Engineering Technology

What makes this program special?
WCU’s Engineering Technology program is accredited by the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology (ABET), the leading accreditation body recognized by engineering and technology industries. In addition to the technical aspects of the program overseen by ABET, the Engineering Technology (ET) program also includes more liberal studies coursework than most accredited technical programs. There is no other ET program in the state of North Carolina that focuses on Systems Engineering and Rapid Product Realization. The combination of both technical and communications skills inherent in this program ensures that ET graduates are well-rounded and able to fit into many different work environments. Students in this program are provided with a personal educational experience by the faculty and staff, which allow students to attain personal goals and objectives.

What scholarship monies are available?
All students are considered for merit-based scholarships at the time of admission. Additional scholarships are available based on FAFSA information. Once accepted into the Engineering Technology program, students may apply for scholarships ranging from $100 to $2,500 per year.

What will I be able to do with this degree when I graduate?
An Engineering Technology degree provides broad employment opportunities in design modeling and prototyping, fabrication, testing, sales and analysis of engineered products and systems. Demand is high for Engineering Technology program graduates.

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Things you need to know
- Bachelor of Science Degree
- Requires 82 credit hours, with 42 hours of liberal studies
- Opportunity to have hands-on learning with state-of-the-industry prototyping and machining equipment
- High job-placement rate, with average starting salaries around $40,000 per year
- Committed faculty and staff
- Great academic advising for students by professors they know
- Society of Automotive Engineers club
- Departmental scholarships for students who have completed at least one semester on campus
- Chance to work on real-life, industrial engagement projects
- Availability of numerous outdoor activities for students
- Laboratories with excellent equipment and software tools

Careers with this Degree
- Quality Engineering
- Technical Management
- Testing Engineering
- Manufacturing Engineering
- Systems Analyst
- Technical Sales
What are the students in the program doing?

Students participate in engineering engagement projects with regional businesses to provide them with real-world experience and service-learning opportunities. Students also enjoy a wide array of educational and extracurricular activities. From fishing in Bear Lake or the Tuckasegee River to serving sodas at the Society of Automotive Engineers club fundraisers on the Illusions Club dance floor, there is never a dull moment. Graduates of Engineering Technology also may choose to continue their studies in Engineering, Science, or Technology graduate programs.

Will I be able to participate in internships, clubs and other extracurricular opportunities?

Engineering Technology students may join the Society of Automotive Engineers club, which has group activities throughout the year, such as hotdog dinner fundraisers, food drives and monthly meetings. Base Camp Cullowhee provides equipment for outdoor activities.

See our program site: http://et.wcu.edu/BSET.htm

The University

A campus of the University of North Carolina system, WCU is located in a beautiful valley between the Blue Ridge and Great Smoky mountains, with convenient access to a region that offers tremendous opportunities for outdoor research and recreation. Western is an hour’s drive west of Asheville, N.C., and 2.5 hours northeast of Atlanta.

About 9,000 students are enrolled at Western, including about 1,700 graduate students. Some classes are available online for distance education, but most are offered in person on the main campus in Cullowhee, in Asheville, and at other locations throughout Western North Carolina. A combination of service learning and engagement in the community by faculty and students is a critical part of Western’s tradition of academic excellence.