

Innovative Programmes - Engineering New Degrees

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Historical Context

- Structure of undergraduate degrees in UCL Civil Engineering had undergone only incremental change over 30 years
- Applicants' qualifications were just "off the pace", with UCL often seen as an insurance if applicants failed to get a place at Imperial College or Oxbridge
- School heads told us that many good students prefer degrees with a broad curriculum and avoid the straight jacket suggested by a vocational degree
- Industry emphasized the need for free-thinking and adaptable graduates with well-developed problem-solving skills



Context

- Young Civil Engineering researchers offered a student view that traditional engineering degrees are not exciting and do not provide appropriate education
- Students seen to lose motivation
- Too much teaching, with little time to think and apply knowledge
- Staff frustrated by perceived imbalance of workload
- Staff frustrated by conflict in timetable between project work and lecture-based teaching

Here we explain what has been done to address some of these issues



Aims of the new degree programmes

- To attract the brightest students into an engineering education
- To produce graduates capable of clear thinking, good communication skills and managing large-scale engineering projects, comfortable with complex inter-disciplinary issues, not afraid to innovate, and equipped to take on challenges beyond the vocational boundaries traditionally associated with engineering degrees
- To offer degree programmes radically different in structure and content from those of our competitors



The changes

- Simplified the choice of undergraduate degrees offered
- Admissions criteria raised
- Interview procedures modernised and streamlined
- Academic year re-shaped around major projects
- New roles found for research-focused academic staff
- Syllabus balanced between analytical methods and the context in which they can be applied
- Emphasis on the "big picture" earlier in degree programmes
- Teaching programme restructured into four cross-cutting "clusters"
- Assessment through a single 4-unit course
- Constructionarium introduced to the curriculum





Old degrees 12 of them

- B.Eng. Civil Engineering
- B.Eng. Civil Engineering (4 year STEPS programme)
- B.Eng. Civil and Environmental Engineering
- B.Eng. Structural Engineering
- B.Eng. Geoinformatics
- B.Eng. Geospatial and Environmental Information Management
- M.Eng. Civil Engineering
- M.Eng. Civil Engineering (with a year abroad)
- M.Eng. Civil with Environmental Engineering
- M.Eng. Structural Engineering
- M.Eng. Geoinformatics
- M.Eng. Geospatial and Environmental Information Management



New degrees

- B.Eng. Civil Engineering
- B.Eng. Environmental Engineering
- B.Eng. Geoinformatics
- M.Eng. Civil Engineering
- M.Eng. Civil Engineering (International Programme)
- M.Eng. Environmental Engineering
- M.Eng. Environmental Engineering (International Programme)
- M.Eng. Geoinformatics



Teaching in 1st and 2nd years

- Common 1st year teaching across all programmes
 - broadening student curriculum
 - efficiency of teaching effort
- Common 2nd year teaching in Autumn Term
- Presentations by industry in November to inform students of the career choices available to them, with a final choice of degree to be made by end of the Autumn Term in 2nd year
- Specialist teaching in 2nd year Spring Term
- Specialist diets for 3rd and 4th years, with courses generally offered to more than one programme (including MSc programmes)



An Uncommon Timetable

Quarters & Scenarios

- Teaching year (Autumn and Spring terms) is divided into four "Quarters" each lasting 5 weeks
- Quarters have four weeks of teaching and a major one-week group project known as a "Scenario"
- Teaching in the four weeks is based around lectures, seminars, laboratory classes, and visits
- There is no formal teaching during Scenario weeks, but staff are available for consultation to guide student groups towards their goals



From silos to frameworks

- Syllabus for 1st and 2nd years of old degrees
 (taught in eight half-unit courses):
 Structures, Soils, Fluids, Materials, Design, Mathematics,
 Geology, Measurement, Society
- Syllabus for 1st and 2nd years of new degrees re-mapped to clusters (administered as a single 4-unit course):
 Context, Change, Mechanisms, Tools
- Achieved by asking all staff to list core "Learning Outcomes" for their subject and to mark each as Context, Change, Mechanisms or Tools
- Learning Outcomes timetabled to mesh with the requirements of the multi-disciplinary Scenarios



