

Master/Bachelor of Engineering in Biomedical Engineering Programme Specification

Academic Year	2021/22
Degree Awarding Body	University of Bradford
Final and interim awards	MEng Biomedical Engineering [Framework for Higher Education Qualifications (FHEQ) Level 7] BEng (Hons) [FHEQ Level 6] BEng [FHEQ Level 6] DipHE [FHEQ Level 5] CertHE [FHEQ Level 4]
Programmes accredited by	IMechE – Institution of Mechanical Engineers
Programme intensity	Full-time
UCAS code, target award and duration	H1B1: 3-year BEng (Hons) H1BC: 4-year BEng (Hons) with sandwich placement HB11: 4-year MEng HB1C: 5-year MEng with sandwich placement
QAA Subject benchmark statement	Engineering (2015)
Date last confirmed by Faculty Board	August 2020

Please note: This programme specification has been published in advance of the academic year to which it applies. Every effort has been made to ensure that the information is accurate at the time of publication, but changes may occur given the interval between publishing and commencement of teaching. Any change which impacts the terms and conditions of an applicant's offer will be communicated to them. Upon commencement of the programme, students will receive further detail about their course and any minor changes will be discussed and/or communicated at this point.

Introduction

Biomedical Engineering focuses on the support of life and quality of life through the transfer of engineering knowledge to the understanding, modification, and control of human biological systems. Studies at Bradford will be a foundation for students' future aimed at developing a deep understanding of fundamental and advanced technical principles, analytical tools, and competence in their application together with a wide range of management, personal and professional skills. An excellent way to develop these skills is to undertake an industrial placement as an integral part of the degree studies. The MEng programme sets out: (i) to give technical depth across the discipline and in relevant specialist applications of technology, (ii) to provide breadth to encourage innovation and (iii) facilitate exposure to other engineering disciplines. Upon graduation students will have the capacity for meaningful interdisciplinary interaction, leadership roles, and professional growth, which may include seeking Chartered Engineer (CEng) status and becoming accredited to work as a Biomedical Engineer within the Health Service,

Biomedical/Medical Device and Orthopaedic Industries. IMechE accreditation aims to ensure that the MEng degree meets the highest national/international standards with further learning.

Faculty strategic objectives

The University of Bradford has four key strategic objectives: excellence; internationalisation; equality and diversity; and sustainability. We believe in doing research and teaching to deliver career opportunities for our students as well as for economic development and job creation.

The Faculty of Engineering and Informatics strongly believes that each programme subscribes to these four objectives through the three key streams of the University vision:

- The creation of knowledge through fundamental and applied research.
- The dissemination of knowledge by teaching students from all backgrounds.
- The application of knowledge for the prosperity and wellbeing of people.

Lecturers at Bradford are active researchers in their fields of expertise producing peer-reviewed knowledge through publications in journal articles and books. This research permeates to their teaching practice giving students access to world leading professionals, equipment and ideas within the University's academic themes of Innovative Engineering, Advanced Healthcare and Sustainable Societies. Each year students will engage in enquiry-based projects allowing learning through research. Participating in programmes of study including research that include an emphasis on application, experiential learning and real-world engagement will make a major contribution to students developing skills and attributes for enhanced employability.

We recognise that society benefits from the talents of all, and that the development of creative, collaborative engineers, skilled in communication and teamwork is vital. Diverse engineering teams are known to be more innovative. We help students to contribute to and learn from the varied perspectives of their tutors and peers. We want to equip our graduates with the knowledge and skills to respond to the many different needs of our businesses and communities.

The Faculty welcomes and celebrates the diverse cultural and national backgrounds of our students. We are committed to an educational experience that is inclusive of the diversity of the students and staff, and that addresses attainment gaps within our student body, particularly those between BME and white students. The University holds Bronze Athena Swan accreditation from AdvanceHE.

Students will have many opportunities to contribute to their Higher Education Achievement Report (HEAR) whilst with us. Students can gain HEAR accreditation for becoming student representative for their course, by becoming a student ambassador, helping with open days and applicant experience days, or by being a PAL leader. The peer assisted learning scheme or PAL is where students in stages two and three support new students of the University. The PAL scheme has been very successful, providing guidance on all aspects of being a student of Bradford. PAL leaders become mentors and role models for new students. We support people to become PAL leaders, but we also recognise their contribution through the HEAR.

Designed for the next generation of engineers.

