



ENEC12008 *Geotechnical Engineering*

Term 2 - 2017

Profile information current as at 03/05/2024 06:26 pm

All details in this unit profile for ENEC12008 have been officially approved by CQUniversity and represent a learning partnership between the University and you (our student). The information will not be changed unless absolutely necessary and any change will be clearly indicated by an approved correction included in the profile.

General Information

Overview

This unit explains why geological processes that produce landforms, geological structures, rocks and soils, affect the location, design, construction and maintenance of civil engineering projects. In the unit, you will conduct geotechnical tests, analyse test data, prepare geotechnical reports, discuss the engineering characteristics and properties of soil. You will select appropriate approaches for analysing the behaviour of soils in civil engineering applications. You will need to use appropriate "civil engineering language" in context and document the process of modelling and analysis of geotechnical problems. You will present information in a professional manner and communicate, work and learn, both individually and in teams. You will be required to have access to a computer and to make frequent use of the internet, particularly if you are a distance (FLEX) student. Distance students will complete the practical work at a residential school.

Details

Career Level: *Undergraduate*

Unit Level: *Level 2*

Credit Points: 6

Student Contribution Band: 8

Fraction of Full-Time Student Load: 0.125

Pre-requisites or Co-requisites

Prerequisites: [ENEG11006 Engineering Statics OR PHYS11184 Engineering Physics A OR ENAG11005 Mechanics] AND [MATH11218 Applied Mathematics OR MATH11160 Technology Mathematics]

Important note: Students enrolled in a subsequent unit who failed their pre-requisite unit, should drop the subsequent unit before the census date or within 10 working days of Fail grade notification. Students who do not drop the unit in this timeframe cannot later drop the unit without academic and financial liability. See details in the [Assessment Policy and Procedure \(Higher Education Coursework\)](#).

Offerings For Term 2 - 2017

- Bundaberg
- Cairns
- Distance
- Gladstone
- Mackay
- Rockhampton

Attendance Requirements

All on-campus students are expected to attend scheduled classes – in some units, these classes are identified as a mandatory (pass/fail) component and attendance is compulsory. International students, on a student visa, must maintain a full time study load and meet both attendance and academic progress requirements in each study period (satisfactory attendance for International students is defined as maintaining at least an 80% attendance record).

Residential Schools

This unit has a Compulsory Residential School for distance mode students and the details are:

Click here to see your [Residential School Timetable](#).

Website

[This unit has a website, within the Moodle system, which is available two weeks before the start of term. It is important that you visit your Moodle site throughout the term. Please visit Moodle for more information.](#)

Class and Assessment Overview

Recommended Student Time Commitment

Each 6-credit Undergraduate unit at CQUniversity requires an overall time commitment of an average of 12.5 hours of study per week, making a total of 150 hours for the unit.

Class Timetable

[Regional Campuses](#)

Bundaberg, Cairns, Emerald, Gladstone, Mackay, Rockhampton, Townsville

[Metropolitan Campuses](#)

Adelaide, Brisbane, Melbourne, Perth, Sydney

Assessment Overview

1. **Written Assessment**

Weighting: 20%

2. **Written Assessment**

Weighting: 20%

3. **Practical Assessment**

Weighting: 20%

4. **Examination**

Weighting: 40%

Assessment Grading

This is a graded unit: your overall grade will be calculated from the marks or grades for each assessment task, based on the relative weightings shown in the table above. You must obtain an overall mark for the unit of at least 50%, or an overall grade of 'pass' in order to pass the unit. If any 'pass/fail' tasks are shown in the table above they must also be completed successfully ('pass' grade). You must also meet any minimum mark requirements specified for a particular assessment task, as detailed in the 'assessment task' section (note that in some instances, the minimum mark for a task may be greater than 50%). Consult the [University's Grades and Results Policy](#) for more details of interim results and final grades.

CQUniversity Policies

All University policies are available on the [CQUniversity Policy site](#).

You may wish to view these policies:

- Grades and Results Policy
- Assessment Policy and Procedure (Higher Education Coursework)
- Review of Grade Procedure
- Student Academic Integrity Policy and Procedure
- Monitoring Academic Progress (MAP) Policy and Procedure – Domestic Students
- Monitoring Academic Progress (MAP) Policy and Procedure – International Students
- Student Refund and Credit Balance Policy and Procedure
- Student Feedback – Compliments and Complaints Policy and Procedure
- Information and Communications Technology Acceptable Use Policy and Procedure

This list is not an exhaustive list of all University policies. The full list of University policies are available on the [CQUniversity Policy site](#).