YEAR 1 2007-2008 TIMETABLE TERM 1

Week no.		0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Week start		24-Sep	01-Oct	08-Oct	15-Oct	22-Oct	29-Oct	05-Nov	12-Nov	19-Nov	26-Nov	03-Dec	10-Dec
Week end		28-Sep	05-Oct	12-Oct	19-Oct	26-Oct	02-Nov	09-Nov	16-Nov	23-Nov	30-Nov	07-Dec	14-Dec
		Induction Week			QUARTER 1			Reading Week			QUARTER 2		
	09:00-10:00	See separate induction week	Maths (AV Hill)	Maths (AV Hill)	Maths (AV Hill)	Maths (AV Hill)	Scenario 1 (G.08)		Maths (AV Hill)	Maths (AV Hill)	Maths (AV Hill)	Maths (AV Hill)	
	10:00-11:00	schedule	Structures (DLT)	Structures (DLT)	Structures (DLT)	Structures (DLT)	(3.00)		Structures (DLT)	Structures (DLT)	Structures (DLT)	Structures (DLT)	Scenario 2 (G.08)
	11:00-12:00		Fluids (DLT)	Fluids (DLT)	Fluids (DLT)	Fluids (DLT)			Fluids (DLT)	Fluids (DLT)	Fluids (DLT)	Fluids (DLT)	(2100)
Monday	12:00-13:00		P/Tutorial 1	P/Tutorial 1	P/Tutorial 1	P/Tutorial 1			P/Tutorial 1	P/Tutorial 1	P/Tutorial 1	P/Tutorial 1	
	13:00-14:00		_	_	_	_					See Lab Timetable	See Lab Timetable	
	14:00-15:00		Context (26 Bedford	Context (26 Bedford	Context (26 Bedford	Context (26 Bedford			Scenario 1 Feedback	Scenario 2 Introductory	Timetable	Timetable	
	15:00-16:00 16:00-17:00		WayLG04)	WayLG04)	WayLG04)	WayLG04)			(G.08)	Lecture (G.08)			
	09:00-10:00	See separate	Materials	Materials	Materials	Materials	Scenario 1		See Lab	See Lab	See Lab	See Lab	
	10:00-11:00	induction week	(G.08)	(G.08)	(G.08)	(Roberts G.08	(G.08)		Timetable	Timetable	Timetable	Timetable	Scenario
	11:00-12:00	schedule			Materials	Davies LT)							(G.08)
	12:00-13:00				(G.08)								
Tuesday	13:00-14:00												
	14:00-15:00		Materials	Materials	Materials				Materials				
	15:00-16:00		(G.08)	(G.08)	(G.08)				(G.08)				
	16:00-17:00				-								
	09:00-10:00	See separate induction week	0 - 4		Systems (G.08)		Scenario (G.08)						
	10:00-11:00	schedule	Sc 1 Intro (G.08)		(0.00)		(0.00)		Design (G.08)	Design (G.08)	Design (G.08)		Scenario (G.08)
	11:00-12:00		Maths (JZ Young)	Maths (JZ Young)	Maths (JZ Young)	Maths (JZ Young)			Maths (JZ Young)	Maths (JZ Young)	Maths (JZ Young)	Maths (JZ Young)	(2100)
Wednesday	12:00-13:00		Fluids (B.05) Soils (B.05)		Fluids (B.05)	Soils (B.05)			Fluids (B.05)	Soils (B.05)	Fluids (B.05)	Soils (B.05)	
	13:00-14:00		,									<u> </u>	
	14:00-15:00												
	15:00-16:00												
	16:00-17:00												
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	11:00-12:00		Structures (WH)	(****)	Structures (WH)	(****)			Structures (WH)	(****)	Structures (WH)	(****)	(0.00)
Thursday	12:00-13:00		Maths (JZ Young)	Maths (JZ Young)	Maths (JZ Young)	Maths (JZ Young)			Maths (JZ Young)	Maths (JZ Young)	Maths (JZ Young)	Maths (JZ Young)	
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	14:00-15:00		Context	Context	Context	Context			Context	Context	Context	Context	
	15:00-16:00		(G.08)	(G.08)	(G.08)	(Ramsay LT,			(G.08)	(G.08)	(G.08)	(Ramsay LT,	
	16:00-17:00					Chemistry Bldg)						Chemistry Bldg)	
	09:00-10:00	See separate				Design testing	Scenario 1						
	10:00-11:00	induction week schedule	Maths (B.05)	Maths (B.05)	Maths (B.05)	(G.04)	(G.08)		Maths (B.05)	Maths (B.05)	Maths (B.05)	Maths (B.05)	Scenario (G.08)
	11:00-12:00		Soils (B.05)	Soils (B.05)	Soils (B.05)	D/Tutorial C			Soils (B.05)	Soils (B.05)	Soils (B.05)	Soils (B.05)	(6.08)
Friday	12:00-13:00 13:00-14:00		P/Tutorial 2	P/Tutorial 2	P/Tutorial 2	P/Tutorial 2			P/Tutorial 2	P/Tutorial 2	P/Tutorial 2	P/Tutorial 2	
	13:00-14:00	Design (G.08)	Systems	Geomatics	Design (G.08)	Maths (B.05)			Materials	Geomatics	Scenario 2	Design	
	15:00-16:00	203igii (2.00)	(G.08)	(G.08)	233igii (2.00)	Soils (B.05)			(G.08)	(G.08)	Workshop	(B.05)	
	16:00-17:00		Design (G.08)	Design (G.08)		Design (B.05)				Design (G.08)	(G.08)		
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YEAR 1 2007-2008 TIMETABLE TERM 2

