



UNIVERSITY OF  
PORTSMOUTH

# COURSE SPECIFICATION DEGREE APPRENTICESHIP

## Postgraduate Diploma Engineering Competence

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### COURSE SPECIFICATION

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<b>Course Title</b>	<b>Postgraduate Diploma in Engineering Competence</b>
Final Award	PgD
Exit Awards	N/A
Course Code / UCAS code (if applicable)	P2889PDD
Mode of study	Part-time
Mode of delivery	Degree Apprenticeship
Normal length of course	24-27 months
Cohort(s) to which this course specification applies	September 2023 onwards
Awarding Body	University of Portsmouth
Teaching Institution	University of Portsmouth
Faculty	Faculty of Technology
School/Department/Subject Group	Learning at Work
School/Department/Subject Group webpage	<a href="https://www.port.ac.uk/study/studying-while-working/work-based-degrees">https://www.port.ac.uk/study/studying-while-working/work-based-degrees</a>
Course webpage including entry criteria	<a href="https://www.port.ac.uk/study/studying-while-working/degree-apprenticeships">https://www.port.ac.uk/study/studying-while-working/degree-apprenticeships</a>
Professional and/or Statutory Regulatory Body accreditations	This Apprenticeship Standard aligns with the current edition of the UK Standard for Professional Engineering Competence (UK-SPEC) at Chartered Engineer (CEng) level. The experience gained and responsibility held by the apprentice on completion of the apprenticeship will either wholly or partially satisfy the requirements for CEng and reaches the agreed level of professional competence as defined in the Assessment Plan.
<a href="#">Quality Assurance Agency Framework for Higher Education Qualifications (FHEQ) Level</a>	7

This course specification provides a summary of the main features of the course, identifies the aims and learning outcomes of the course, the teaching, learning and assessment methods used by teaching staff, and the reference points used to inform the curriculum.

This information is therefore useful to potential students to help them choose the right course of study, to current students on the course and to staff teaching and administering the course.

Further detailed information on the individual modules within the course may be found in the relevant module descriptors and the Course Handbook provided to students on enrolment.

Please refer to the [Course and Module Catalogue](#) for further information on the course structure and modules.

## Educational aims of the course

The structure of the Learning at Work programmes allows students to build and follow a personal study programme at Master's level incorporating a range of topics appropriate to their employment and in line with the requirements as set out in the Apprenticeship Standard. It is a work-based programme managed by a Learning Contract.

Postgraduate learning at work programmes aim to equip students to progress within their specific fields of practice and to be able to apply their skills and knowledge in new areas.

More generally, the programme aims to:

- provide learning relevant to the career development of people in work
- provide learning which is at the leading edge of technology and professional practice and which is relevant to the career development of people who are in work
- value and accredit the student's relevant, Master's level, prior learning
- provide a quality assured framework that enables negotiated study programmes, encapsulated in personal Learning Contracts, that include university and work-based study to result in named University Master's awards
- ensure flexibility within the programme that meets the variable time constraints and changing strategic needs of the world of work

The overall philosophy of the Learning at Work department is to encourage and reward career related lifelong learning by:

- accrediting career relevant and self-managed learning that is at postgraduate level
- enhancing the scholarship of work-based learners, by requiring the development of a range of self-managed, conceptual and analytical skills applicable to practical problems within their professional fields
- assisting in the personal and professional development of students so that they may improve the contribution they can make to the organisations in which they are employed
- furthering the University's plans for expanding work-based learning and widening participation, through the provision of education that is relevant to the economy (local, national and international) and maximise learning partnerships between the University and industry, commerce, the services and voluntary sectors
- encouraging industry and commerce to become partners in developing their employees' technical and business competences

This programme comprises a negotiated learning contract involving modules of study from the relevant department/school, Work-based Learning Projects and a core Work-based Learning Module with a Learning Management element. Postgraduates will be able to demonstrate comprehensive knowledge and a critical awareness of current issues pertinent to their study programme, to their organisation and to the external environment in which their organisation operates. This knowledge will be at, or informed by, the forefront of their professional practice or discipline. Graduates will be able to apply their knowledge with originality and self-direction. There is likely to be an emphasis on understanding and responding to change and the consideration of the future of their organisations in their operating environment. The inter-relationships among, and the integration of, these areas are important within the overall student learning experience, and will be demonstrated in the capabilities of successful postgraduates.

