Career Paths

OCEAN ENGINEERING

The engineering discipline is diverse and features great opportunity.

A bachelor's degree in engineering will provide the opportunity to work in many areas including industry, business, and government. It is critical to gain practical experience in the field while in college through internships, part-time or summer jobs, or volunteer experience. This will allow you to apply academic knowledge and skill to a professional setting, plus you will build your professional network.

A working knowledge of technical skills relevant to your specific engineering discipline is critical, as engineering has scientific and mathematical applications and involves analyzing facts, solving problems, and thinking logically. Due to emerging technologies and rapid changes in the engineering field, it's important to follow trends and stay abreast of new developments.

In addition to technical skills, it's important to develop transferable skills such as verbal and written communication, presenting, collaboration, teamwork, report writing, and leadership. Helpful traits include intellectual curiosity, creativity, technical aptitude, perseverance, and an understanding of the economic and environmental context in which engineering is practiced.

To learn more about the field students should connect with professionals, engage in additional training opportunities, and join professional associations and organizations related to engineering.

Ocean Engineering

Example Career Paths: Marine structural engineer | Coastal engineer | Offshore energy engineer | Naval architect | Underwater robotics engineer | Environmental consultant | Marine renewable energy engineer | Oceanographic engineer | Subsea systems engineer | Port and harbor engineer | Marine surveyor | Ocean instrumentation engineer

Potential Employers: Engineering consulting firms | Federal government | Research institutions | Marine construction companies | Offshore energy companies | Environmental consulting firms | Naval architecture firms | Shipbuilding companies | Oil and gas companies | Renewable energy companies | Port authorities | Defense contractors | Oceanographic research organizations | Aquaculture companies | Marine technology companies

Professional Associations: Society of Naval Architects and Marine Engineers | Marine Technology Society | Institute of Marine Engineering, Science and Technology | Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers – Oceanic Engineering Society (OES) | Association for Women in Science | Engineers Without Borders | National Academy of Engineering | National Society of Black Engineers | National Society of Professional Engineers | Society of Women Engineers | Theta Tau Professional Engineering Fraternity

Related Occupations: Marine Structural Engineer | Naval Architect | Ocean Engineer | Environmental Engineer | Robotics Engineer | Sonar Systems Engineer | Coastal Engineer | Project Engineer | Offshore Project Manager | Hydrodynamics Engineer | Marine Renewable Energy Engineer | Underwater Acoustics Engineer | Offshore Engineer | Subsea Systems Engineer | Oceanographic Instrumentation Engineer | Marine Robotics Researcher | Project Engineer | Hydrographic Survey Associate | Research and Development Analyst

Preparing for your Career

- Obtain relevant experience through internships, part-time work, and projects.
- Acquire necessary technical skills relevant to your desired discipline.
- Develop effective analytical, problem solving, and strong interpersonal skills.
- Develop leadership and teamwork skills.
- Anticipate specializing in technologies and products related to your target discipline.
- Explore resources such as LinkedIn to connect with engineering professionals and learn about companies, industries, job duties, and skills needed to succeed in the field.
- Join student and professional organizations to build relationships, skills, and your resume.
- Create a resume that highlights your skills and experience related to engineering, technical competencies, project work, and unique qualifications.

This resource was adapted from What Can I Do With My Major.
For more, visit https://web.uri.edu/career/wcidwmm/

WCIDWMM

What Can I Do With This Major? features 100 major profiles with information on common career paths, types of employers that hire in the field, and strategies to maximize opportunities. Scroll to the...

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