Previous Student Feedback

Feedback, Recommendations and Responses

Every unit is reviewed for enhancement each year. At the most recent review, the following staff and student feedback items were identified and recommendations were made.

Feedback from Students' feedback through Moodle site

Feedback

The best aspects of the unit were assessment that inspired learning yet confidence in personal abilities to do the exam at the end of the term as knowledge was truly understood and valuable even in work environments

Recommendation

Although the feedback is encouraging and positive, the unit will be improved with new updates on a regular basis.

Feedback from Students' feedback through Moodle site.

Feedback

Lecturer is very helpful and approachable throughout the term. The assignments and textbook helped my learning. Unit is well organised and structured so that students can follow it easily..

Recommendation

The positive feedback shows the student satisfaction with the lectures and textbook.

Feedback from Students' feedback through Moodle site.

Feedback

Lab experiments probably needed more explanation as to what was required. Also due dates for the lab report is very close to the residential school time, which give the FLEX student only a short time to complete the report.

Recommendation

The lab instructions will be reviewed and necessary changes will be done in next offer. The lab report deadlines will be changed to give more time to the students for completing the reports especially for the Distance students.

Feedback from

Feedback

Recommendation

Feedback from

Feedback

Recommendation

Unit Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of this unit, you will be able to:

1. Identify and discuss the implications of geological factors affecting the location, design, construction and maintenance of civil engineering projects.
2. Conduct geotechnical tests, analyse test data and prepare geotechnical reports.
3. Calculate basic engineering properties of soils and explain the relationship to soil behaviour.
4. Analyse the behaviour of soil in response to engineering applications using appropriate theories and national standards.
5. Communicate, work and learn both individually and in teams, document the process of modelling, testing and analysis and present the information in a professional manner.

The Learning Outcomes for this unit are linked with Engineers Australia's **Stage 1 Competency Standard for Professional Engineers, Stage 1 Competency Standards for Engineering Technologists** and **Stage 1 Competency Standards for Engineering Associates**.

Alignment of Learning Outcomes, Assessment and Graduate Attributes

 N/A Level	 Introductory Level	 Intermediate Level	 Graduate Level	 Professional Level	 Advanced Level
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Alignment of Assessment Tasks to Learning Outcomes

Assessment Tasks	Learning Outcomes				
	1	2	3	4	5
1 - Written Assessment - 20%	•	•	•	•	•
2 - Written Assessment - 20%	•	•	•	•	•
3 - Practical Assessment - 20%	•	•	•	•	•

Alignment of Graduate Attributes to Learning Outcomes

Graduate Attributes	Learning Outcomes				
	1	2	3	4	5
1 - Communication	•	•	•	•	•
2 - Problem Solving	•	•	•	•	•
3 - Critical Thinking	•	•	•	•	•
4 - Information Literacy	•	•	•	•	•
5 - Team Work		•			•
6 - Information Technology Competence	•	•	•	•	•
7 - Cross Cultural Competence					•
8 - Ethical practice	•				•
9 - Social Innovation					
10 - Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Cultures					

Alignment of Assessment Tasks to Graduate Attributes

Assessment Tasks	Graduate Attributes									
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1 - Written Assessment - 20%	•	•	•	•		•		•		
2 - Written Assessment - 20%	•	•	•	•		•				
3 - Practical Assessment - 20%	•	•	•	•	•	•				

Assessment Tasks	Graduate Attributes									
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
4 - Examination - 40%	•	•	•	•						

Textbooks and Resources

Textbooks

ENEC12008

Prescribed

Soil Mechanics AND Foundations

3rd Edition (2010)

Authors: Muni Budhu

John Wiley

United States of America

ISBN: 978-0-470-55684-9

Binding: Hardcover

[View textbooks at the CQUniversity Bookshop](#)

IT Resources

You will need access to the following IT resources:

- CQUniversity Student Email
- Internet
- Unit Website (Moodle)

Referencing Style

All submissions for this unit must use the referencing style: [Harvard \(author-date\)](#)

For further information, see the Assessment Tasks.

