

PROGRAMME SPECIFICATION



1	Awarding Institution	Newcastle University
2	Teaching Institution	Newcastle University
3	Final Award	BEng
4	Programme Title	Electrical and Electronic Engineering, Electronic Engineering, Electronic Communications
5	UCAS/Programme Code	H607, H610, H640
6	Programme Accreditation	IET
7	QAA Subject Benchmark(s)	Engineering
8	FHEQ Level	6
9	Date written/revised	April 2011

10 Programme Aims

The programme aims:

- ♦ to provide opportunities for students to undertake a broad-based education in electrical and electronic engineering and to acquire appropriate knowledge and understanding, of engineering skills and key skills,
- ♦ to produce graduates who will be equipped to enter employment in industry, the professions or public service, or to follow a postgraduate route into research, industry or academia, or apply the skills learnt in a range of areas other than engineering,
- ♦ to produce graduates who will meet the accreditation requirements of the Institution of Electrical Engineers, subject to the completion of matching studies,
- ♦ to provide a qualification which meets the FHEQ at Honours level of the National Qualifications Framework and meets the requirements of the National Subject Benchmarks in Engineering.

11 Learning Outcomes

The programme provides opportunities for students to develop and demonstrate knowledge and understanding, qualities, skills and other attributes in the following areas.

The programme outcomes have references to the benchmark statements for Engineering (E).

Knowledge and Understanding

A successful student will have gained and be able to demonstrate:

1. Basic mathematics, science and technologies that are relevant to electrical and electronic engineering (E).
2. The fundamental concepts, principles and theories of electrical and electronic engineering (E).
3. Business and management techniques that are relevant to engineering (E).
4. Detailed knowledge and understanding of the essential facts, concepts, principles and theories relevant to the student's chosen area of specialisation within electrical and electronic engineering (E).
5. The application of IT principles and tools as appropriate to the role of an electrical and electronic engineer (E).

6. The components and materials used by electrical and electronic engineers (E).
7. Business practices and experience of tools used in the field of engineering for the management of engineering projects (E).
8. Safe working practices as they apply the field of electrical and electronic engineering (E).

Teaching and Learning Methods

Acquisition of 1, 2 and 5 is through a combination of lectures, tutorials, example classes, laboratory experiments, coursework and projects in Stages 1 and 2.
 Acquisition of 5 is also through simulation exercises, CAL and CAD.
 Acquisition of 3 is through a combination of lectures, supervisions, coursework and projects in Stages 2 and 3.
 Acquisition of 4 is through a combination of lectures, laboratory experiments, coursework and projects in Stage 3.
 Acquisition of 6 is through lectures, laboratory experiments, tutorials and project work throughout the programme.
 Acquisition of 7 is through a combination of lectures, seminars, coursework and projects, especially in Stages 2 and 3 and through project work in Stages 2 and 3.
 Acquisition of 8 is through specific lectures and workshop practice in Stage 1 and is also addressed as appropriate during lecture and laboratory work throughout the course.

Throughout the course the learner is encouraged to undertake independent reading both to supplement and consolidate what is being taught/learnt and to broaden their individual knowledge and understanding of the subject.

Assessment Strategy

Testing the knowledge base is through a combination of unseen written examinations (1-6), and assessed coursework (1-8) in the form of laboratory reports (1-8), essays (7), coursework reports (1-7) and project reports and presentations (2-8).

Intellectual Skills

On completing the programme students should be able to:

1. Plan, conduct and report a programme of investigative work.
2. Analyse electrical and electronic systems (E).
3. Design a circuit or system to meet a specification (E).
4. Be creative in the solution of problems and in the development of designs (E).
5. Evaluate designs and consider improvements (E).
6. Integrate and evaluate information and data from a variety of sources (E).
7. Determine the appropriate mathematical tools for the solution of problems in electrical and electronic engineering (E).
8. Determine the correct model to use in the analysis of an electrical and electronic engineering circuits system.(E).
9. Determine the correct computer techniques to use for the analysis of electrical and electronic engineering problems and synthesis of circuits and systems. (E)

Teaching and Learning Methods

Intellectual skills are developed through the teaching and learning programme outlined above (and in section 11).
 Analysis and problem solving skills are further developed through example classes, tutorials, coursework and project work.
 Experimental, research and design skills are further developed through coursework activities, laboratory experiments, and projects. Creative and design skills are developed through design and project work.

