learning Outcomes

The following statements define what students graduating from the HNC Engineering (General Engineering) course will have been judged to have demonstrated in order to achieve the award. These statements, known as learning outcomes, have been formally approved as aligned with the generic qualification descriptor for level 4 awards as set out by the UK Quality Assurance Agency (QAA)⁶.

1. Demonstrate the ability to critically analyse, synthesise and summarise information to produce engineering reports.
2. Use technical literature critically and demonstrate understanding through problem-solving in an engineering context.
3. Utilise innovative and independent thinking to solve engineering problems.
4. Support study progress, professional and personal development through recognition of – and responsibility for – own learning style.
5. Apply knowledge of the engineering sector and display understanding to the addressing of familiar and unfamiliar problems.
6. Apply investigative techniques to engineering projects, from concept to conclusion.
7. Use knowledge, understanding and sector-relevant skills to critically evaluate and formulate evidence-based arguments leading to identified solutions.
8. Communicate engineering solutions accurately and reliably, using a variety of techniques.
9. Within the context of career development within the engineering sector, identify and address personal and professional requirements.
10. Utilise appropriate levels of personal responsibility and initiative in the application of subject-related and transferable skills to well-defined engineering tasks.

Course Design

Pearson BTEC Higher National qualifications are designated Higher Education qualifications in the UK. They are aligned to the Framework for Higher Education Qualifications (FHEQ) in

⁶ As set out in the [QAA Frameworks for Higher Education Qualifications of UK Degree-Awarding Bodies \(2014\)](#)

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England, Wales and Northern Ireland, and Quality Assurance Agency (QAA) Subject Sector Benchmarks. These qualifications are part of the UK Regulated Qualifications Framework (RQF).

Course Structure

The HNC Engineering (General Engineering) comprises modules at levels 4 only.

Module Specifications for each of these modules is included within the course handbook, available to students on-line at the beginning of each academic year. This will contain the details of the 8 modules offered from the syllabus as provided by Pearson, outlined below:

	Module	Credits ⁷
Level 4		
	Engineering Maths	15
	Engineering Science	15
	Engineering Design	15
	Managing a Professional Engineering Project	15
	Mechanical Principles	15
	Materials, Properties and Testing	15
	Fundamentals of Thermodynamics and Heat Engines	15
	Electrical and Electronic Principles	15

Full-time students will undertake these modules within one academic year.

Awards

On successful completion of the course, students will be awarded an HNC Engineering (General Engineering).

Course Delivery

The course is delivered at East Coast College Lowestoft campus. Students studying on HNC Engineering (General Engineering) are likely to have approximately 12 contact hours per week full-time study, and 9 hours per week part-time study. The contact hours will be a mix of class sessions, practical time in workshops, use of IT rooms and tutorials. The total hours for the course per student should amount to around 1200 hours, which includes both attendance at college and independent study hours.

Course Assessment

A variety of assessments will be used on the course to enable students to experience and adapt to different assessment styles. The assessment methods used will be appropriate to assess each module's intended learning outcomes. Assessment on the course overall will be predominantly coursework (including essays, reports, presentations, group work activity and research projects) and a small number of practical assessments. There are no examinations on this programme.

Course Team

The academic staff delivering this course are drawn from a team that includes teaching specialists and current practitioners. All staff are qualified in their subjects with their own specialist knowledge to contribute.

⁷ Units designated as mandatory core (MC) must be taken and passed in order to achieve the award. For further information, see the [Framework and Regulations for Higher National Awards](#)

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Course Costs

Students undertaking HNC Engineering (General Engineering) will be charged tuition fees as detailed below.

Student Group	Tuition Fees
Full-time UK	£6,168 per year
Part-time UK	£771 per 15 credit module
Full-time EU/International	£6,570 per year
Part-time EU/International	£821 per 15 credit module

Payment of tuition fees is due at the time of enrolment and is managed in accordance with the Tuition Fee Policy.

Students will not be required to pay additional costs.

Academic Framework and Regulations

This course is delivered according to the Framework and Regulations for Higher National Awards and other academic policies and procedures of the University and published on the [website](#).