Teaching Contacts

Mehdi Mirzababaei Unit Coordinator

m.mirzababaei@cqu.edu.au

Schedule

Week 1 - 10 Jul 2017

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Soil Description and Investigation	Budhu Chapters 2 and 3	

Week 2 - 17 Jul 2017

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Soil Classification and Phase Relationships	Budhu Chapter 4	

Week 3 - 24 Jul 2017

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Soil Compaction	Budhu Chapter 5	

Week 4 - 31 Jul 2017		
Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Soil Permeability	Budhu Chapter 6	
Week 5 - 07 Aug 2017		
Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Stresses and Strains in the soil	Budhu Chapter 7	
Vacation Week - 14 Aug 2017		
Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
No Lecture		
Week 6 - 21 Aug 2017		
Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Stress Path in Soil	Budhu Chapter 8	Assignment 1 Due: Week 6 Monday (21 Aug 2017) 5:00 pm AEST
Week 7 - 28 Aug 2017		
Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Compressibility and Settlement of Soils (Part 1)	Budhu Chapter 9	
Week 8 - 04 Sep 2017		
Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Compressibility and Settlement of Soils (Part 2)	Budhu Chapter 9	
Week 9 - 11 Sep 2017		
Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Shear Strength of Soils (Part 1)	Budhu Chapter 10	
Week 10 - 18 Sep 2017		
Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Shear Strength of Soils (Part 2)	Budhu Chapter 10	
Week 11 - 25 Sep 2017		
Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Two-Dimensional Flow of Water Through Soils	Budhu Chapter 14	Assignment 2 Due: Week 11 Monday (25 Sept 2017) 5:00 pm AEST
Week 12 - 02 Oct 2017		
Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Revision		Laboratory Report Due: Week 12 Friday (6 Oct 2017) 5:00 pm AEST
Review/Exam Week - 09 Oct 2017		
Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Exam Week - 16 Oct 2017		
Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic

Term Specific Information

Please refer to the unit website of ENEC12008 for the updated information. Lab sessions will be scheduled from Week 3 for on-campus students and in week 9 for Flex students. Details of the lab sessions for on-campus students will be published in week 2 and for flex students in week 6.

Assessment Tasks

1 Assignment 1

Assessment Type

Written Assessment

Task Description

The aim of this assignment is to allow students to demonstrate their understanding of various concepts, theories and processes studied/developed in the topics covered from week 1 to week 6 from the Study Schedule. Assignment 1 will be available by the end of week 1 through unit Website.

The purpose of assignment questions is to give students an opportunity to show the depth of their understanding of the unit learning outcomes. This should be done by presenting answers clearly, showing the procedure used, explaining the approach to the problem, choices made, checking and interpretation of results.

Some questions may require students to carry out research. All resources used (including the text) should be referenced appropriately. Students are cautioned that copying another student's answer will be dealt with under the Plagiarism Procedures.

Assessment Due Date

Week 6 Monday (21 Aug 2017) 5:00 pm AEST

Return Date to Students

Week 8 Friday (8 Sept 2017)

Weighting

20%

Minimum mark or grade

50% of the total weighted marks for the assignment are required to pass this unit

Assessment Criteria

Each question in this assignment will be assessed separately for the criterion accuracy and correct results.

- Correct application of mathematics and arithmetic
- Answers clearly identified
- Correct results

In addition, the assignment as a whole will be assessed against the following criteria:

Evidence of correct procedures:

- All necessary steps in analysis are present in correct order
- Clear presentation of mathematical and arithmetical working linking given
- details of the problem to the results obtained.
- Evidence of checking results (mathematical, graphical, logic common sense)

Evidence of understanding of the topic

- Explanation of choices made in the analysis (why is procedure required, why this particular procedure)
- Interpretation of results, eg limitations, direction of vectors

Professional presentation

- The work (job) is clearly identified (problem, date, analyst)
- Clear statement of each problem and its details and requirements
- Logical layout of analysis
- Appropriate use of diagrams, clear diagrams
- Correct use of terminology, conventions
- Clear English in the explanation of procedure and interpretation of results.

Referencing Style

- [Harvard \(author-date\)](#)

Submission

Online

Submission Instructions

The submission should be in a single PDF document and the file size less than 5 MB. If your submission includes more files (eg. Spreadsheet) you can submit it as a zip folder.

Learning Outcomes Assessed

- Identify and discuss the implications of geological factors affecting the location, design, construction and maintenance of civil engineering projects.
- Conduct geotechnical tests, analyse test data and prepare geotechnical reports.
- Calculate basic engineering properties of soils and explain the relationship to soil behaviour.
- Analyse the behaviour of soil in response to engineering applications using appropriate theories and national standards.
- Communicate, work and learn both individually and in teams, document the process of modelling, testing and analysis and present the information in a professional manner.

Graduate Attributes

- Communication
- Problem Solving
- Critical Thinking
- Information Literacy
- Information Technology Competence
- Ethical practice

2 Assignment 2

Assessment Type

Written Assessment

Task Description

The aim of this assignment is to allow students to demonstrate their understanding of various concepts, theories and processes studied/developed in the topics covered from week 6 to week 12 from the Study Schedule. Assignment 2 will be available by end of week 6 through unit Website.