Week no.		12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
Week start		07-Jan	14-Jan	21-Jan	28-Jan	04-Feb	11-Feb	18-Feb	25-Feb	03-Mar	10-Mar	17-Mar
Week end		11-Jan	18-Jan	25-Jan	01-Feb	08-Feb	15-Feb	22-Feb	29-Feb	07-Mar	14-Mar	21-Mar
							Reading Week					
	09:00-10:00	Maths (AV Hill)	Maths (AV Hill)	Maths (AV Hill)	Maths (AV Hill)			Maths (AV Hill)	Maths (AV Hill)	Maths (AV Hill)	Maths (AV Hill)	
	10:00-11:00	Structures (MP)	Structures (MP)	Structures (MP)	Structures (MP)	Scenario 3 (G.08)		Structures (MP)	Structures (MP)	Structures (MP)	Structures (MP)	Scenario 4 (G.08)
	11:00-12:00	Fluids (MP)	Fluids (MP)	Fluids (MP)	Fluids (MP)			Fluids (MP)	Fluids (MP)	Fluids (MP)	Fluids (MP)	
Monday	12:00-13:00	P/Tutorial 1	P/Tutorial 1	P/Tutorial 1	P/Tutorial 1			P/Tutorial 1	P/Tutorial 1	P/Tutorial 1	P/Tutorial 1	
	13:00-14:00	See Lab		See Lab	See Lab							
	14:00-15:00	Timetable	Scenario 3	Timetable	Timetable			Scenario 3	Scenario 4			
	15:00-16:00		Introductory Lecture (G.08)					Feedback (G.08)				
	16:00-17:00		Lecture (G.08)						Lecture (G.08)			
	09:00-10:00		See Lab	See Lab	See Lab			See Lab	See Lab			
	10:00-11:00		Timetable	Timetable	Timetable	Scenario (G.08)		Timetable	Timetable			Scenario (G.08)
Tuesday	11:00-12:00											
Tuesday	12:00-13:00										Soils (B.05)	
i uesday	13:00-14:00	See Lab										
	14:00-15:00	Timetable		Tools (B.05)						Tools (G.08)	Env Eng	
	15:00-16:00										(B.05)	
	16:00-17:00											
	09:00-10:00											
	10:00-11:00	Fluids (AV Hill)	Soils (AV Hill)	Fluids (AV Hill)	Soils (AV Hill)	Scenario (G.08)		Fluids (AV Hill)	Soils (AV Hill)	Fluids (AV Hill)	Soils (AV Hill)	Scenario (G.08)
Wednesday	11:00-12:00	Maths (AV Hill)	Maths (AV Hill)	Maths (AV Hill)	Maths (AV Hill)			Maths (AV Hill)	Maths (AV Hill)	Maths (AV Hill)	Maths (AV Hill)	
	12:00-13:00											
Wednesday	13:00-14:00											
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	16:00-17:00											
	09:00-10:00											
	10:00-11:00	Env Eng (Anat.)	Env Eng	Env Eng (Anat.)	Env Eng	Scenario (G.08)		Env Eng (Anat.)	Env Eng	Env Eng (Anat.)	Scenario 4 (Structures Lab)	
	11:00-12:00	Structures (Anat.)	(Anat.)	Structures (Anat.)	(Anat.)			Structures (Anat.)	(Anat.)	Structures (Anat.)	(Structures Lab)	
Thursday	12:00-13:00	Maths (AV Hill)	Maths (AV Hill)	Maths (AV Hill)	Maths (AV Hill)			Maths (AV Hill)	Maths (AV Hill)	Maths (AV Hill)		
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Ī	14:00-15:00	Scenario 2 Feedback (G.08)	Context (ICE & careers)					Context (industrial speaker)	Context (industrial speaker)	Context (industrial speaker)		
Ī	15:00-16:00 16:00-17:00	. Couback (G.06)	(G.08)					(G.08)	(G.08)	(G.08)		
	09:00-10:00	D/T (color)	DOT (D/T (seleta	D/T (crists	0		D/F (circle)	D/T to date	D/T (in l c	Occasion	
Ī	10:00-11:00	P/Tutorial 2	P/Tutorial 2	P/Tutorial 2	P/Tutorial 2	Scenario (G.08)		P/Tutorial 2	P/Tutorial 2	P/Tutorial 2	Scenario (Structures Lab)	
	11:00-12:00	Soils (B.05)	Soils (B.05)	Soils (B.05)	Soils (B.05)			Soils (B.05)	Soils (B.05)	Soils (B.05)	(Structures Lab)	
Friday	12:00-13:00	Maths (B.05)	Maths (B.05)	Maths (B.05)	Maths (B.05)			Maths (B.05)	Maths (B.05)	Maths (B.05)		
	13:00-14:00		Occupation (CLO)	0.1. (0.6)	Ozzaliak			01-1	O a a a a a lii a			
	14:00-15:00		Geomatics (CL2)	Design (CL2)	See Lab Timetable			See Lab Timetable	Geomatics (G.08)			
Thursday (15:00-16:00		Design (CL2)		(Ingold Cluster)			(Ingold Cluster)	(0.00)			
	16:00-17:00		Design (CL2)		, ,							



Clusters

Context:

Offers an appreciation of the technical, political, and cultural contexts of engineering and interactions with the environment. Focus on clients, planning, regulation, legislation, economics and history.

Change:

Builds on the understanding and skills gained in other parts of the syllabus to plan and realise an outcome. Focus on design skills, systems, management of projects and creativity development.



Clusters

Mechanisms:

Develops an understanding of the theories underpinning engineering processes, where and why they are similar in different fields and where and why they are different.

