

Dean's message

A warm welcome to all our newcomer first-year engineering students. We trust that your time at Engineering will be a positive and successful experience and result in a well-deserved engineering degree.



Dean: Engineering
Prof JL (Wikus) van Niekerk
General Eng. Building
Dean's Division, 5th floor
☎ 021 808 4204
✉ engdean@sun.ac.za

With your engineering studies you will have a very full programme that will often require sacrifice of time and pleasure in order to be successful. We trust that you will exercise sound judgement to know when to study and when to relax, because the latter is also necessary! We would like to draw your attention to the [University's Yearbook \(parts 1, 2 and 3\)](#), as well as the [Faculty Yearbook](#). These documents outline a wide range of information relevant to your studies and contain the principal rules and regulations applicable to all programmes including the [Assessment Rules](#) which are

available on the [Faculty's website](#).

Do not hesitate to contact your lecturers when experiencing problems of any nature. In fact, we would like to encourage you to feel free to approach your lecturers with any problem that has a negative effect on your academic work. You are also welcome to contact Ms Natalie White (natalies@sun.ac.za) and Mr August Engelbrecht (august@sun.ac.za) with any concerns that you may have, be that academic, personal or financial.

We care about your welfare, and newcomer first-year students are therefore most welcome to make an appointment with me regarding any aspect concerning their studies. (Departmental Chairpersons handle the problems of our senior students.) Appointments can be made at my office with my personal assistant, Ms Marilie Oberholzer (marilie@sun.ac.za).

It is in all our interest that you are successful, let's work together as a team, supporting each other and openly sharing our problems so that they can be addressed.

We wish you a very successful first year!



Appointments with the Dean
Ms Marilie Oberholzer
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☎ 021 808 9320
✉ marilie@sun.ac.za

Who can help?



Vice-Dean: Teaching and Quality Assurance
Prof Celeste Viljoen
General Eng. Building
Dean's Division, 5th floor
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Vice-Dean: Research and Industry Liaison

Prof Corné Schutte
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Admissions and Student Registration

Ms Nicole Hartzenburg
(Admin A currently under construction)
☎ 021 808 4835
✉ nicolepa@sun.ac.za



Student Support, Tutor Programme and Extended Curriculum Programme

Ms Natalie White
General Eng. Building
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Student Retention and Support

Mr August Engelbrecht
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✉ august@sun.ac.za



General Enquiries, Lost Property

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First-semester Lecturers for First-year Modules

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Engineering Mathematics 115



Coordinator
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Engineering Chemistry 123



Coordinator
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Engineering Drawings 123



Coordinator
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Mr W Swart
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Intercultural Communication 113



Coordinator
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Engineering Physics 113



Coordinator
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Probability Theory & Statistics 114



Coordinator
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Ms M Coetzee
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Dr PB Southey
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Ms Cornel Stander
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Dean's lecture



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Prof Celeste Viljoen
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Academic Support for First-years

» Where can I find the online SU enrolment program for newcomer first-year students?

An exciting new [Welcoming Guide](#) has been launched online. This guide will orientate first-year students within their Faculty and help them prepare for their studies, as well as the unique student experience awaiting them on campus.

» Attend all lectures and tutorials, and prepare well for tutorials

Lectures and tutorials are carefully designed to help students master the material. Make attending these sessions your top priority, and prepare thoroughly for tutorials to maximise your learning experience.

» Make an appointment to see your lecturer

If you have attempted to master certain concepts but are still struggling, schedule an appointment with your lecturer. While fellow and senior students can be helpful, your lecturer is the best source for guidance and advice.

» Group learning sessions

On most weekday afternoons, immediately after regular tutorials, visit Room A503 to prepare for the next day's tutorial. This is an opportunity to collaborate with other students in group learning sessions. Teaching assistants will also be available to provide guidance and support.

» Dean's lecture

During weekly lectures in the first semester, the Dean or Vice-Dean will address each class group. These sessions will include advice on study methods, tracking your academic progress, and accessing additional support. Make the most of these lectures by actively listening and completing the related assignments.

» Individual tutoring

The Faculty does not support one-on-one tutoring, as it may hinder the development of your independent learning skills. Building these skills is essential for successfully completing the BEng programme. The support structures mentioned above are designed to help you master the material while fostering the abilities you'll need for future years of study.