Our programmes have been designed as part of the CDIO educational framework for producing the next generation of engineers. This will provide a learning experience that stresses the engineering fundamentals set within the context of Conceiving-Designing-Implementing-Operating (CDIO) real-world systems and products. This framework has been developed by universities across the globe and benefits from the ongoing collaborative experience of engineers and educationalists. This will mean that students learning will reflect the real world, their work in teams to solve real-world problems and in the process they will develop professional skills alongside technical skills.

We also recognise that the future for engineers is one where they will be working in interdisciplinary teams to solve new, complex and evolving problems that will require innovative solutions. Students' ability to work across engineering disciplines and collaboratively with experts in other specialist fields will be crucial to creating the solutions of tomorrow. We have designed our programmes to encourage and experience interdisciplinary working, to develop breadth as well as depth of skills and knowledge, and in this way, we believe students will be ideally equipped to be successful and employable. All our engineering students begin with an interdisciplinary year which ensures that all students have a good understanding of the breadth of what is encompassed by the word 'engineer'. This year provides students with fundamental skills and knowledge as well as specific projects that they will work on with other students in their discipline and a final project which will be on interdisciplinary project working with a range of engineers from different disciplines.

Learning with and as part of a research community

The School places emphasis on both teaching and research. We have particular research strengths in Biomedical Engineering (design of implants, scaffolding for tissue replacement, and prosthetics); biomaterials (including the creation of complex components from powders, composites, and polymers); computer modelling and design (human movement, virtual testing, and rapid prototyping). We conduct this research jointly with many companies including Johnson & Johnson, Smith & Nephew, Siemens Medical and others and this work shapes and informs our undergraduate programmes. During the later years of the MEng studies students can expect to interact with the School's research activity.

The Bradford Graduate

Upon graduation students will be able to join the world of work as a biomedical engineer. Students will have the capacity for professional growth to continue the path to Chartered Engineer (CEng) status. However, unlike graduates from many other universities they will have high-level professional and interpersonal skills built from learning which has been developed through a team-based environment. An education where students have spent their time conceiving, designing, implementing and operating solutions to problems that they have tackled as part of a learning team. Students will be adept at working with complex value-added engineering systems, they will be familiar with experimentation, system thinking and have a solid understanding of the business and enterprise context. We value sustainability at Bradford and to that end we have embedded sustainable development across all of our programmes. In a future where sustainability is to become

increasingly important students will have sound understanding of the challenges and the potential for solutions in a world where the actions of human industry is creating new pressures on resources.

All our programmes are designed to provide three progression routes for graduates. Upon graduation students will be equipped to be employed as an engineer. If this is their goal, they should seriously consider a placement year as this will be invaluable. Alternatively, students could pursue a research career, they will have highly developed research skills and their personal tutor can help them identify postgraduate research opportunities here at Bradford. The third route open to students on graduation is to develop their own business. As a Bradford engineering graduate they will have the skills to design and develop products processes or systems that could have serious commercial potential. We have a long track record of supporting and developing new companies and helping students on those first steps as an entrepreneur.

The ability of an engineer to think clearly, logically and ethically is widely appreciated by many other professions and studies at Bradford may well be a stepping stone to many alternative careers other than engineering. As an engineering graduate from Bradford, students have a real foundation for life and for a lifetime of learning.

Programme Aims

The programme is intended to develop graduates:

- With a solid grounding in engineering fundamentals and experience of interdisciplinary working.
- Who have the engineering, biomedical, design, management and personal skills required to become professional Biomedical Engineers and in doing so, also equip them for careers in other professions.
- Who are imaginative, innovative, versatile and competitive within healthcare and the biomedical device industry, who will be able to progress rapidly to professional positions of responsibility with minimal additional training, and
- Who can provide technical, managerial and entrepreneurial leadership in specialist/interdisciplinary projects, with the educational requirements (in compliance with UK-SPEC) to permit progression to Chartered Membership of the Institute of Mechanical Engineers and registration with ECUK as a Chartered Engineer.

Programme Learning Outcomes

To be eligible for the award of **Certificate of Higher Education** at FHEQ level 4, students will be able to:

- PLO1 Select and apply physical principles to describe fundamental engineering processes.
- PLO2 Select and correctly apply quantitative methods to analyse the performance of engineering components systems.

- PLO3 Select and use appropriate and relevant materials, equipment, tools, processes, or products.
- PLO4 Apply simple computational techniques to simulate and visualise the solution to specified engineering problems.
- PLO5 Apply skills in problem solving, working with others, information retrieval, and effective use of general IT facilities, and communicate work to technical and non-technical audiences.
- PLO6 Exercise personal and professional responsibility, which may be as a team member, and include evidence of safe and effective workshop and lab practice.