Tools:

Helps to develop a variety of skills, in mathematics, communications, land surveying, computing and drawing



Scenarios the essential ingredient of our new degree programmes

- One-week multi-disciplinary projects to apply taught material and identify need for future study
- Students work in groups different size, membership and roles for each project
- Assessment against different criteria for each project



- Each scenario run by two academics:
 - one to link curriculum to the project,
 - the other to organise the project logistics



Scenarios the essential ingredient of our new degree programmes

Year 1:

- Traffic and pollution in St Albans concepts
- Bridge design
- Shrimp farm in the Thames Estuary
- St Albans ii detail



Year 2:

- Community Centre
- Offshore wind farm
- Airport expansion
- Drought in SE England



Scenarios the essential ingredient of our new degree programmes

- Major task for staff to prepare a Scenario and make contact with relevant industrial advisors
- Major staff commitment during Scenario week
- Major task to arrange marking of group and individual work and subsequent feedback



 Offers an opportunity for staff whose research interests are not part of the traditional 1st or 2nd year curriculum to play an active role in teaching





Review by Chief Engineer, Atkins

Waiting for questions ...



Reduction in report-writing

- As in the old degree programmes, students are required to carry out laboratory experiments to underpin lecture-based teaching
- Understanding of the mechanisms being demonstrated in the experiments is assessed by short reports, by examination and in scenarios
- Full reports are required for only a few of the experiments, specifically to develop and test technical writing skills



Assessment structure – 1st and 2nd years

- Assessment for each year is managed within a single 4-unit course
- This gives flexibility to introduce small components into the curriculum without a need to create incoherent and disjointed half-units
- Marks spreadsheet gives overall performance during the year and alerts staff to poor performance in Scenarios and other coursework