The Learning Outcomes are, of necessity, general competencies relevant to the engineering roles as outlined in the Postgraduate Engineer Degree Apprenticeship standards

<https://www.instituteforapprenticeships.org/apprenticeship-standards/post-graduate-engineer-v1-0>.

In each student's case, project-specific learning outcomes will be defined by negotiation between the student, his/her tutor, his/her employer and the Learning at Work team. These specific learning outcomes will be matched to the competencies stated in the programme Learning Outcomes.

## Course Learning Outcomes and Learning, Teaching and Assessment Strategies

The [Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education \(QAA\)](#) sets out a national framework of qualification levels, and the associated standards of achievement are found in their [Framework for Higher Education Qualifications](#) document.

The Course Learning Outcomes for this course are outlined in the tables below.

### A. Knowledge and understanding of:

LO number	Learning outcome	Learning and Teaching methods	Assessment methods
A1	Principles and techniques applicable to their own role defined in the Learning Contract including future trends in their area of study and an appreciation of their impact on their field of employment.	Tutorials, lectures, seminars, online materials, activities, discussions	Learning contract, WBL
A2	Engineering theories (general and specialist) and their practical application to real-world problem solving of current and emerging technologies	Tutorials, lectures, seminars, online materials, activities, discussions	Reflective reports, Portfolio-based assessment, Scenario-based assessment, WBL
A3	Organisations, its people and the opportunities/constraints to achieve goals and improve performance, financial responsibilities, authorisation processes and technical sign off responsibilities	Tutorials, lectures, seminars, online materials, activities, discussions	Poster, presentation, reflective report, WBL
A4	Compliance with legislation and codes, safe working practices, sustainable development, technical governance and quality standards within legal and statutory requirements.	Tutorials, lectures, seminars, online materials, activities, discussions	Reflective reports, Portfolio-based assessment, Scenario-based assessment, WBL
A5	The importance of networks within and across functions and the different needs for business relationships and their associated communication requirements.	Tutorials, lectures, seminars, online materials, activities, discussions	Poster, presentation, reflective report, Portfolio-based assessment, Scenario-based assessment, WBL

### B. Cognitive (Intellectual or Thinking) skills, able to:

LO number	Learning outcome	Learning and Teaching	Assessment methods
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		<b>methods</b>	
B1	Analyse and critically examine different information from diverse sources and integrate and organise that information effectively in relation to defined goals.	Tutorials, lectures, seminars, online materials, activities, discussions, learning management	Poster, presentation, reflective reports, Portfolio-based assessment, Scenario-based assessment, WBL
B2	Habitually reflect on own competencies capabilities and limitations and the ability to work within these and highlight when work goes outside of these	Tutorials, online activities, discussions, mentoring	Reflective reports
B3	Examine innovative developments in their profession and analyse their impact on business operations	Tutorials, seminars, online activities, discussions, mentoring	Reflective reports, WBL
B4	Be self-aware, open and sensitive to diversity in terms of people, cultures, business and management issues and apply these techniques in addressing real-world situations and problems	Tutorials, lectures, seminars, online materials, activities, discussions, mentoring	Reflective reports

### C. Practical (Professional or Subject) skills, able to:

<b>LO number</b>	<b>Learning outcome</b>	<b>Learning and Teaching methods</b>	<b>Assessment methods</b>
C1	Demonstrate practical competence to deliver innovative products and services	WBL, learning management, mentoring	WBL, presentation
C2	Take technical responsibility for complex engineering systems	WBL, learning management, mentoring	WBL
C3	Take accountability for project(s)/programme(s), finance and personnel management	WBL, learning management, mentoring	WBL
C4	Manage trade-offs between technical and socio-economic factors	WBL, learning management, mentoring	WBL

LO number	Learning outcome	Learning and Teaching methods	Assessment methods
C5	Demonstrate the skill sets necessary to develop other technical staff including handling conflict, giving and using feedback effectively	WBL, learning management, mentoring	WBL