Additionally, to be eligible for the award of **Diploma of Higher Education** at FHEQ level 5, students will be able to:

- PLO7 Understand the essential concepts, principles and theories of Biomedical Engineering.
- PLO8 Select mathematical and statistical methods necessary to underpin the engineering discipline and proficiently apply tools and notations in the modelling, analysis, solution, and evaluation of engineering problems.
- PLO9 Apply analytical and computational methods to solve and visualize problems in the engineering discipline and to implement appropriate action.
- PLO10 Apply problem-solving skills, technical knowledge and understanding to create/adapt and evaluate design solutions that are fit for purpose (inc. operation, maintenance, reliability etc.).
- PLO11 Apply relevant practical and laboratory skills to obtain accurate data to evaluate system performance and/or validate system models.
- PLO12 Plan and apply safe methods of construction and manufacture to semi-open projects, deriving solutions that consider technical, regulatory, and client requirements.
- PLO13 Work effectively as a specialist within in a multidisciplinary team towards a shared objective.

Additionally, to be eligible for the award of Ordinary **Degree of Bachelor** at FHEQ level 6, students will be able to:

- PLO14 Generate innovative designs for products, systems, components or processes to fulfil new needs.
- PLO15 Select, apply, and evaluate quantitative tools and data collection methods to underpin the engineering discipline, and apply a range of tools and notations proficiently and critically in the analysis and solution of engineering problems.
- PLO16 Select, apply and effectively integrate knowledge of other engineering disciplines to support study and evaluation of the engineering discipline.

PLO17 Apply principles of organisation and management (project management, change management, health and safety, self-management) to achieve engineering objectives.

Additionally, to be eligible for the award of **Honours Degree of Bachelor** at FHEQ level 6, students will be able to:

PLO18 Demonstrate comprehensive knowledge and understanding of the concepts, principles and theories underpinning Biomedical Engineering.

PLO19 Apply engineering principles to critically analyse problems to create innovative process and product designs, with systematic appreciation of key aspects of field of study, including acquisition of coherent and detailed knowledge informed by characteristics of the engineering discipline.

PLO20 Plan and implement an individual programme of work, monitoring and adjusting where appropriate in an on-going basis, utilising research skills to critically evaluate and report on technical literature and newly developed data, and reflect on personal and professional development to improve their performance.

PLO21 Describe and work effectively and collaboratively in different roles within a team, and evidence responsibility of engineers to consider environmental and socio-economic aspects in the development of sustainable solutions.

PLO22 Use appropriate discipline software packages in the modelling, simulation, analysis, design, and critical performance evaluation of composite engineering systems in the discipline.

PLO23 Correctly identify and use codes of practice and industry standards.

Additionally, to be eligible for the award of **Honours Degree of Master** at FHEQ level 7, students will be able to:

PLO24 Understand fundamental concepts, principles and theories underpinning Biomedical Engineering with knowledge in production of biomedical and healthcare devices as well as other optional modules.

PLO25 Apply and critically evaluate comprehensive integrated or systems approaches to engineering problems through know-how of relevant discipline concepts, theories and technologies and their application, with ability to work with technical uncertainty.

PLO26 Apply advanced problem-solving skills, technical knowledge and understanding, to establish rigorous and creative solutions that are fit for purpose for all aspects of the problem including production, operation, maintenance and disposal.

PLO27 Extract and evaluate pertinent data and apply engineering analysis techniques to solve unfamiliar problems and communicate outcomes by a range of advanced techniques.

PLO28 Describe and critically evaluate different roles within an engineering team and exercise initiative and personal responsibility, which may be as a team member or leader.

Curriculum

All modules are classed as Core modules on this programme, with the opportunity to individualise your programme of study through the project modules. Student's study 120 credits at each stage. The curriculum may change, subject to the University's programme approval, monitoring and review procedures.

Stage 1 (Level 4)

FHEQ Level	Module Title	Credits	Study Period	Module Code
4	Design, Build and Test (Biomedical)	20	1, 2	MHT4006-B
4	Mathematical Methods and Applications	20	1, 2	ENM4004-B
4	Electronics and Mechanics	20	1, 2	ELE4013-B
4	Engineering Materials	20	1	ENG4007-B
4	Thermofluids	20	2	ENG4008-B
4	Computer Aided Engineering	20	1, 2	ENB4002-B

At the end of stage 1 (level 4), students will be eligible to exit with the award of **Certificate of Higher Education** if they have successfully completed at least 120 credits and achieved the award learning outcomes.

