



The University of  
**Nottingham**

UNITED KINGDOM · CHINA · MALAYSIA

**Develop skills. Build contacts.  
Improve employment prospects.**

**An industrial placement  
helps you stand out from  
the competition.**

### **It's #MeantToBe**

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**Faculty of  
Engineering**

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**Nottingham**

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# **Industrial Placements**

[www.nottingham.ac.uk/engineering/industrialplacement](http://www.nottingham.ac.uk/engineering/industrialplacement)

# Welcome to the Faculty of Engineering

The faculty has strong links with industry which enhance our teaching, enable us to award scholarships and prizes and work in partnership to provide industry relevant project opportunities during the course of our degree programmes.

We also encourage you to get a head start in your career by undertaking an industrial placement as part of your programme. The benefits include the opportunity to:

- develop your skills in an industry setting
- improve your employment prospects, many top employers now fill the majority of their graduate roles from their intern cohorts
- see the practical result of your learning
- earn money
- build a professional network
- get a real insight into engineering roles, many students change career path after their placement as they understand what they actually like doing

The students in this brochure give a brief snapshot of the kind of experiences available on industrial placements and highlight how this experience is influencing their future plans.

You can also see more case studies and videos on our website and if you have any further queries about undertaking a year in industry as part of your degree myself and the other members of the faculty industrial placement team are more than happy to hear from you.

**Sarah Shackleton**  
Faculty Industrial Placements Manager



“As an intern at BP, I have been given responsibility from a very early stage. My team are all very friendly, and I feel like I am making a valuable contribution. The work has allowed me to utilise the technical and interpersonal skills learnt at university while also gaining a lot of knowledge.”

**Dan Barber**  
Automotive Engineering Intern, BP

Cover image  
Daniel Sanham, BEng Electrical and Electronic Engineering, Inifiniti Engineering Academy

# How do placements work?

Many of our undergraduate degrees are available including an industrial year as part of the programme with the placement element usually undertaken in the penultimate year.

## Pre placement

The faculty industrial placement team and Careers and Employability Service work together to offer a full programme of support to prepare students to investigate suitable opportunities and progress through, the often complex, recruitment processes to secure a role.

We also work with employers to advertise suitable opportunities to our students and, if appropriate, assist in managing the recruitment process from collating applications to hosting interviews on campus.

## On placement

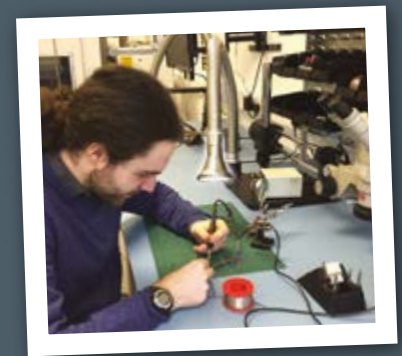
You will be employed and paid by your host company, however, you will also remain a fully registered student. You will have the support of an academic tutor and the faculty placement team, including visits to your workplace where appropriate, as well as having access to all the student support services here on campus.

## Post placement

You will submit for assessment reflective documents in line with the relevant professional institute for your programme and we will support you in all aspects of integrating back into your course.

“When I found out about the placement opportunity at Sharp, I decided to send my CV. I was asked to attend an interview and on the day received a tour of the company which got me really excited about the job. My placement is very hands-on and I am currently developing a low profile dc-dc converter to power some of Sharps high powered LEDs.”

**Sean Tann**  
MEng Electrical Engineering, Sharp Devices Europe



➔ For FAQs, visit our website:  
[www.nottingham.ac.uk/engineering/industrialplacement](http://www.nottingham.ac.uk/engineering/industrialplacement)

# Department of Chemical and Environmental Engineering

"During my placement, I worked within the Process and Process Safety Team at BP, Sunbury. I was involved in writing technical guidance, which included communicating with a wide range of people in different locations to gather information. I also took part in a feasibility study and travelled to Paris and I also visited a site in the North-East for process safety testing and for a Catastrophic Events conference. This was a real eye opener as jet fires, pool fires, BLEVEs and VCEs were demonstrated in a controlled environment; this really made me appreciate the importance of safety within our industry.

"My placement developed my soft skills such as communication, influencing and organisation and I got an improved awareness of what I would like to do in my career in the future. It opened my eyes to how many opportunities there are for chemical engineers.

"After graduation, I successfully secured a graduate job with BP. My placement gave me the industry experience and confidence to make me stand out from other candidates through the highly competitive process."

**Natalie Louis**  
MEng Chemical Engineering, BP



“ My placement gave me the industry experience and confidence to make me stand out from other candidates. ”

"I had an unusual start to my placement application journey. I was studying abroad at the Malaysia Campus and was discussing the importance of industrial experience prior to graduation with a lecturer when I decided I wanted to do a placement. British Gypsum's advert was emailed to all undergraduates; I saw it and applied by sending my CV and covering letter. I then went travelling and was in Thailand when I heard they wanted to interview me. Thankfully the faculty's placement team was really helpful in setting up a Skype interview and I was chosen for the role.

"During my placement I have been part of the environment team, focusing on energy. I also collaborate with other departments including process engineers. I have particularly found this interesting as that is the role I'd like to do when I graduate.

"As my placement progresses I am able to take on more tasks and participate on projects. It's satisfying to see the work I do having a positive impact on the company. I also get to travel and visit sites. Seeing what I learned at university put into practice is really enjoyable.

"I would definitely recommend an industrial year. It is never too early to start gaining experience and a placement year can let you experience an industry you may never have otherwise considered."