The purpose of assignment questions is to give students an opportunity to show the depth of their understanding of the unit learning outcomes. This should be done by presenting answers clearly, showing the procedure used, explaining the approach to the problem, choices made, checking and interpretation of results.

Some questions may require students to carry out research. All resources used (including the text) should be referenced appropriately. Students are cautioned that copying another student's answer will be dealt with under the Plagiarism Procedures.

Assessment Due Date

Week 11 Monday (25 Sept 2017) 5:00 pm AEST

Return Date to Students

Exam Week Friday (20 Oct 2017)

Returned electronically via Moodle

Weighting

20%

Minimum mark or grade

50% of the total weighted marks for the assignment are required to pass this unit

Assessment Criteria

Each question in this assignment will be assessed separately for the criterion accuracy and correct results.

- Correct application of mathematics and arithmetic
- Answers clearly identified
- Correct results

In addition, the assignment as a whole will be assessed against the following criteria:

Evidence of correct procedures

- All necessary steps in analysis are present in correct order

- Clear presentation of mathematical and arithmetical working linking given details of the problem to the results obtained.
- Evidence of checking results (mathematical, graphical, logic common sense)

Evidence of understanding of the topic

- Explanation of choices made in the analysis (why is procedure required, why this particular procedure)
- Interpretation of results, eg limitations, direction of vectors

Professional presentation

- The work (job) is clearly identified (problem, date, analyst)
- Clear statement of each problem and its details and requirements
- Logical layout of analysis
- Appropriate use of diagrams, clear diagrams
- Correct use of terminology, conventions
- Clear English in the explanation of procedure and interpretation of results

Referencing Style

- [Harvard \(author-date\)](#)

Submission

Online

Submission Instructions

The submission should be in a single PDF document and the file size less than 5 MB. If your submission includes more files (eg. Spreadsheet) you can submit it as a zip folder.

Learning Outcomes Assessed

- Identify and discuss the implications of geological factors affecting the location, design, construction and maintenance of civil engineering projects.
- Conduct geotechnical tests, analyse test data and prepare geotechnical reports.
- Calculate basic engineering properties of soils and explain the relationship to soil behaviour.
- Analyse the behaviour of soil in response to engineering applications using appropriate theories and national standards.
- Communicate, work and learn both individually and in teams, document the process of modelling, testing and analysis and present the information in a professional manner.

Graduate Attributes

- Communication
- Problem Solving
- Critical Thinking
- Information Literacy
- Information Technology Competence

3 Laboratory Report

Assessment Type

Practical Assessment

Task Description

,Practical exercises assist the students in achieving the Learning Outcomes for this unit. Students are required to complete the laboratory activities as per instructions given in the Practical Instruction Sheets. The Practical Instruction Sheets and report requirements will be given on the unit Website.

Students will handle soil and rock samples so it is possible that clothes become dusty and wet. Students must wear appropriate clothing for laboratory work, including closed shoes. Laboratory Coats are not required. Students who behave unprofessionally or risk the safety of other people or damage equipment may be excluded from the laboratory class, and consequently they may fail to complete compulsory assessment tasks and fail the unit. **Students must attend the lab session before start of the session and those who are late more than 15 minutes will be excluded and cannot attend other groups.**

For Activities 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6:

- Each student must prepare a **technical description** of the test and associated procedures, and should prepare a **data sheet** to be used to record results during the test.
- Each student must prepare a short **test report for each experiment** using the team data sheet for each test. **This includes calculations and discussion on the results only, not test procedure description.**

Personal test reports must be short and precise to point out calculations/results/graphs and discussion. The limit for explaining the procedure, results and conclusions is maximum of 3 pages (Word/PDF file). A complete submission for practical assessment includes 2 files (in a zipped folder):

- **File 1)** Excel File with all analysis and graphs. All cells must be formula based to track the calculations
- **File 2)** Word/PDF file to explain the procedure, results and conclusions (maximum 3 pages).

List of Activities:

Activity 1: Sieve Analysis

[AS 1289.3.6.1-2009]

Activity 2: Atterberg Limits (Liquid limit, Plastic limit, linear shrinkage) tests.