Stage 2 (Level 5)

FHEQ Level	Module Title	Credits	Study Period	Module Code
5	Further Mathematics and Statistics	20	1, 2	ENM5005-B
5	Clinical Movement Analysis	20	1, 2	MHT5011-B
5	Embedded Electronics	20	1, 2	ELE5016-B
5	Healthcare Technology Project	20	1, 2	MHT5005-B
5	Functional Anatomy and Human Physiological Measurements	20	1, 2	MHT5014-B
5	Cell and Tissue Biology	20	1, 2	MHT5007-B

At the end of stage 2 (level 5), students will be eligible to exit with the award of **Diploma of Higher Education** if they have successfully completed at least 240 credits and achieved the award learning outcomes.

Stage 3 (Level 6)

FHEQ Level	Module Title	Credits	Study Period	Module Code
6	Individual Research Project	40	1, 2	ENG6003-D
6	Biomaterials with Implant Design and Technology	20	1,2	MHT6013-B
6	Rehabilitation and Prosthetics	20	1	MHT6019-B
6	Medical Ethics and Quality Management	20	1,2	MHT6020-B
6	Project Management and Six Sigma	20	2	ENB6010-B

At the end of stage 3 (level 6), students will be eligible for the award of **Honours Degree of Bachelor** if they have successfully completed at least 360 credits and achieved the award learning outcomes, or the award of Ordinary **Degree of Bachelor** if they have

successfully completed at least 300 credits, have passed at 40% in at least 60 Stage 3 credits and achieved the award learning outcomes.

Stage 4 (Level 7)

FHEQ Level	Module Title	Credits	Study Period	Module Code
7	Team Project	40	1, 2	ENG7011-D
7	Regenerative Medicine	20	1	MHT7013-B
7	Telemedicine & E-Health	20	1	MHT7015-B
7	Clinical Biomechanics	20	2	MHT7008-B
7	Clinical Diagnostics	20	2	MHT7014-B

At the end of Stage 4 (level 7), students will be eligible for the Degree of Master of Engineering if they have successfully completed at least 480 credits and achieved the award learning outcomes.

Placement and/or Study Abroad

This programme provides the option for students to undertake a work placement or period of study abroad in the penultimate year. Students wishing to take this option will be registered for the placement year.

- On successful completion of the ENG5002-Z, placement, students will be eligible for the award of **University Diploma Industrial Studies**.
- On successful completion of the ENG5004-Z, study abroad experience, students will be eligible for the award of **University Diploma Industrial Studies (International)**.

For further information about study abroad opportunities visit

<https://www.bradford.ac.uk/study/abroad/>

Learning and Teaching Strategy

The teaching and learning strategy takes into consideration the learning outcomes that need to be achieved, progression through the levels of study, and the nature of the subject. One of the goals of Higher education is that students develop lifelong learning skills and are increasingly able to take greater responsibility for their own learning as they progress through the programme.

Our strategy begins with the end in mind. We want students to become great engineers; that means great problem solvers, great team-workers with an inquisitive and curious mind. This should mean that by the end of their study with us they can move seamlessly into the world of work, academic research or become an entrepreneur.

The teaching and learning methods have been selected to engage students in developing their knowledge and understanding of engineering fundamentals, through formal learning opportunities such as lectures and tutorials, experiential learning through practical classes and lab sessions and informal and social learning through team-working in projects and competitions.

Study with us will include on-line and face-to-face teaching. Online lectures (including those from Visiting Lecturers) may be pre-recorded, so you can watch them at your convenience, or live interactive webinars. Tutorials and seminars will often be in smaller

groups and highly interactive. We want to develop students' understanding of the vast array of opportunities open to today's professional engineer and therefore we look to incorporate aspects of real-world engineering problems and solutions where possible. To this end we make use of case studies, practical demonstrations, and provide lots of opportunities for students to design their own solutions.

As part of our focus on building a learning experience which will prepare students for the world of work our curriculum has been developed using the CDIO framework. This means that our learning strategy will be to encourage students to work in teams to Conceive potential solutions, Design new products processes or services, implement (or model) and test those designs, and Operate the product or solution. In line with the CDIO philosophy students will have numerous opportunities to be an active learner, to work as an engineer on real-world projects.

Students will be involved in project work from the start of their time with us and these projects will become more complex and challenging as their skills and knowledge develop. At Levels 5 and 6 they will engage with practical work on biomedical/healthcare devices, movement analysis and physiological measurement in purpose built modern and up to date electronics, motion capture and physiological laboratories. Students will design and manufacture biomedical equipment using standard procedures and use control and measuring techniques in a supportive and collaborative environment with their supervisors.