**Ellie Cohen**  
MEng Chemical Engineering  
with Environmental Engineering  
including an Industrial Year,  
British Gypsum

“ I would definitely recommend an industrial year. It is never too early to start gaining experience. ”



# Department of Mechanical, Materials and Manufacturing Engineering

"I was keen to find a placement that would allow me to be creative and would enable me to apply my engineering knowledge. The automotive industry seemed perfect for this so after help from the University with my CV, I applied to various companies. I took online tests before I was invited to a telephone interview. Once I had secured my placement, the industrial placement team were very helpful in guiding me through the next steps and contacting the relevant people within the University.

"At BMW, the department I work in is responsible for changes and improvements of the body of current production vehicles. My role is very practical and includes hands-on testing and experimentation with cars. I help come up with solutions by applying them to vehicles and performing tests to check that they are successful.

"My job is very rewarding. Everyday there is something new and interesting to work on and the area I enjoy the most is physically testing a new design or a 3D printed part and seeing that it is a successful solution to the original problem.

"I would not hesitate to recommend an industrial placement. I have gained invaluable experience of the industrial world of engineering, honed my interpersonal skills with colleagues, suppliers and other workers and I also feel that I have definitely grown as a person. My placement has focused my mind on available career possibilities and I would definitely consider working in the automotive industry - it is fast paced, always developing and never boring."

**Lydia Francis**  
MEng Design Engineering,  
Student Intern at BMW



"I have gained invaluable experience of the industrial world of engineering, honed my interpersonal skills with colleagues, suppliers and other workers."

"I actually had two placements, one was in Peru and one was in the UK. In Peru, I worked for a company called WindAid who designs, builds and installs wind turbines for undeveloped communities in Peru.

"In the UK, I worked for the design firm, de Gournay. I was able to work on my own project which was designing lamps. The lamps were actually manufactured and are now sold. It's great to see my products in-store and benefiting the company.

"I would 100% recommend an industrial placement to students. Not only has it changed the way I approach my university projects, it has given me contacts for the future. I have even been offered a job after graduation with my second placement employer."

**Candice De Aguiar**  
BEng Product Design and Manufacture,  
WindAid and de Gournay

"It's given me contacts for the future and I have even been offered a job after graduation with my second placement employer."

# Department of Electrical and Electronic Engineering

"The last few months on the Infiniti Engineering Academy have been a whirlwind to say the least. I moved into the academy apartment with the four other winners last year; Alex (US), Zitong (China), Usman (Saudi) and Andrei (Russia). We commenced our positions at Cranfield a week later and have been blown away by the level of research and development that goes into Infiniti vehicles.

"Personally, I am already heavily involved with the Electronics team, splitting my time between Cranfield and the production plant close to home in Sunderland, performing a variety of diagnostics tests and learning more about the Infiniti design and development process. All in all, a great experience so far – excited for what's to come next!"

**Daniel Sanham**

BEng Electrical and Electronic Engineering,  
Infiniti Engineering Academy



“All in all, a great experience so far – excited for what's to come next!”

# Department of Civil Engineering

"Engineering is a field in which men and women can thrive. During my placement with Bridgeway Consulting Limited, I had the opportunity to work with amazing people on various interesting projects. Within a team of engineers and examiners, I was able to gain experience in structures' inspections and examinations for railway infrastructure. I was then responsible to produce accurate reports and drawings reflecting the condition of the structure.

"Placements give students the opportunity to develop or change their idea of what they will do in the future. What I wanted to

achieve through my placement was to gain a better insight into the different options a civil engineer has. My placement gave me the greatest opportunity to explore the world of railway infrastructure examinations and assessment, which I now consider as a possible career.

"Throughout this experience, I found that the welcoming but challenging environment helped further my personal development."

**Stavrini Charilaou**

Civil Engineering MEng,  
Bridgeway Consulting Limited



“Placements give students the opportunity to develop or change their idea of what they will do in the future.”

# Department of Aerospace Engineering

"A year in industry is essential for any engineering student; I made use of our careers service to improve my CV before approaching the Engineering Development Trust (EDT). After a short online application, telephone interview and a recruitment day, I was quickly presented with some great opportunities and opted for a placement with Rolls-Royce plc.

"My placement is varied and involves the management of two key supplier relationships in my department. Other projects I have been involved in range from a statistics based study on the 50+ universities the department works with to planning the implementation of a new design research centre. I have also been improving the management of departmental data including the IT records, personnel information and the main project management system; all of which have provided time and cost savings globally.



“I have gained invaluable experience of the industrial world of engineering, honed my interpersonal skills with colleagues, suppliers and other workers.”

"Before the placement I wanted to be an engineer in a company that could provide me with a rewarding and stable career - my year in business management has given me a valuable insight into working in a large company. I now have a better understanding of how important and valued an engineer is, providing me with a clear ambition for the future. On completing my masters project in computational fluid dynamics, I hope to engage with the contacts I have made during my placement year to accelerate my career in this field."

#### Luke Harrison

Mechanical Engineering MEng with Aerospace, Rolls-Royce plc

## Benefits

We strongly encourage you to consider an industrial placement. This is your chance to:

develop your skills in an industry setting

improve your employment prospects

see the practical results of your learning

earn money

secure funding for your remaining years of study

make contacts and meet professionals

get a real insight into the industry you are interested in

## What next?

➤ More information on year in industry opportunities can be found on our website: [www.nottingham.ac.uk/engineering/industrialplacement](http://www.nottingham.ac.uk/engineering/industrialplacement)