FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

How long is the course?
The course is 5.5 years long – this includes three sessions face-to-face at Bathurst Campus, followed by four one-year placements in industry.

Are there any prerequisites or eligibility criteria?
CSU does not apply prerequisites to any course; however the assumed knowledge is an expectation that students have studied mathematics (including calculus) at high school. High achievement in English would also be of benefit. CSU’s STUDY LINK program offers a Mathematics for Calculus subject along with other short subjects that may assist students who feel underprepared in Mathematics.

What can students do to increase their chances of being selected for this course?
CSU is looking for engineers who can make a difference in the world, and an important part of this is having a vision for what engineering is, and what it can be. It is advantageous for students to research the profession and the way in which engineering makes the world a better place, so they understand how they may make their own contribution.

What career opportunities can graduates expect?
CSU Engineering prepares students for a career in:
- rail, road, airport, bridge, dam, pipeline and energy distribution
- agricultural innovation
- land and water management within established drought, flood and pest control practices
- manufacturing in fields such as food and mining
- their own technology company.

If the course does not fill all its places, will it go ahead in 2016?
We anticipate a high demand for this course and therefore expect all places to be filled. CSU has committed $13 million to the development of this program and its facilities. Therefore, the course will go ahead regardless of whether every place has been filled.

What type of placements will students have?
We will have a range of placement opportunities for our students. There will be both private and public sector positions which will span the full range of civil engineering disciplines.

Where will students undertake the placements?
CSU is located in regional NSW, and has strong industry links within this region. This means many of our placements will be located here. However, we aim to support a variety of experiences for our student engineers. This means we will also seek to offer metropolitan, interstate and international opportunities.

Are the industry placements arranged by Faculty, or do students need to source these?
We certainly encourage students to show initiative and source their own placements; however CSU will also ensure there is an adequate supply of placements available. Placements will not be allocated to students; students will need to apply competitively to the host organisations and be selected for these positions.

Are the industry placements set at a standard pay rate or set by the host employer?
There will be a minimum pay rate set for placements in accordance with the guidelines set by Professional Australia. Employers will be free to offer a higher salary if they would like to; this will be left up to the students and the organisations to negotiate themselves.

What kind of support will students receive while on their placement?
Every placement includes a designated study day each week, where student engineers will be free to focus on the academic aspects of their studies. Students will continue to work in groups with their colleagues who are also on placement, using the teamwork and problem solving skills developed in the on campus phase to support each other while distributed on placement. Every host organisation will have a designated mentor who is tasked with guiding the student engineer while on placement, and assisting them in combining their academic studies with their practical engineering work.

Is on campus accommodation available in Bathurst?
All first-year CSU students are guaranteed accommodation, should they wish to live on campus. The guarantee for this course extends for the 18 months of on campus study at Bathurst Campus.

Are there any scholarships available?
CSU is in negotiations with donors to develop scholarships for this course. In addition, there are other University-wide scholarships such as the CSU Excellence Scholarships and the CSU Accommodation Equity Scholarship that students may be eligible to apply for. For more information go to: www.csu.edu.au/scholarships

Application process and key dates
The application process consists of the following:
- apply through the Universities Admission Centre (UAC) by 30 September 2015 at: www.uac.edu.au
- complete the Supplementary Application Form available on CSU’s website at www.csu.edu.au/courses/engineering-civil-systems and submit to UAC by 30 September
- CSU will select students for an interview based on the Supplementary Application Form
- interviews will take place at CSU in Bathurst or online in early November.
- the indicative ATAR for entry in 2016 is 80. However, students that do not reach this ATAR will not be automatically excluded. The interview will be the most important determinant in being accepted into the course.

Can students apply for early entry?
CSU participates in the Schools Recommendation Schemes (SRS) through UAC. This course is available to apply for through SRS.

www.csu.edu.au/contacts/enquiry