Environmental Engineering

About
Environmental engineers apply science and engineering principles to protect local, regional and global environments from detrimental effects of natural and human activities. Working at the interface between the natural and built environment, environmental engineers are responsible for air pollution control, water and wastewater treatment, solid and hazardous waste treatment and management, environmental health, and remediation. Environmental engineers design projects to improve environmental quality; and obtain, update, and maintain plans, permits, and standard operating procedures to ensure compliance with environmental regulations. Environmental engineers are directly responsible for improving the quality of life and safety of society, and have a professional and ethical responsibility to the public for doing so.

Coursework Includes
- Sustainable Resource Management
- Thermodynamics
- Engineering Economic Analysis
- Air Pollution and Hazardous Waste Control
- Mechanics of Materials
- Geotechnical Engineering
- See program requirements in the UCF undergraduate catalog at catalog.ucf.edu

Where Environmental Engineering Graduates Work
- Consulting and design firms (e.g., Arcadis, Atkins, SCS Engineers, Tetra Tech)
- Construction firms (Wharton-Smith, Turner, Core Engineering & Construction)
- State regulatory or environmental policy agencies (departments of environment or health)
- Water management districts (St. Johns Water Management District, South Florida WMD, etc)
- Waste management (Waste Management Inc., Waste Services Inc.)
- State transportation agencies (e.g., Florida Department of Transportation) district or state offices
- Municipal governments and utilities (e.g., City of Orlando; Orlando Utilities Commission, etc.)
- Higher education (graduate school or later faculty)

Typical Starting Salary / Possible Job Titles
$50,000. Design, Project or Process Engineer; Project Manager; Modeler; Environmental Engineer; Sanitation Engineer; Resource Manager; Water/Wastewater Engineer; Utility Engineer; Air or Water Quality Engineer.

Related Student Organizations at UCF
- American Society of Civil Engineers
- American Water Resources Association
- American Water Works Association
- Engineers Without Borders
- Society of Environmental Engineers
- Water Environment Federation
- Air & Waste Management Association

Related Minors
- Bioengineering, Chemistry,
- Engineering Leadership;
- International Engineering

Contact Department of Civil,
Environmental & Construction Engineering
407-823-2841; cece.ucf.edu
University of Central Florida
Located in Orlando, Florida, UCF is one of the nation’s largest universities with more than 66,000 students from all 50 states and 152 countries. UCF’s 13 colleges offer 212 degree programs. Students find community and camaraderie in more than 600 registered student organizations. To learn more, visit www.ucf.edu/admissions.

College of Engineering and Computer Science
With 10,000+ students, the college is among the nation’s top producers of engineers and computer scientists. Students receive rigorous instruction, enhanced with real-world hands-on experiences, to graduate with solid technical skills in 11 majors offered: aerospace engineering; civil engineering; computer engineering; computer science; construction engineering; electrical engineering; environmental engineering; industrial engineering; information technology; mechanical engineering; and optics and photonics.

During their academic career, students benefit from unique and innovative leadership and diversity-based support programs, such as the UCF Engineering Leadership & Innovation Institute (eli²) (eli2.cecs.ucf.edu), and renowned STEM retention programs described in detail at stem.ucf.edu/stem-programs-at-ucf.

UCF Rankings
- Nation’s #1 workforce supplier to the aerospace and defense industry (Aviation Week, 2015, 2016)
- Ranks 11th among U.S. public universities for number of National Merit Scholars (289).
- Kiplinger, Forbes and The Princeton Review rank a UCF education among the nation’s best values.
- Ranks #1 in nation, #13 in world among 13,000 regional teams, 2017 Association of Computing Machinery’s International Collegiate Programming Competition.
- Ranks #5 out of 225 U.S. universities for number of patents granted, and #22 for success in research that leads to new technologies, products and companies (2017 Milken Institute report).
- Top choice of high school seniors in Florida and in the 12 states of the U.S. Southeast region (2016 Cappex College Considerations Report)