

CIV500 Structural Analysis

School: School of Science, Technology and Engineering

2026 | Trimester 2

UniSC Moreton Bay

**BLENDED
LEARNING**

You can do this course without coming onto campus, unless your program has specified a mandatory onsite requirement.

Online

ONLINE

You can do this course without coming onto campus.

Please go to usc.edu.au for up to date information on the teaching sessions and campuses where this course is usually offered.

1. What is this course about?

1.1. Description

Civil engineers are responsible for designing solutions to complex problems that meet client requirements and regulatory standards. In this course you will learn the classical theory of structures and the Australian Standards design approach applying techniques to analyse responses of linear elastic structures under various loads and predict their behaviour. You will apply design codes to determine loads and load combinations for serviceability and ultimate limit states, preparing you to tackle real-world engineering challenges and ensuring the safety and functionality of structures.

1.2. How will this course be delivered?

ACTIVITY	HOURS	BEGINNING WEEK	FREQUENCY
BLENDED LEARNING			
Learning materials – Asynchronous learning material including videos, articles and readings	2hrs	Week 1	12 times
Information session – Online workshop	1hr	Week 1	12 times
Tutorial/Workshop 1 – On campus tutorial/ PC workshop	3hrs	Week 1	12 times
ONLINE			
Learning materials – Asynchronous learning material including videos, articles and readings	2hrs	Week 1	12 times
Information session – Online workshop	1hr	Week 1	12 times
Tutorial/Workshop 1 – Online tutorial/ computer workshop	3hrs	Week 1	12 times

1.3. Course Topics

Topics may include:

- Analysis of statically determinate structures.
- Limit States Design incl. loads, load factors and load combination arrangements.
- Analysis of wind actions and wind effects on buildings.
- Analysis of statically determinate frames and trusses.
- Indeterminacy, analysis of statically indeterminate structures.
- Deflection analysis using double integration method.
- Principle of Work incl. Virtual Work for deformation analysis.
- Principle of Virtual Work incl. Integration table.
- Force method for the analysis of beams, frames, and trusses.
- Influence lines for beams and trusses .

2. What level is this course?

500 Level (Advanced)

Engaging with new discipline knowledge and skills at an advanced level or deepening existing knowledge and skills within a discipline. Independent application of knowledge and skills in unfamiliar contexts.

3. What is the unit value of this course?

12 units

4. How does this course contribute to my learning?

COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES	GRADUATE QUALITIES MAPPING	PROFESSIONAL STANDARD MAPPING *
On successful completion of this course, you should be able to...	Completing these tasks successfully will contribute to you becoming...	Competencies from multiple Professional Bodies (see below) *
1 Apply an existing industry-standard computer program to model real structures, interpret the results and perform manual checks to validate the results.	Empowered	2, 2, 2.2.d, 2.2.d, 2.2, 2.2
2 Estimate internal and external wind loadings on typical portal-framed buildings for the purpose of analysis and design.	Empowered	2, 2, 2.2.b, 2.2.b, 2.2, 2.2
3 Produce a well-communicated and professionally-presented document including details of computer modelling, along with outcomes and conclusions.	Engaged	3, 3, 3.2.a, 3.2.a, 3.2, 3.2
4 Demonstrate competence in utilising Australian Standards and relevant loading guidelines.	Ethical	1, 1, 1.6.a, 1.6.a, 1.6, 1.6
5 Recognise the distinction between the allowable stress and strength limit state approaches and justify the adopted approach.	Knowledgeable	1, 1, 1.3.a, 1.3.a, 1.3, 1.3
6 Discern the importance of checking the validity of computer-generated structural analysis results and identify the structural principles by which this is done.	Knowledgeable	1, 1, 1.3.a, 1.3.a, 1.3, 1.3
7 Synthesise and critically evaluate core course concepts and their interrelationships and effectively communicate a comprehensive understanding of the course's main ideas and their broader implications.	Knowledgeable Creative and critical thinker Empowered Communication Problem solving Applying technologies	1.6, 2.3, 3.2, 3.5

* Competencies by Professional Body

CODE	COMPETENCY
ENGINEERS AUSTRALIA STAGE 1 PROFESSIONAL ENGINEER COMPETENCY STANDARDS	
1	Elements of competency: Knowledge and Skill Base
1.6.a	Knowledge and Skill Base - Understanding of the scope, principles, norms, accountabilities and bounds of sustainable engineering practice in the specific discipline: Appreciates the basis and relevance of standards and codes of practice, as well as legislative and statutory requirements applicable to the engineering discipline.
1.3.a	Knowledge and Skill Base - In-depth understanding of specialist bodies of knowledge within the engineering discipline: Proficiently applies advanced technical knowledge and skills in at least one specialist practice domain of the engineering discipline.
1.3	Knowledge and Skill Base: In-depth understanding of specialist bodies of knowledge within the engineering discipline.
1.6	Knowledge and Skill Base: Understanding of the scope, principles, norms, accountabilities and bounds of sustainable engineering practice in the specific discipline.
2	Elements of competency: Engineering Application Ability