Assessment Strategy

Analysis and problem solving skills are assessed through written examinations and coursework and through project work, which appears throughout the course. Experimental, research and design skills are assessed through laboratory experiment reports, assignments and project reports, presentations and written examinations. Creative and design skills are assessed through coursework written examinations and project work.

Practical Skills

On completing the programme students should be able to:

1. Execute safely a series of experiments (E).
2. Use laboratory equipment to generate data and monitor the performance of circuits and systems (E).
3. Analyse experimental or computational results and determine their strength and validity (E).
4. Prepare technical reports.
5. Give technical presentations.
6. Use the scientific literature effectively (E).
7. Take notes effectively.
8. Use computational tools and packages (E).
9. Apply the appropriate mathematical tools for the solution of problems in electrical and electronic engineering (E).
10. Apply the correct model to use in the analysis of an electrical and electronic engineering circuits system.(E).
11. Apply the correct computer techniques to use for the analysis of electrical and electronic engineering problems and synthesis of circuits and systems. (E).
12. Apply project management techniques to the organisation of small projects (E).
13. Design circuits and systems (E).

Teaching and Learning Methods

Practical skills are developed through the teaching and learning programme outlined above (and in section 11).

Skills (1-4) are developed through laboratory experiments and project work and through safety lectures.

Skills (4-7,9) are taught through communications skills lectures and through practice throughout the course.

In terms of general computational skills Skill 8 is taught through classes in Stages 1 and 2, specialist packages are introduced in particular courses.

Assessment Strategy

Assessment of skills (1-6) is through observed laboratory work, laboratory and project report writing and assessed presentations and demonstrations. Skill 8 is assessed directly by assignment and by written examination and by integration into project and laboratory work. Skill 9 is assessed through project work and through extended coursework. Skills (10-13) are assessed through written examination, assignments and project work

Transferable/Key Skills

A successful student will be able to:

1. Communicate effectively in writing, verbally and graphically (E).
2. Give oral presentations using a variety of visual aids (E).
3. Be able to organise data (E).
4. Apply mathematical skills (E).
5. Work as a member of a team to closely specified goals(E).
6. Use information and communications technology (E).

7. Manage resources and time (E).
8. Learn independently in familiar and unfamiliar situations with open-mindedness and in the spirit of critical enquiry (E).
9. Learn effectively for the purpose of continuing professional development and in a wider context throughout their career (E).

Teaching and Learning Methods

Transferable skills are developed through the teaching and learning programme outlined above (and in section 11).
 Skills (1,2,7) are taught through classes and reinforced through feedback from laboratory and project reports and presentations.
 Skill 3 is taught through laboratory work.
 Skill 4 is integrated into the majority of the course.
 Skill 5 is taught as part of group project activities in Stage 2.
 Skill 6 and 7 are taught through courses in Stages 1 and 2 and through feedback related to laboratory and project work.
 Skills 8 and 9 are inculcated throughout the course

Assessment Strategy

Skills (1,3) are assessed through coursework, laboratory and project reports.
 Skill 2 is assessed through presentations.
 Skill 4 is assessed throughout the course.
 Skill 5 is assessed as part of the group project activities in Stage 2.
 Skill 8 is assessed as part of specialist modules and through integration in other activities.
 Other skills are not directly assessed.