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Miss Dalila Alake	Smith-Jones	H202 CHVM7	48 63		65 70	70	60 54	60 66	70	80		80		60 42	2 96	78 E	0 100	65 100	89	92 47	86 90	58	62 5	1 89	65 B	13 AA	B 28	70 €	62 61	89 7	71 A
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Mr Kiran	Smith-Jones	H202 BMZK1	45 50		68 0		49 43	57 63		80	72			67 46				65 100		74 22	45 75	48	56 5		59 C	22 AB	BB 26	58 5			
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Mr Kasra	Smith-Jones	H200 CLMJ5	51 40		58 60	70					60	45		37 50			8 100			79 61	55 42	49	61 4		55 C		A 24		61 52		
Mr Mohamad	Smith-Jones	H200 BVBZ1	47 52		0 60	0		64 45		8	2	45		49 46	6 86		8 100	100		77 61	58 68	46			55 C		(16) 26			77 6	
Mr Ismail	Smith-Jones	H200 DBSS9	51 65		65 0	85					52	55		49 27	_		8 100			68 12	55 75	57	59 3		52 C		A 26		59 46		
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Mr Demos	Smith-Jones	H200 CNDS3	31 45		55 0	60		40 56	5 55					46 19			7 100		72	69 47	57 48	39	49 3		51 C		olytiric 24	47 4		83 5	
Mr lason loannis	Smith-Jones	H200 DDSH8	37 57		68 0	60								30 42			8 100	100		39 6	38 80	48	55 3		50 C		(32) 24	57 5		61 5	
Miss Sian Mr Alexios	Smith-Jones	H202 BHKD8 H200 DZSF8	59 52 37 45		0 85		62 48 63 48	61 66		70	47	55	_	36 24	_		50 100 5 100	65 100 85 100		68 47 81 53	42 75 54 75	55 42	61 3I 54 3I		48 D		B 26 (32) 24	66 6 50 5		44 5. 60 5	
Mr Sungmin	Smith-Jones Smith-Jones	H220 CJVD4	36 36		52 85	58				60 3		35	_	22 40			3 100			50 57	53 65	42	50 3		48 D		(32) 24 ansfer 15	49 5			
Miss Qian (Sunny)	Smith-Jones	H200 BMBY1	28 42		55 60	60	70 40	48 70	0	60	57		55	38 33			18 100	65 100	40	29 10	22	37	54 3	59	46 D		B 26	44 5			50 C
Mr Yuming (Charles)	Smith-Jones	H202 DPSV2	17 37		65 0		70 40				3 53	_	-	23 43				65 100		28 20	21 48	31	56 3		47 D		B 24	37 5			50 1 C
Mr Tomasz Daniel Mr Vivek	Smith-Jones Smith-Jones	H200 CHRN0 F891 BMKS8	45 55 59 61		0 0 68 65	40 70	_		_		42	60	-	36 34 19 22			i3 100 i0 100			35 49	43 80 66 75	45 61	48 3		46 D 44		C 24 De 20	54 4 73 5			50 C
Mr Vivek Miss Ying	Smith-Jones Smith-Jones	H202 CPTP8	25 40		52 85		35 40			60	50	60		22 24			7 100				18 42	39	46 2		44 D 42		De 20 CA 26	47 4			18 1 D
Mr Chenghao	Smith-Jones	H220 DFPT7	28 40	53	62 60	53	35 40	40 46	0	40	40	40		28 32	2 84	23 7	7 100	65			0 42	39	38 3	57	41 D	48 Ac	BA 28	46 3	38 36	57 4	14 2 D
Mr Tony	Smith-Jones	H200 FDJY8	23 24		55 55	50					1	80					8 100			53 40	40 48	29	47 2		41 D		B 24		47 35		14 2 D
Mr Hiten Mr Haibo	Smith-Jones Smith-Jones	F891 BPYF4 H202 BSGY0	31 56 28 45		58 0 62 0	0 62	62 33 60 40			60	++	45		27 28 32 42			8 100 7 100	65 100	49		30 68 0 48	41	48 2		39 E -		eB 22 BB 26	49 4	48 33 41 44		12 1 D
Mr Sayed Junaid	Smith-Jones	H205 BDQC7	60 56		0 0		60 52							11 10				85 100	54		0 75	50			35 E		Ae 26	60 4			38 2 E
Mr Haider	Smith-Jones	H200 CFLR4	25 51	52	65 60	0	49 40	54 33	3 48		50		55	12 17	7 21		100	85 100	48	36 31	33 62	39	46 1	36	34 F	52 RH	IUL-UI 15	47 4	46 17	36 3	37 2 E
Mr Elidon	Smith-Jones	H200 BWTX4 F891 DMBH6	28 35		62 65	50				50	57	65		19 17				85 100			40 45	37			34 F		MUL-S 15	44 4			36 2 E
Mr Henry Miss Qianni (Karin)	Smith-Jones Smith-Jones	F891 DMBH6 H202 BMBQ9	43 51 31 25		0 55		45 40 63 40	63 52 40 61		50	++	55		35 10 26 3				65 85	51	37 27	18 65 0 58	46 26	42 2 49 2	3 21	33 F	55 CB	C 20 0 pas 15	55 4 31 4			36 2 E 36 3 E
Mr Chi Fung Vincent	Smith-Jones	H202 DVTQ0	27 30		65 0		60 36	55 64		40		33	-	15 26	_		10	100			0 58	26	48 2		30 F	57 ??					32 3 F
Mr Melek	Smith-Jones	H200 CTCJ7	31 17	45	62 60	0	60 40	38 41	46	20	53			16 15	5 23		100	85 100	54	42 43	28 58	27	42 1	37	30 F	56 RH	IUL-UI 15	33 4	42 19	37 3	32 3 F
Mr Xu (Jackie)	Smith-Jones	H200 FBCR4	0 8		55 0		60 20	53 56		40	+_+	40	_	0 2		73 3		85 100		49 18	10 45	11		47	26 F	58 AB	A 28			47 2	
Mr Sohaib Hassan Miss Ave	Smith-Jones [Interrupted]	H200 CKRX7 H200 BXQQ3	0 0	69	0 0	_	60 43 70 40	42 48 0 68		50 6	57			0 0			100	100		40 21 48 47	28 50 80	6			16 F		BC 22 BBA 28		44 0 44 0	14 1 17 1	16 3 F
Mr Jiajun	Smith-Jones	H200 BAQQ3	0 0		45 0		60 36	42 0	_	30 6	+		\vdash	0 0	_	22		100		-0 47	22 48	6			11 F	00	CSE (15		30 0		12 4 F
Mr Yong Won	[Left course]	H200	0 0	_	0 0	0	70 47	0 0		50				0 0	0			.00	39		29 55	3	26 0	7	9 F	62 AB	BA 28		26 0	7 9	9 4 F
Mr Xiaomin	Smith-Jones	H200	11 5		0 0		56 25	28 0	_					0 1		2	2	0			0	6	22 1		7 F		inese 15		22 1		8 4 F
Mr James Robert Mr Yiran	[Left course]	F891 H200	0 0	75	0 0		60 40 62 20	0 0	-					0 0	_			0			0 68	4	20 0 16 0		7 F		C 18 A 30	5 2	20 0 16 0		7 4 F 4 4 F
Mr Jian	[restart] [Interrupted]	H200	0 0	0	0 0	0	65 0	0 0	0					0 0	0						0 0	0	13 0	0	3 F	66 AD	DB 22		16 0 13 0		4 4 F
	-	Average*: indard Dev*:	43 49 16 16	58	51 45 27 26	54 28	58 53	56 59	9 47	63 6	1 58 7	0 60	58	46 44	4 62	55 6	6 100	76 100	71	62 44	46 66	43		1 56			Averag Standard De	e: 52 5	53 49	56 5	52
* excluding bottom 6	Sta <4	40% Count*:	22 12	3	12 22	11	4 5	2 1	11	1 1	7 9 1	0 1	9	26 2	3 12	12	7 0	0 0	0	9 19	18 0	23	7 3	2 16	19	-1	<40% Cour	nt: 14	7 24	16 1	6



Assessment structure – 1st and 2nd years

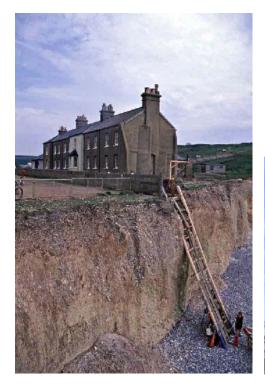
- Students have to achieve an overall pass mark AND have passed all four Clusters to proceed
- Referral tests are held in September for students whose overall mark lies in the referral band 35%-39%
- Referral tests are held in September for students who fail more than one Cluster but have an overall mark of 40% or above
- "Condoned fails" are allowed for students with an overall mark of 40% or above if only one Cluster is failed with a mark 35%-39%
- Record of Achievement also maintained to monitor student performance in "core" engineering disciplines – useful for writing references



Admissions

Criteria are now AAA

No specific requirement for Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry or Biology; English language requirements need attention





Selection afternoons

- mini-scenarios
- tours of College
- special interviews

The Birling Gap Question

- to defend or not to defend?