CODE	COMPETENCY
2.2.d	Engineering Application Ability - Fluent application of engineering techniques, tools and resources: Applies a wide range of engineering tools for analysis, simulation, visualisation, synthesis and design, including assessing the accuracy and limitations of such tools, and validation of their results.
2.2.b	Engineering Application Ability - Fluent application of engineering techniques, tools and resources: Constructs or selects and applies from a qualitative description of a phenomenon, process, system, component or device a mathematical, physical or computational model based on fundamental scientific principles and justifiable simplifying assumptions.
2.2	Engineering Application Ability: Fluent application of engineering techniques, tools and resources.
2.3	Engineering Application Ability: Application of systematic engineering synthesis and design processes.
3	Elements of competency: Professional and Personal Attributes
3.2.a	Professional and Personal Attributes - Effective oral and written communication in professional and lay domains: Is proficient in listening, speaking, reading and writing English.
3.2	Professional and Personal Attributes: Effective oral and written communication in professional and lay domains.
3.5	Professional and Personal Attributes: Orderly management of self, and professional conduct.
ENGINEERS AUSTRALIA STAGE 1 ENGINEERING TECHNOLOGIST COMPETENCY STANDARDS	
1	Elements of competency: Knowledge and Skill Base
1.6.a	Knowledge and Skill Base - Understanding of the scope, principles, norms, accountabilities and bounds of sustainable engineering practice in the technology domain: Understands the standards and codes of practice, as well as the legislative and statutory requirements associated with specialist practice area(s) of the technology domain.
1.3.a	Knowledge and Skill Base - In-depth understanding of specialist bodies of knowledge within the technology domain: Proficiently applies advanced technical knowledge and skills to deliver engineering outcomes in specialist area(s) of the technology domain and associated industry, commercial and community sectors.
1.3	Knowledge and Skill Base: In-depth understanding of specialist bodies of knowledge within the technology domain.
1.6	Knowledge and Skill Base: Understanding of the scope, principles, norms, accountabilities and bounds of sustainable engineering practice in the technology domain.
2	Elements of competency: Engineering Application Ability
2.2.d	Engineering Application Ability - Application of engineering techniques, tools and resources within the technology domain: Determines properties, performance, safe working limits, failure modes, and other inherent parameters of materials, components and systems relevant to specialist area(s) of the technology domain.
2.2.b	Engineering Application Ability - Application of engineering techniques, tools and resources within the technology domain: Understands the principles, limitations and accuracy of mathematical, physical or computational modelling.
2.2	Engineering Application Ability: Application of engineering techniques, tools and resources within the technology domain.
3	Elements of competency: Professional and Personal Attributes
3.2.a	Professional and Personal Attributes - Effective oral and written communication in professional and lay domains: Is proficient in listening, speaking, reading and writing English.
3.2	Professional and Personal Attributes: Effective oral and written communication in professional and lay domains.

5. Am I eligible to enrol in this course?

Refer to the [UniSC Glossary of terms](#) for definitions of “pre-requisites, co-requisites and anti-requisites”.

5.1. Pre-requisites

Enrolled in MC002

5.2. Co-requisites

Not applicable

5.3. Anti-requisites

Not applicable

5.4. Specific assumed prior knowledge and skills (where applicable)

Not applicable

6. How am I going to be assessed?

6.1. Grading Scale

Standard Grading (GRD)

High Distinction (HD), Distinction (DN), Credit (CR), Pass (PS), Fail (FL).

6.2. Details of early feedback on progress

The engagement in weekly formative tutorial and workshop problems will demonstrate the level of proficiency and understanding of the course material.

6.3. Assessment tasks

DELIVERY MODE	TASK NO.	ASSESSMENT PRODUCT	INDIVIDUAL OR GROUP	WEIGHTING %	WHAT IS THE DURATION / LENGTH?	WHEN SHOULD I SUBMIT?	WHERE SHOULD I SUBMIT IT?
All	1	Written Piece	Individual	30%	Equivalent to max. 800 words each.	Refer to Format	Online Assignment Submission with plagiarism check
All	2	Examination - Centrally Scheduled	Individual	50%	2 hours	Exam Period	Online Assignment Submission with plagiarism check
All	3	Oral	Individual	20%	A 10-12 minute presentation which may be followed by approximately 5-10 minutes of questions.	Week 12	Online Submission