The University of Bradford is well known for attracting students from a wide variety of backgrounds, experiences and countries. The university encourages and supports women in engineering. Female staff and students are an integral part of Faculty of Engineering and Informatics. The University of Bradford's modus operandi, Making Knowledge Work, is embedded in the philosophy of this programme.

Assessment Strategy

In the same way that our teaching and learning strategy is designed to prepare students for the world of work, academic research or entrepreneurship, our assessment methods incorporate a wide range of different methods designed to meet the needs of industry, the accrediting bodies as well as prepare students for a potential academic research career.

Assessment is a key part of the learning process, it is only through challenging themselves to express what they have learned or put it to practical use, can they complete the learning journey and assess for themselves if they have understood what they have been taught and are able to apply and use those skills and knowledge. There are two forms of assessment – formative and summative. Formative assessment provides an opportunity for students to receive feedback during their learning. This feedback is designed to help and guide student learning. All the modules will have some formative assessment, and this may be in various forms including discussions or questioning from their tutors, tests, practical activities, et cetera. These formative activities are crucial if students are to make best use of their learning experience and they are designed to prepare students for their summative assessment. Summative assessment is how we grade the work on a module and the details of this assessment will be available from the beginning of the module so that students understand how their grade will be determined.

A main method of assessment (as is common on all professional engineering degree programmes) is by formal written examinations. Nevertheless, many of the assessments will be tailored to the most efficient ways to test the learning outcomes. Therefore, project work will often be assessed on the basis of the quality of the product produced as part of the project, we use practical tests to assess practical skills and written reports to show the depth of understanding of concepts and ideas. Practical skills are often assessed via individual and group technical reports with the laboratory work linked with the taught modules. The methods of assessment of transferable skills are built in the structure of the examinations, case studies, laboratory demonstrations and the 'Design Project' work.

Assessment Regulations

The BEng Programme conforms to the standard University Undergraduate Assessment Regulations which are available at the link <https://www.bradford.ac.uk/regulations>.

For the MEng programme, the following variations apply:

- a stage progression average of 50% or above must be obtained.
- The MEng is a single classified award. The overall MEng award average is calculated from the weighted averages of Stage 2, 3 and 4 as follows; Stage 2 10%, Stage 3 40% and Stage 4 50%.
- If the MEng requirements are not met, but the University's undergraduate regulations are complied with, then a BEng will be awarded.

Admission Requirements

The University welcomes applications from all potential students and most important in the decision to offer a place is our assessment of a candidate's potential to benefit from their studies and of their ability to succeed on this particular programme. Consideration of applications will be based on a combination of formal academic qualifications and other relevant experience.

The minimum entry requirements for the programme are English and Mathematics at GCSE grade C or grade 4 or equivalent, and Mathematics at A-Level or equivalent.

Further entry requirements

- A-Level Mathematics (Grade C) or equivalent is required for direct entry to Stage 1. Students with AS-level Mathematics only will be required to take the integrated foundation year Stage 0.
- BTEC (Science and/or Engineering) with Mathematics permits entry to stage 1.
- HND (Science and/or Engineering) with Mathematics permits direct entry to stage 2.
- General Studies will not be accepted.

UCAS Points

A typical offer to someone seeking entry through the UCAS scheme would be 112 points. The UCAS tariff applicable may vary and is published here:

<https://www.bradford.ac.uk/courses/ug/biomedical-engineering-beng/>

<https://www.bradford.ac.uk/courses/ug/biomedical-engineering-meng/>

These links provide admission information relevant to the current recruitment cycle and therefore may be different to when this document was originally published.

On completion of a UCAS form students will be invited to the School for an Open Day where they will have the opportunity to meet staff, view the facilities and discuss “the Bradford experience” with current students.

Recognition of Prior Learning

Applications are welcome from students with non-standard qualifications or mature students (those over 21 years of age on entry) with significant relevant experience.

If applicants have prior certificated learning or professional experience which may be equivalent to parts of this programme, the University has procedures to evaluate and recognise this learning in order to provide applicants with exemptions from specified modules or parts of the programme.

Minor Modification Schedule

Version Number	Brief description of Modification	Date of Approval (Faculty Board)
1	Programme Specification written on new template	
2	Programme PLOs re-written	
3	Changes to semester of delivery of level 5 modules	March 2019
4	Minor changes to module titles and study periods	March 2020
5	Duplicate content removed, specification reformatted and made accessible	November 2020
6	Annual changes for 2021 academic year	June 2021