12 Programme Curriculum, Structure and Features

Basic structure of the programme

Stage 1 aims to provide all students with a firm foundation on which to build their future studies. A substantial mathematical base (A1) is provided through ENG1001, this is enhanced by mathematical techniques and practice introduced in other modules. Knowledge and understanding (A2-A5) is provided through the technical modules, which also serve to broaden and enhance intellectual abilities (B1-B3, B5, B6, B8). Practical work in the laboratory emphasises a project based approach, this, together with computing classes, develops a range of practical (C1-C5) and transferable (D1-D4, D7, D8, D10) skills.

Stage 2 builds on the work of Stage 1, continuing the development of an understanding of mathematical methods (A1). Knowledge and understanding (A2-A5) is increased through all modules. Project work again forms a major part of the practical work of the stage. In Stage 2 all students take part in a group project (EEE2008) which develops and exercises practical skills (C) as well as enhancing intellectual abilities. Work on Project Management provides an understanding of the requirements of the management of engineering programmes (A6-A9). This work is practised and assessed as part of the group project (B5, B7, B9, C6-C10, D10, D11).

Stage 3 continues to enhance and expand the student's knowledge, understanding and intellectual abilities. However, as distinct from Stages 1 and 2, where almost all modules are compulsory, the student may now opt to specialise in particular aspects of electrical and electronic engineering. All students take a module in business management to further their understanding of commercial engineering practice. A major part of Stage 3 is the individual student project, which is a significant part of the training of a professional engineer. This project enables the development of intellectual ability and practical and transferable skills as well as providing a mechanism for their assessment.

Key features of the programme

The normal Undergraduate year is arranged in three terms and is divided into two Semesters. Semester 1 is of twelve weeks, it is preceded by an induction week and followed by a period of examination for those topics completed in Semester 1. Semester 2 is also twelve weeks long and is followed by a second examination period

The course normally lasts three years, although it is possible to take a gap year.

Every Honours student studies 120 credits in each Stage (or year), resulting in BEng. candidates completing 360 credits by the end of their course. Candidates must successfully complete all parts of a stage before progressing to the next. Courses are pursued through full-time study, the only part-time study is limited provision for the repetition of failed modules.

All students follow the same programmes in Stage 1. In stage 2 there is a small amount of specialisation. In the third year students elect to follow a specialisation within electrical and engineering. Courses are common with the equivalent BEng programme up to the end of Stage 2 and it is possible for students to transfer between courses (subject to conditions) up to this point.

There is a Foundation Year for candidates not adequately qualified to embark on Stage 1 of Degree Programmes.

Programme regulations (link to on-line version)

<http://www.ncl.ac.uk/regulations/programme/>

13 Criteria for admission

Admission offers normally exceed the minimum standard of three UK GCSE A-levels at grades ABB including Mathematics, for Stage 1 admission. In addition, the University recruits candidates with a wide range of equivalent qualifications based on its knowledge of UK SPEC equivalents and other international qualifications. A limited number of international qualifications and HND holders with appropriate subjects and grades may be considered for direct entry to Stage 2.

Engineering requires a wide range of attributes and abilities, so selection is not solely based on academic grades. Selectors seek evidence of motivation and commitment from the Personal Statement and Reference on UCAS forms.

The School is committed to widening access, particularly for "late developers". Links exist with the Engineering Access Course at Newcastle College and there is a Faculty Foundation Year (Stage 0) for those with insufficient science and mathematics to enter Stage 1 directly. In addition the school accepts students from the INTO foundation year who have successfully completed the Maths and Physics streams. Limited numbers of places may be available to Regional candidates through the University's "Partners Programme". All UCAS forms, including Late or Summer applications are considered, as well as candidates through Clearing.

Unlike many other Universities, the School is committed to retaining its B.Eng. programme, both in recognition of the number of international students who wish to graduate after three years and to avoid exclusion of potentially good applicants who either have no desire to seek an M.Eng qualification or have not yet been able to demonstrate M.Eng. academic standards. The first two years of B.Eng. and M.Eng. are essentially common and any candidate passing Stage 2 to a specified standard may enter Stage 3 M.Eng.