All - Assessment Task 1: Written Piece

GOAL:	These assignments (take-home tasks) develop your understanding of core theory and its application to practical problems and enable you to identify and address gaps in your skills and knowledge.		
PRODUCT:	Written Piece		
FORMAT:	You will use the material presented in the Learning Material and Workshops, and applied in the Tutorials to complete your assignment. Your submissions will be assessed individually. This assignment helps you to test your knowledge to ensure that you understand the basic concepts of load theory. You will hand sections of this task progressively on the indicated weeks to ensure you receive early, regular, and timely feedback on the progress of your work. Due Weeks 3, 6, 9 & 12.		
CRITERIA:	No.		Learning Outcome assessed
	1	Application of an existing industry-standard computer program to model real structures, interpretation of the results and performance of manual checks to validate the results.	1
	2	Estimation of internal and external wind loadings on typical portal-framed buildings for the purpose of analysis and design.	2
	3	Demonstration of competence in utilising Australian Standards and relevant loading guidelines.	4
	4	Recognition of the distinction between the allowable stress and strength limit state approaches and justification of the adopted approach.	5
	5	Production of a well-communicated and professionally-presented document including details of computer modelling, along with outcomes and conclusions.	3
GENERIC SKILLS:	Problem solving, Organisation		

All - Assessment Task 2: Final Exam

GOAL:	The final exam will build your skills to analyse statically indeterminate structures by first principles independently and with confidence within a set time limit and with limited access to additional resources.		
PRODUCT:	Examination - Centrally Scheduled		
FORMAT:	The final exam assesses the material covered in the course (workshops, tutorials and assignments) and the self-study material (e.g. prescribed reading). You will be required to analyse indeterminate structures. With your solutions you will demonstrate your understanding and ability to apply advanced methods of structural analysis. The exam will be partially open book. Full details of what may be taken into the exam venue will be explained in class during the trimester and posted on Canvas.		
CRITERIA:	No.		Learning Outcome assessed
	1	Estimation of internal and external wind loadings on typical portal-framed buildings for the purpose of analysis and design.	2
	2	Demonstration of competence in utilising Australian Standards and relevant loading guidelines.	4
	3	Recognition of the distinction between the allowable stress and strength limit state approaches and justification of the adopted approach.	5
	4	Discernment of the importance of checking the validity of computer-generated structural analysis results and identify the structural principles by which this is done.	6
GENERIC SKILLS:	Problem solving		

All - Assessment Task 3: Course summary and critical evaluation

GOAL:	To assess your ability to synthesise and critically evaluate the course's core concepts, demonstrating a sophisticated and integrated understanding of its main ideas, their interrelationships, and broader implications.		
PRODUCT:	Oral		
FORMAT:	Presentation		
CRITERIA:	No.		Learning Outcome assessed
	1	Synthesis & Critical Evaluation: Integrated and insightful critiques of core course concepts and their interrelationships.	7
	2	Clarity & Communication: Well-organised, engaging, and clear presentation, effectively using visuals to enhance understanding.	7
	3	Engagement & Understanding: Accurate and thoughtful responses to questions, demonstrating deep understanding and critical thinking.	7
GENERIC SKILLS:	Communication, Problem solving		

7. Directed study hours

A 12-unit course will have total of 150 learning hours which will include directed study hours (including online if required), self-directed learning and completion of assessable tasks. Student workload is calculated at 12.5 learning hours per one unit.

8. What resources do I need to undertake this course?

Please note: Course information, including specific information of recommended readings, learning activities, resources, weekly readings, etc. are available on the course Canvas site– Please log in as soon as possible.

8.1. Prescribed text(s) or course reader

Please note that you need to have regular access to the resource(s) listed below. Resources may be required or recommended.

REQUIRED?	AUTHOR	YEAR	TITLE	EDITION	PUBLISHER
Recommended	Russell C. Hibbeler	0	Structural Analysis in SI Units	n/a	n/a
Recommended	AS/NZS	0	AS/NZS 1170.0 Structural design actions - General principles	n/a	n/a
Recommended	AS/NZS	0	AS/NZS 1170.1 Structural design actions - Permanent, imposed and other actions	n/a	n/a
Recommended	AS/NZS	0	AS/NZS 1170.2 Structural design actions - Wind actions	n/a	n/a

8.2. Specific requirements

Not applicable

9. How are risks managed in this course?

Health and safety risks for this course have been assessed as low. It is your responsibility to review course material, search online, discuss with lecturers and peers and understand the health and safety risks associated with your specific course of study and to familiarise yourself with the University's general health and safety principles by reviewing the [online induction training for students](#), and following the instructions of the University staff.

10. What administrative information is relevant to this course?

10.1. Assessment: Academic Integrity

Academic integrity is the ethical standard of university participation. It ensures that students graduate as a result of proving they are competent in their discipline. This is integral in maintaining the value of academic qualifications. Each industry has expectations and standards of the skills and knowledge within that discipline and these are reflected in assessment.