[AS 1289.3.1.1-2009; AS 1289.3.9.1-2002; AS 1289.3.2.1-2009; AS 1289.3.3.1-2009; AS 1289.3.3.2-2009; AS 1289.3.4.1-2008]

Activity 3: Compaction test

[AS 1289.5.1.1-2003]

Activity 4: Consolidation test

[AS 1289.6.6.1-1998]

Activity 5: Permeability Tests (Falling head and Constant head)

[AS 1289.6.7.2, AS 1289.6.7.1]

Assessment Due Date

Week 12 Friday (6 Oct 2017) 5:00 pm AEST

Return Date to Students

2 weeks from the submission date (Return and Feedback must be requested by email on submission date. Otherwise student will not receive any feedback)

Weighting

20%

Minimum mark or grade

50%

Assessment Criteria

Each report will be assessed separately for the criterion accuracy and correct procedure as required in the Instruction.

- Correct application of mathematics and arithmetic
- Results clearly identified and explained
- Correct results/explanation

Also, the report as a whole will be assessed against the following criteria:

Evidence of correct procedures

- All necessary steps in experiment and reporting are followed in correct order
- Clear presentation of results obtained.
- Evidence of checking results (mathematical, graphical, logic common sense)

Evidence of understanding of the topic

- Explanation of possible error in the experiment
- Interpretation of results

Professional presentation

- appropriate use of diagrams, clear diagrams
- Correct use of terminology, conventions
- Equation, images, data and tables, and the quality of presentation and layout.
- Proper referencing of sources of information (if required, Harvard style should be used)
- Clear English in the explanation of procedure and interpretation of results

Please also note that practical report is of individual submission and each student should do their own analysis and explanations based on the carried out test.

Referencing Style

- [Harvard \(author-date\)](#)

Submission

Online

Submission Instructions

The submission should be in a single PDF document and the file size less than 5 MB. If your submission includes more files (eg. Spreadsheet) you can submit it as a zip folder.

Learning Outcomes Assessed

- Identify and discuss the implications of geological factors affecting the location, design, construction and maintenance of civil engineering projects.
- Conduct geotechnical tests, analyse test data and prepare geotechnical reports.
- Calculate basic engineering properties of soils and explain the relationship to soil behaviour.
- Analyse the behaviour of soil in response to engineering applications using appropriate theories and national standards.
- Communicate, work and learn both individually and in teams, document the process of modelling, testing and analysis and present the information in a professional manner.

Graduate Attributes

- Communication
- Problem Solving
- Critical Thinking
- Information Literacy
- Team Work
- Information Technology Competence

Examination**Outline**

Complete an invigilated examination.

Date

During the examination period at a CQUniversity examination centre.

Weighting

40%

Length

180 minutes

Minimum mark or grade

50%

Exam Conditions

Restricted.

Materials

Calculator - all non-communicable calculators, including scientific, programmable and graphics calculators are authorised

Dictionary - non-electronic, concise, direct translation only (dictionary must not contain any notes or comments).

Academic Integrity Statement

As a CQUniversity student you are expected to act honestly in all aspects of your academic work.

Any assessable work undertaken or submitted for review or assessment must be your own work. Assessable work is any type of work you do to meet the assessment requirements in the unit, including draft work submitted for review and feedback and final work to be assessed.

When you use the ideas, words or data of others in your assessment, you must thoroughly and clearly acknowledge the source of this information by using the correct referencing style for your unit. Using others' work without proper acknowledgement may be considered a form of intellectual dishonesty.

Participating honestly, respectfully, responsibly, and fairly in your university study ensures the CQUniversity qualification you earn will be valued as a true indication of your individual academic achievement and will continue to receive the respect and recognition it deserves.

As a student, you are responsible for reading and following CQUniversity's policies, including the [Student Academic Integrity Policy and Procedure](#). This policy sets out CQUniversity's expectations of you to act with integrity, examples of academic integrity breaches to avoid, the processes used to address alleged breaches of academic integrity, and potential penalties.

What is a breach of academic integrity?

A breach of academic integrity includes but is not limited to plagiarism, self-plagiarism, collusion, cheating, contract cheating, and academic misconduct. The Student Academic Integrity Policy and Procedure defines what these terms mean and gives examples.

Why is academic integrity important?

A breach of academic integrity may result in one or more penalties, including suspension or even expulsion from the University. It can also have negative implications for student visas and future enrolment at CQUniversity or elsewhere. Students who engage in contract cheating also risk being blackmailed by contract cheating services.

Where can I get assistance?

For academic advice and guidance, the [Academic Learning Centre \(ALC\)](#) can support you in becoming confident in completing assessments with integrity and of high standard.

What can you do to act with integrity?



Be Honest

If your assessment task is done by someone else, it would be dishonest of you to claim it as your own



Seek Help

If you are not sure about how to cite or reference in essays, reports etc, then seek help from your lecturer, the library or the Academic Learning Centre (ALC)



Produce Original Work

Originality comes from your ability to read widely, think critically, and apply your gained knowledge to address a question or problem