

5C The Year One Common Structure in Engineering

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In 2013/14 the School of Engineering introduced a new common structure for year one of the undergraduate degree programmes in Engineering. The development of this new structure took almost two years and involved significant consultation with academic staff across the School. There have been significant changes to the content of almost all year one courses, and the number of year one courses in Engineering has reduced from nearly 40 to under 20. This has resulted class sizes in excess of 250 students for the first time in Engineering at the University of Glasgow and repeat lectures have been introduced for the first time.

This paper looks at the motivation for change, the changes introduced and describes the new structure developed. In addition to the structural changes introduced, a number of innovations for courses in Engineering have been introduced and these are presented. The effect of the changes on student learning and success is considered and the lessons learned from introducing such a major change are discussed. Finally this paper looks at how the changes in year one will be taken forward over the coming years to restructure all years of the degree programmes in Engineering.