14 Support for Student Learning

Induction

During the first week of the first semester students attend an induction programme. New students will be given a general introduction to University life and the University's principle support services and general information about the School and their programme, as described in the Degree Programme Handbook. New and continuing students will be given detailed programme information and the timetable of lectures/practicals/labs/ tutorials/etc. The International Office offers an additional induction programme for overseas students.

Study skills support

Students will learn a range of Personal Transferable Skills, including Study Skills, as outlined in the Programme Specification. Some of this material, e.g. time management is covered in the appropriate Induction Programme. Students are explicitly tutored on their approach to both group and individual projects.

Numeracy support is available through Maths Aid and help with academic writing is available from the Writing Centre (further information is available from the Robinson Library).

Academic support

The initial point of contact for a student is with a lecturer or module leader, or their tutor (see below) for more generic issues. Thereafter the Degree Programme Director or Head of School may be consulted. Issues relating to the programme may be raised at the Staff-Student Committee, and/or at the Board of Studies.

Pastoral support

All students are assigned a personal tutor whose responsibility is to monitor the academic performance and overall well-being of their tutees. There is also a Senior Tutor who oversees the tutoring process in the School and is a second point of contact if the tutor is unavailable. In addition the University offers a range of support services, including one-to-one counselling and guidance or group sessions / workshops on a range of topics, such as emotional issues e.g. Stress and anxiety, student finance and budgeting, disability matters etc. There is specialist support available for students with dyslexia and mental health issues. Furthermore, the Union Society operates a Student Advice Centre, which can provide advocacy and support to students on a range of topics including housing, debt, legal issues etc.

Support for students with disabilities

The University's Disability Support Service provides help and advice for disabled students at the University - and those thinking of coming to Newcastle. It provides individuals with: advice about the University's facilities, services and the accessibility of campus; details about the technical support available; guidance in study skills and advice on financial support arrangements; a resources room with equipment and software to assist students in their studies.

Learning resources

The University's main learning resources are provided by the Robinson and Walton Libraries (for books, journals, online resources), and Information Systems and Services, which supports campus-wide computing facilities.

All new students whose first language is not English are required to take an English Language Proficiency Test. This is administered by INTO Newcastle University Centre on behalf of Newcastle University. Where appropriate, in-session language training can be provided. The INTO Newcastle University Centre houses a range of resources which may be particularly appropriate for those interested in an Erasmus exchange.

15 Methods for evaluating and improving the quality and standards of teaching and learning

Module reviews

All modules are subject to review by questionnaires which are considered by the Board of Studies. Changes to, or the introduction of new, modules are considered at the Board of Studies and/or the School Teaching and Learning Committee. Student opinion is sought at the Staff-Student Committee and/or the Board of Studies. New modules and major changes to existing modules are subject to approval by the Faculty Teaching, Learning and Student Experience Committee (FTLSEC).

Programme reviews

The Board of Studies conducts an Annual Monitoring and Review of the degree programme and reports to FTLSEC. The FTLSEC takes an overview of all programmes within the Faculty and reports any Faculty or institutional issues to the University Teaching, Learning and Student Experience Committee (UTLSEC)

External Examiner reports

External Examiner reports are considered by the Board of Studies. The Board responds to these reports through FTLSEC. External Examiner reports are shared with institutional student representatives, through the Staff-Student Committee.

Student evaluations

All modules, and the degree programme, are subject to review by student questionnaires. Informal student evaluation is also obtained at the Staff-Student Committee, and the Board of Studies. The National Student Survey is sent out every year to final-year undergraduate students, and consists of a set of questions seeking students' views on the quality of the learning and teaching. The results from student surveys are considered as part of the Annual Monitoring and Review of the programme and any arising actions are captured at programme and School / institutional level and reported to the appropriate body.

Mechanisms for gaining student feedback

Feedback is channelled via the Staff-Student Committee and the Board of Studies.