Accreditation

- Civil and Environmental Engineering degrees are accredited by the Joint Board of Moderators: 2006 report supportive of changes
- CIWEM accredited Environmental Engineering degrees in 2009



The results so far

- In the first year of the programmes, marks in Context and Mechanisms had to be weighted to balance average marks across Clusters – successful change introduced to exam format for subsequent years
- Students are far better at managing themselves in group work on the Land Survey Field Course than those of previous years
- Most students near the bottom of the class identified as having a problem with English language – additional remedial classes have reduced this problem
- Far more students are now engaged with Global Citizenship -"International Programmes" and voluntary work overseas
- Very much better performance overall, driven by better motivation



The student view:

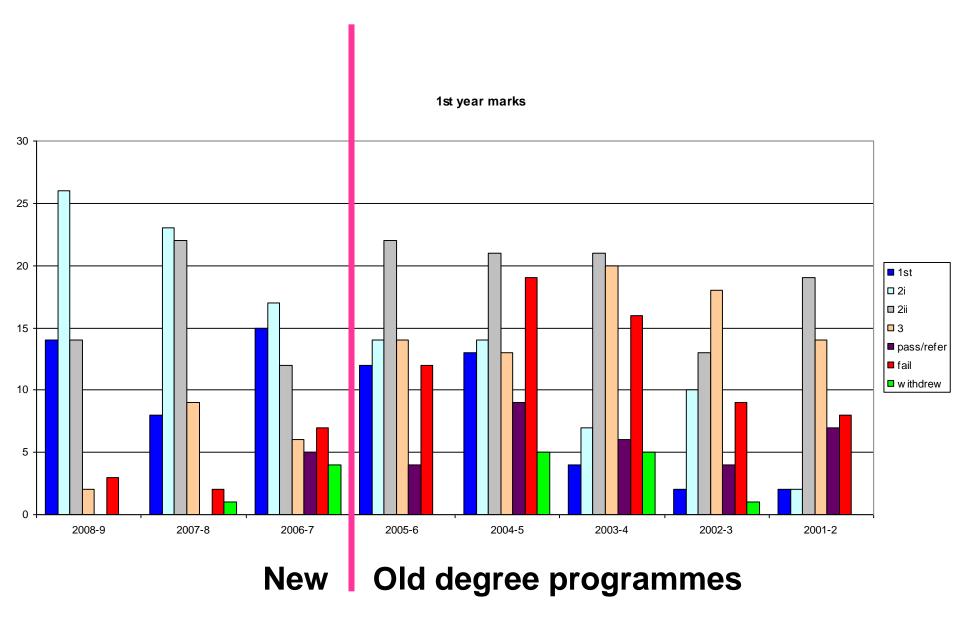
- Very positive about Scenarios they are stressful, but "good stress"!
- Better guidance is needed to explain initially what is expected of students during each Scenario
- Make-up of groups and poor contributions from weaker or lazy students is seen as a problem
- Teaching sessions lasting three hours were considered too long
- Optional classes are required for maths, chemistry and biology they would welcome a pre-sessional refresher course



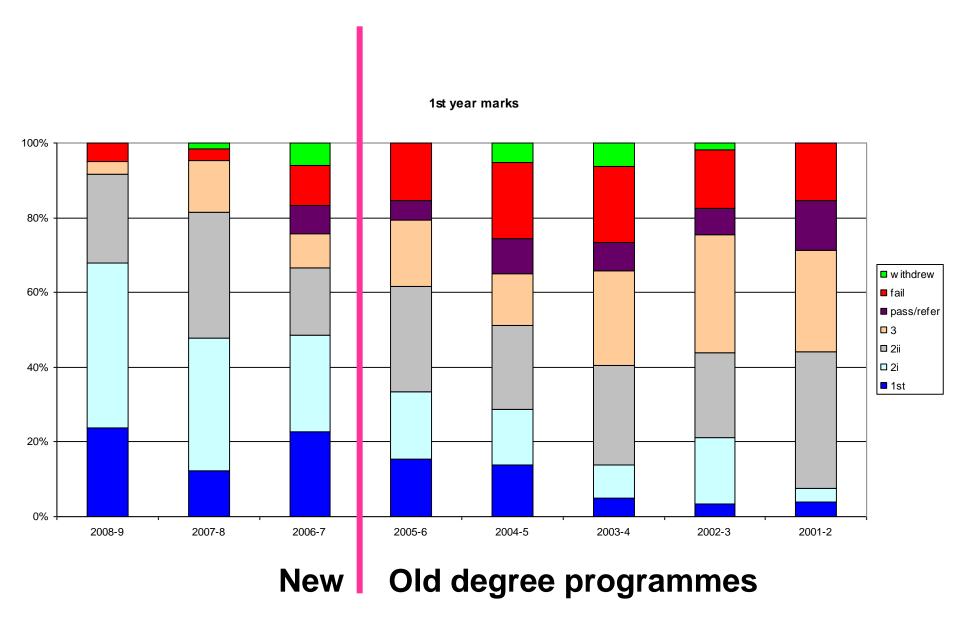
Negative views:

- Excessive workload
- Poor information flow
- Confusion when staff retire or change roles

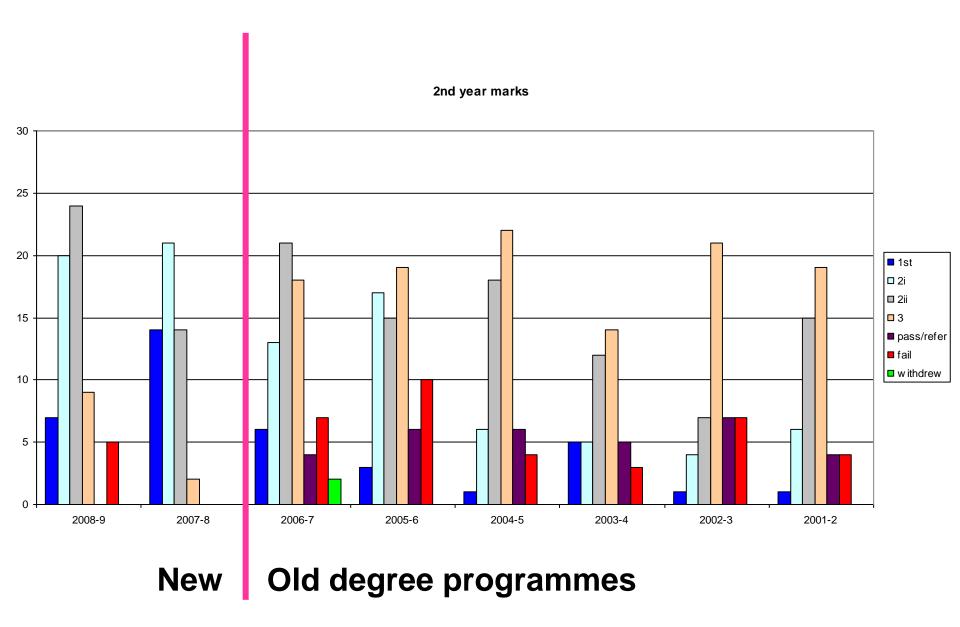


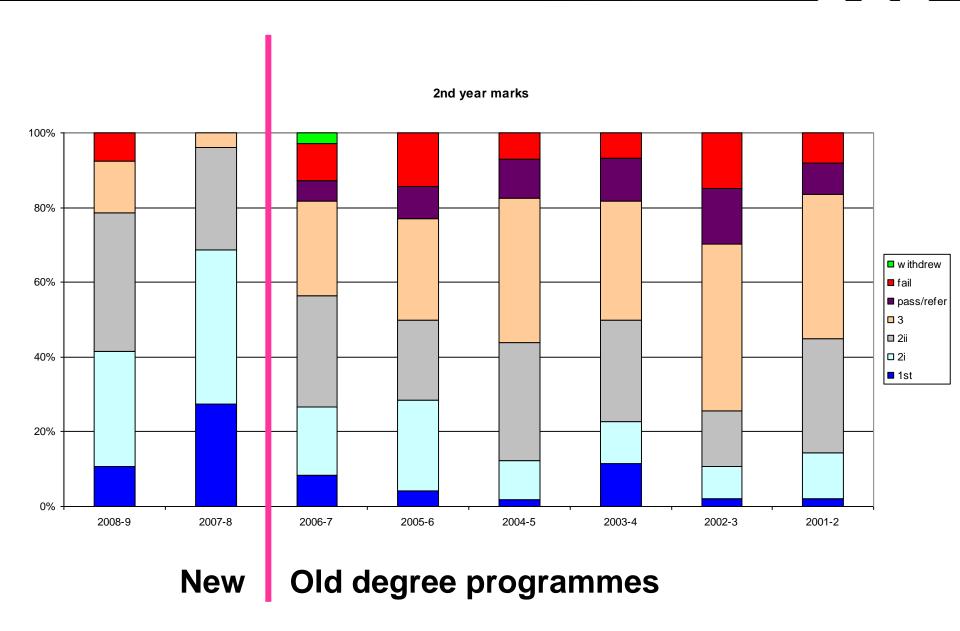




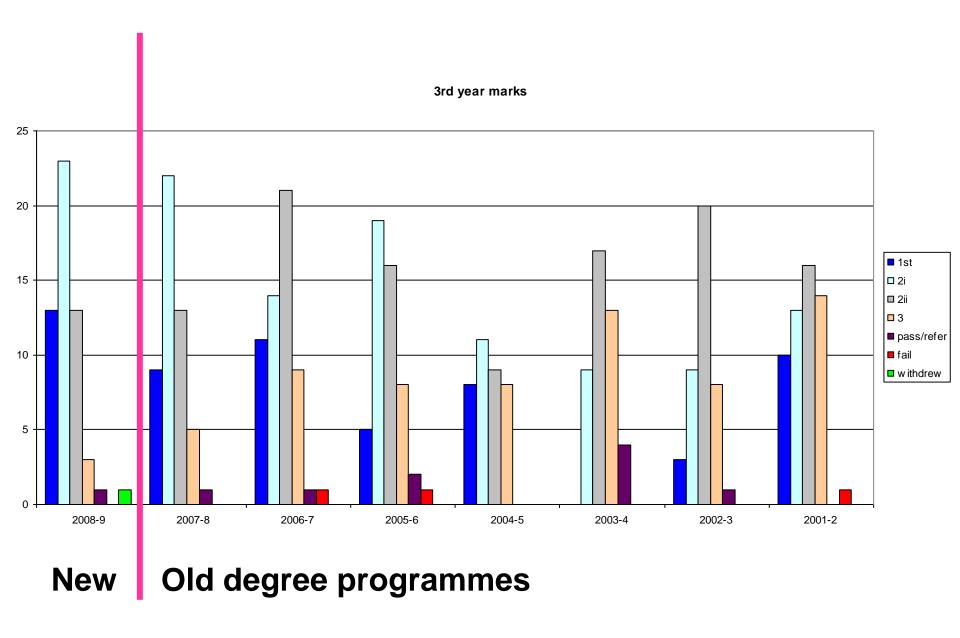




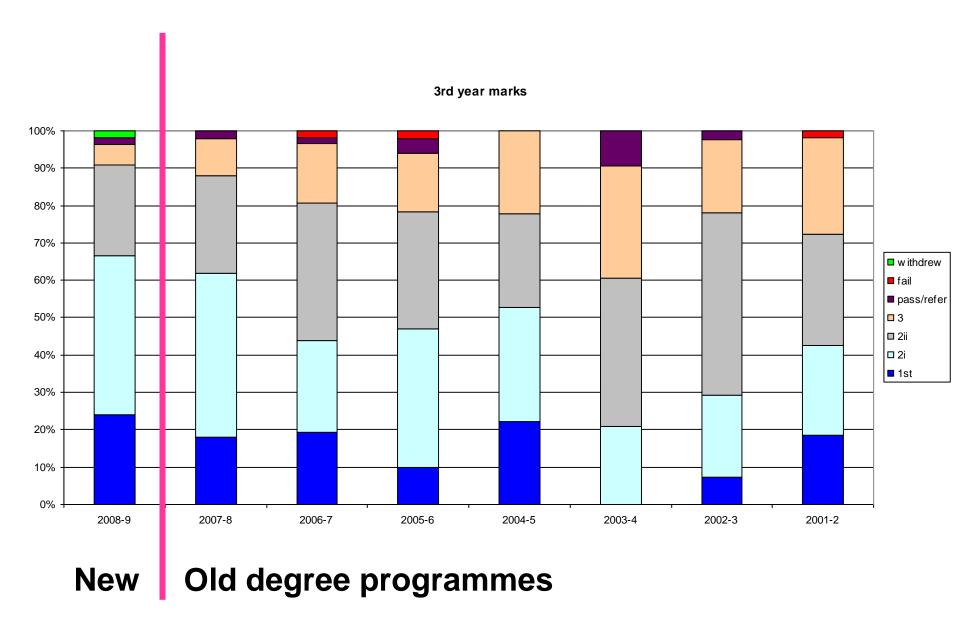








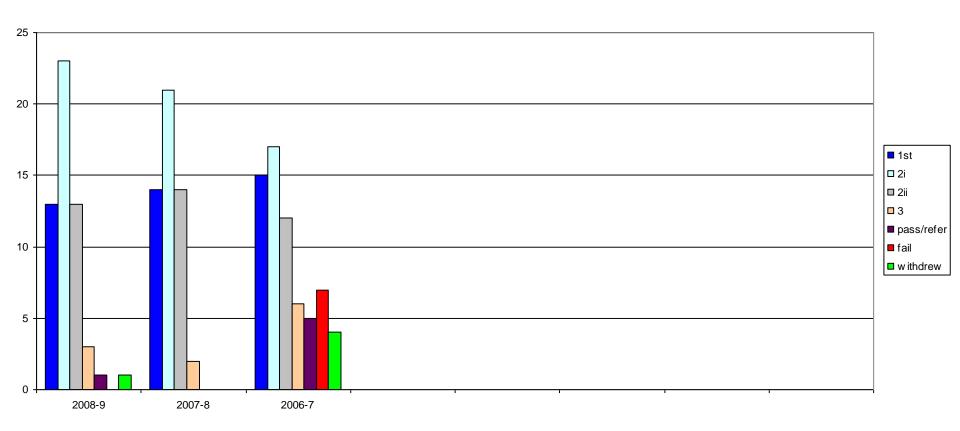






Cohort mains performance across all 3 years

2006 Intake - comparing their 1st, 2nd and 3rd year marks





Summary

- Three A-grades are now required for entry to the new degrees
- Student performance is consistent across all years of study
- 1st year failure rate has fallen from 20% to under 5%
- 2nd year performance, traditionally weak, has been transformed
- Results from the 3rd year, which follows the traditional degree programme, are also improved
- Around 20% of the cohort choose to take their 3rd year abroad
- Even sceptical staff are positive about the new structure