#### D. Transferrable (Graduate and Employability) skills, able to:

LO number	Learning outcome	Learning and Teaching methods	Assessment methods
D1	Demonstrate commitment to continue personal development, refreshing and expanding Engineering knowledge keeping up-to-date with emerging technologies	WBL, learning management, mentoring	Learning contract, WBL, reflective reports, presentation
D2	Contribute proactively to the continuing development of Engineering within their domain	WBL, learning management, mentoring	Learning contract, WBL, reflective reports, presentation
D3	Demonstrate effective communication using a range of styles and methods	Tutorials, lectures, WBL, learning management, discussions, mentoring	Learning contract, WBL, reflective reports, presentation, poster
D4	Demonstrate a personal, ethical and professional commitment to society, their profession and the environment, adopting a set of values and behaviours that will maintain and enhance the reputation of the profession as well as their organisation and fulfilling requirements with respect to maintenance of personal records for Professional Registration.	WBL, learning management, discussions, mentoring	Learning contract, WBL, reflective reports, presentation

## Academic Regulations

The current University of Portsmouth [Academic Regulations](#) will apply to this course.

## Support for Student Learning

The University of Portsmouth provides a comprehensive range of support services for students throughout their course, details of which are available at the [MyPort](#) student portal.

### In addition to these University support services this course also provides...

- The Course is managed by a Programme Director and Programme Leader
- Extensive induction programme introduces the student to the University and their course
- Each student has a personal tutor, responsible for pastoral support and guidance
- University support services include careers, financial advice, housing and counselling

- The Academic Skills Unit (ASK)
- The Additional Support and Disability Advice Centre (ASDAC)
- Excellent library facilities
- Student course and module handbooks provide information about the course structure and University regulations
- Feedback is provided for all assessments

## Evaluation and Enhancement of Standards and Quality in Learning and Teaching

The University of Portsmouth undertakes comprehensive monitoring, review and evaluation of courses within clearly assigned staff responsibilities. Student feedback is a key feature in these evaluations, as represented in our [Policy for Listening to and Responding to the Student Voice](#) where you can also find further information.

## Reference Points

The course and outcomes have been developed taking account of:

- [University of Portsmouth Curriculum Framework Specification](#)
- [University of Portsmouth Vision 2030 and Strategy 2025](#)
- [University of Portsmouth Code of Practice for Work-based and Placement Learning](#)
- [University of Portsmouth Policy for Recognition of Prior Learning \(2018\)](#)
- [Quality Assurance Agency UK Quality Code for Higher Education](#)
- [Quality Assurance Agency Qualification Characteristic Statements](#)
- [Quality Assurance Agency Subject Benchmark Statement](#)
- [Quality Assurance Agency Framework for Higher Education Qualifications](#)
- [QAA Benchmark Statements – As further appropriate Master’s level benchmarks become available, they will be used as additional reference points.](#)
- [University of Portsmouth Degree Apprenticeships](#)
- [Institute of Apprenticeships: Postgraduate Engineer standard](#)
- [Department for Education. Apprenticeship off-the-job training, policy and background and examples June 2017](#)
- [Institute for Apprenticeships Statement: Quality Apprenticeships 2017](#)
- Vocational and professional experience, scholarship and research expertise of the University of Portsmouth’s academic members of staff
- National Occupational Standards

## Disclaimer

The University of Portsmouth has checked the information provided in this Course Specification and will endeavour to deliver this course in keeping with this Course Specification. However, changes to the course may sometimes be required arising from annual monitoring, student feedback, and the review and update of modules and courses.

Where this activity leads to significant changes to modules and courses there will be prior consultation with students and others, wherever possible, and the University of Portsmouth will take all reasonable steps to minimise disruption to students.

It is also possible that the University of Portsmouth may not be able to offer a module or course for reasons outside of its control, for example, due to the absence of a member of staff or low student registration numbers. Where this is the case, the University of Portsmouth will endeavour to inform applicants and students as soon as possible, and where appropriate, will facilitate the transfer of affected students to

another suitable course.

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## Document details

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