Faculty and University Review Mechanisms

The programme is subject to the University's Internal Subject Review process. Every five years degree programmes in each subject area are subject to periodic review. This involves both the detailed consideration of a range of documentation, and a two-day review visit by a review team which includes an external subject specialist in addition to University and Faculty representatives. Following the review a report is produced, which forms the basis for a decision by UTLSEC on whether the programmes reviewed should be re-approved for a further five year period.

Accreditation reports

These programmes are accredited by the Institute of Engineering and Technology.

16 Regulation of assessment

Pass mark

The pass mark is 40%

Course requirements

Progression is subject to the University's Undergraduate Progress Regulations and Undergraduate Examination Conventions. In summary, students must pass, or be deemed to have passed, 120 credits at each Stage. Limited compensation up to 40 credits and down to a mark of 35% is possible at each Stage and there are re-assessment opportunities, with certain restrictions.

Weighting of stages

The marks from Stages 2 and 3 will contribute to the final classification of the degree

The weighting of marks contributing to the degree for Stages 2 and 3 is 25:75

Common Marking Scheme

The University employs a common marking scheme, which is specified in the Undergraduate Examination Conventions, namely

	Modules used for degree classification (DC)	Modules not used for degree classification
<40	Fail	Failing
40-49	Third Class	Basic
50-59	Second Class, Second Division	Good
60-69	Second Class, First Division	Very Good
70+	First Class	Excellent

Role of the External Examiner

An External Examiner, a distinguished member of the subject community, is appointed by Faculty Teaching and Learning Committee, following recommendation from the Board of Studies. The External Examiner is expected to:

- i. See and approve assessment papers
- ii. Moderate examination and coursework marking
- iii. Attend the Board of Examiners

Report to the University on the standards of the programme

In addition, information relating to the programme is provided in:

The University Prospectus (see <http://www.ncl.ac.uk/undergraduate/>)

The School Brochure (contact enquiries@ncl.ac.uk)

The University Regulations (see <http://www.ncl.ac.uk/regulations/docs>)

The Degree Programme Handbook

Please note. This specification provides a concise summary of the main features of the programme and of the learning outcomes that a typical student might reasonably be expected to achieve if she/he takes full advantage of the learning opportunities provided. The accuracy of the information contained is reviewed by the University and may be checked by the Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education.

Mapping of Intended Learning Outcomes onto Curriculum/Modules

Intended Learning Outcome	Module codes (Comp/Core in Bold)
A1	EEE1001, EEE1002, EEE1003, EEE1004, EEE1005, ENG1001, EEE2002*, EEE2003*, EEE2004**, EEE2005, EEE2006, EEE2007, EEE2009
A2	EEE1001, EEE1002, EEE1003, EEE1004, EEE1005, EEE2002*, EEE2003*, EEE2004**, EEE2005, EEE2006, EEE2007, EEE2009,
A3	ENG2001, EEE2008
A4	EEE3095 <i>and optional modules from lists I, II, III from the degree regulations</i>
A5	EEE1004, EEE1005, EEE2007, EEE2008, EEE3095
A6	EEE1001, EEE2003*, EEE2005
A7	ENG2001, EEE2008, EEE3095
A8	Integrated into laboratory programme supporting EEE1001, EEE1002, EEE1003, EEE1004, EEE1005, EEE2002*, EEE2003*, EEE2005, EEE2006, EEE2007, EEE2009
B1	EEE1004, EEE2007, EEE2008, EEE3095, plus integrated into laboratory programme supporting EEE1001, EEE1002, EEE1003, EEE1005, EEE2002*, EEE2003*, EEE2005, EEE2006, EEE2009
B2	EEE1001, EEE1002, EEE1003, EEE1005, EEE2002*, EEE2003*, EEE2004**, EEE2005, EEE2006, EEE2007, EEE2009, EEE3002*, EEE3004**, EEE3005**, EEE3006**, EEE3012/EEE3020***, EE3015**, EEE3095 <i>and optional modules from lists I, II, III from the degree regulations</i>
B3	EEE1004, EEE2008, EEE3095
B4	EEE1004, EEE2008, EEE3095
B5	EEE1004, EEE2008, EEE3095
B6	EEE2008, EEE3095
B7	EEE1001, EEE1002, EEE1003, EEE1005, EEE2002*, EEE2003*, EEE2004**, EEE2005, EEE2006, EEE2007, EEE2009
B8	EEE1001, EEE1002, EEE1003, EEE1005, EEE2005, EEE2007, EEE2009, EEE2006, EEE2003*, EEE2002* <i>and optional modules from lists I, II, III</i>
B9	EEE1005, EEE2004**, EEE2005, EEE2006, EEE2007, EEE2009, EEE3012***, EEE3001, EEE3007, EEE3008, EEE3009, EEE3011, EEE3013, EEE3018
C1	EEE1004, EEE2007, EEE2008, plus integrated into laboratory programme supporting EEE1001, EEE1002, EEE1003, EEE1005, EEE2002*, EEE2003*, EEE2004**, EEE2005, EEE2006, EEE2009