» Anxiety, stress and study methods

Feeling stressed or overwhelmed is a common experience for first-year students in the BEng programme. However, if you are falling behind significantly or are too stressed to study effectively, contact **Ms Natalie White** to schedule an appointment with one of the Faculty's educational psychologists. They can help you manage stress and adjust your study methods to become more productive.

Health and Safety Rules at Engineering

 » **No food or drinks in lecture rooms:**
Snacks and cooldrinks are strictly prohibited in lecture rooms. Students may bring only unsweetened water into lecture halls.

 » **Phones on silent:**
Switch phones to silent before entering classrooms, labs, or tutorials.

 » **No bare feet:**
Wear proper footwear; bare feet and sandals are prohibited in labs and workshops.

 » **Skateboards are not allowed in buildings/passages**
No skateboarding indoors: Skateboarding is disruptive and damages floors - keep it outside.

 » **Smoking and Vaping rules:**
Smoking and/or vaping is banned indoors and within 20m of entrances and windows.

Educational Psychologists



Annette du Plessis



Inez Saunders

» **Contact** Ms Natalie White (natalies@sun.ac.za) for an appointment to see one of the Faculty's educational psychologists.

The ESC at your service



Kael Mostert
ESC Chairperson

» The **Engineering Students' Council** (ESC) is the managing body of the Society of Stellenbosch Engineering Students (SSES). Members are elected annually. The ESC represents the students at various higher bodies and organises social events for engineering students.

The first term is extremely demanding. In addition to this, students must also become accustomed to a high academic workload. The ESC therefore encourages you to communicate with them if you should encounter any problems. Contact them at esc@sun.ac.za.

Engineering Building Complex

Where to find the Dean, Departmental Chairpersons and Student Support



Enter the Faculty via entrance 6 or 7.

The Dean's Division is located on the 5th floor of the General Engineering building.



Civil
Prof Nico de Koker
Office: S406
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Electrical & Electronic
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Mechanical & Mechatronic
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Chemical
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Industrial
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Student Support, Tutor Programme
Extended Degree Programme
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021 808 3614
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Frequently Asked Questions

>> How can I find bursary opportunities?

Bursaries are advertised on Faculty notice boards. Some may target specific fields, like Civil Engineering, and appear on the relevant Department's board. You can also get advice from the Bursary and Loans Division in Admin A or online at <https://finaid.sun.ac.za/>. The Dean and Departments do not provide additional bursary information.

>> Who can help if I'm struggling academically?

Speak to Ms Natalie White for advice. If necessary, she will refer you to the Dean. From your second year, discuss academic issues with your Departmental Chairperson.

>> Who do I contact if I feel stressed or overwhelmed?

Ms Natalie White can arrange for you to meet with one of the Faculty's educational psychologists.

>> Do I need to submit a medical certificate if I was sick?

No. If you miss lectures, it's your responsibility to catch up. Missing a tutorial test will result in a zero, but the two lowest test scores are excluded from your semester mark. If you miss A1 or A2 assessments, you must write A3. For major assignments, contact your lecturer as soon as possible.

>> Where can I find my lost items?

Enquiries regarding lost items in the General Engineering Building should be directed to Ms Ainsley Truter, Dean's Division, 5th floor. Items lost in any other buildings should be handed in at the relevant department.

>> How are lecture room numbers organised?

Room numbers indicate the building, floor, and room. For example, "A203" means the General Engineering Building ("A"), second floor ("2"), room 03. Other buildings are:

- **B:** Industrial
- **K:** Knowledge Centre
- **M:** Mechanical & Mechatronic
- **C:** Chemical Engineering
- **E:** Electrical & Electronic
- **S:** Civil

>> What are Dean's Lectures?

These lectures are part of the Intercultural Communication 113 module, held weekly in the first semester. During this period the Dean and Vice-Dean will convey very important information to first-year students. Attendance is mandatory as this is a credit-bearing module.

>> Where can I buy textbooks?

Textbooks can be bought from any supplier, either as hard copies or e-books. The Faculty is not responsible for transactions. You can also buy second-hand books, but beware of outdated versions, from bookstores or senior students.

[Click here](#) for supplier details.

>> What if my student card doesn't grant Study Centre access?

Send an email Mr Ulrich Smith at ubsmith@sun.ac.za to request activation of your card.

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