Academic integrity means that you do not engage in any activity that is considered to be academic fraud; including plagiarism, collusion or outsourcing any part of any assessment item to any other person. You are expected to be honest and ethical by completing all work yourself and indicating in your work which ideas and information were developed by you and which were taken from others. You cannot provide your assessment work to others. You are also expected to provide evidence of wide and critical reading, usually by using appropriate academic references.

In order to minimise incidents of academic fraud, this course may require that some of its assessment tasks, when submitted to Canvas, are electronically checked through Turnitin. This software allows for text comparisons to be made between your submitted assessment item and all other work to which Turnitin has access.

10.2. Assessment: Additional Requirements

Eligibility for Supplementary Assessment

Your eligibility for supplementary assessment in a course is dependent of the following conditions applying:

- (a) The final mark is in the percentage range 47% to 49.4%; and
- (b) The course is graded using the Standard Grading scale

10.3. Assessment: Submission penalties

Late submissions may be penalised up to and including the following maximum percentage of the assessment task's identified value, with weekdays and weekends included in the calculation of days late:

- (a) One day: deduct 5%;
- (b) Two days: deduct 10%;
- (c) Three days: deduct 20%;
- (d) Four days: deduct 40%;
- (e) Five days: deduct 60%;
- (f) Six days: deduct 80%;
- (g) Seven days: A result of zero is awarded for the assessment task.

The following penalties will apply for a late submission for an online examination:

Less than 15 minutes: No penalty

From 15 minutes to 30 minutes: 20% penalty

More than 30 minutes: 100% penalty

10.4. SafeUniSC

UniSC is committed to a culture of respect and providing a safe and supportive environment for all members of our community. For immediate assistance on campus contact SafeUniSC by phone: [07 5430 1168](tel:0754301168) or using the [SafeZone](#) app. For general enquires contact the SafeUniSC team by phone [07 5456 3864](tel:0754563864) or email safe@usc.edu.au.

The SafeUniSC Specialist Service is a Student Wellbeing service that provides free and confidential support to students who may have experienced or observed behaviour that could cause fear, offence or trauma. To contact the service call [07 5430 1226](tel:0754301226) or email studentwellbeing@usc.edu.au.

10.5. Study help

For help with course-specific advice, for example what information to include in your assessment, you should first contact your tutor, then your course coordinator, if needed.

If you require additional assistance, the Learning Advisers are trained professionals who are ready to help you develop a wide range of academic skills. Visit the [Learning Advisers](#) web page for more information, or contact Student Central for further assistance: +61 7 5430 2890 or studentcentral@usc.edu.au.

10.6. Wellbeing Services

Student Wellbeing provide free and confidential counselling on a wide range of personal, academic, social and psychological matters, to foster positive mental health and wellbeing for your academic success.

To book a confidential appointment go to [Student Hub](#), email studentwellbeing@usc.edu.au or call 07 5430 1226.

10.7. AccessAbility Services

Ability Advisers ensure equal access to all aspects of university life. If your studies are affected by a disability, learning disorder mental health issue, injury or illness, or you are a primary carer for someone with a disability or who is considered frail and aged, [AccessAbility Services](#) can provide access to appropriate reasonable adjustments and practical advice about the support and facilities available to you throughout the University.

To book a confidential appointment go to [Student Hub](#), email AccessAbility@usc.edu.au or call 07 5430 2890.

10.8. Links to relevant University policy and procedures

For more information on Academic Learning & Teaching categories including:

- Assessment: Courses and Coursework Programs
- Review of Assessment and Final Grades
- Supplementary Assessment
- Central Examinations
- Deferred Examinations
- Student Conduct
- Students with a Disability

For more information, visit <https://www.usc.edu.au/explore/policies-and-procedures#academic-learning-and-teaching>

10.9. Student Charter

UniSC is committed to excellence in teaching, research and engagement in an environment that is inclusive, inspiring, safe and respectful. The [Student Charter](#) sets out what students can expect from the University, and what in turn is expected of students, to achieve these outcomes.

10.10. General Enquiries

In person:

- **UniSC Sunshine Coast** - Student Central, Ground Floor, Building C, 90 Sippy Downs Drive, Sippy Downs
- **UniSC Moreton Bay** - Service Centre, Ground Floor, Foundation Building, Gympie Road, Petrie
- **UniSC SouthBank** - Student Central, Building A4 (SW1), 52 Merivale Street, South Brisbane
- **UniSC Gympie** - Student Central, 71 Cartwright Road, Gympie
- **UniSC Fraser Coast** - Student Central, Student Central, Building A, 161 Old Maryborough Rd, Hervey Bay
- **UniSC Caboolture** - Student Central, Level 1 Building J, Cnr Manley and Tallon Street, Caboolture

Tel: +61 7 5430 2890

Email: studentcentral@usc.edu.au