C2	Integrated into laboratory programme supporting EEE1001, EEE1002, EEE1003, EEE1004, EEE1005, EEE2002*, EEE2003*, EEE2005, EEE2006, EEE2007, EEE2009
C3	Integrated into laboratory programme supporting EEE1001, EEE1002, EEE1003, EEE1004, EEE1005, EEE2002*, EEE2003*, EEE2005, EEE2006, EEE2007, EEE2009, EEE3095
C4	EEE3095
C5	EEE1005, EEE2008, EEE3095
C6	EEE2008, EEE3095
C7	All taught modules
C8	EEE1005, EEE2002*EEE2003*, EEE2004**, EEE2005, EEE2006, EEE2009, EEE3012***, EEE3001, EEE3007, EEE3008, EEE3009, EEE3011, EEE3013, EEE3018
C9	EEE1001, EEE1002, EEE1003, EEE1005, EEE2002*, EEE2003*, EEE2004**, EEE2005, EEE2006, EEE2007, EEE2009 <i>and optional modules from lists I, II, III</i>
C10	EEE1001, EEE1002, EEE1003, EEE1005, EEE2002*, EEE2003*, EEE2004**, EEE2005, EEE2006, EEE2007, EEE2009 <i>and optional modules from lists I, II, III from the degree regulations</i>
C11	EEE1001, EEE1002, EEE1003, EEE1005, EEE2002*, EEE2003*, EEE2004**, EEE2005, EEE2006, EEE2007, EEE2009, EEE3012***, EEE3001, EEE3007, EEE3008, EEE3009, EEE3011, EEE3013, EEE3018
C12	EEE2008, EEE3095
C13	Specifically in EEE1004, EEE2008, EEE3095, but in part in most EEE modules
D1	Integrated laboratory programme for EEE1001, EEE1002, EEE1003, EEE2002*, EEE2003*, EEE2004**, EEE2005, EEE2006, EEE2007, EEE2008, EEE2009, EEE2011** and specifically in EEE1004, EEE1005, EEE3095
D2	EEE1005, EEE2008, EEE3095
D3	Integrated laboratory programme for EEE1001, EEE1002, EEE1003, EEE1005, EEE2002*, EEE2003*, EEE2004**, EEE2005, EEE2006, EEE2007, EEE2009, EEE2011** and specifically in EEE1004, EEE2008, EEE3095
D4	EEE1001, EEE2009, EEE2011** and integrated into the majority of EEE modules
D5	EEE2008 plus integrated laboratory programme.
D6	EEE1005, EEE2007
D7	EEE1004, EEE1005, EEE2008, EEE3095
D8	Particularly in EEE1004, EEE2008, EEE3095 but also inculcated in the rest of the course.
D9	Inculcated throughout the course.

*compulsory for EEE
** compulsory for EC
*** compulsory for EE