

## **Engineering Tripos Part IA, The Engineer in Society, 2022-23**

### **Module Leader and Lecturer**

[Professor Tim Minshall](#) [1]

### **Timing and Structure**

Eight 50-minute presentations by module leader and guest speakers from industry.

### **Aims**

The aims of the course are to:

- Introduce students to the economic, social and industrial context within which engineers work.
- Seek to provide a sense of the 'bigger picture' within which any engineering-related organisation operates.
- Show why an understanding of this context is important and to raise awareness of the non-technical competences that engineers need to develop in order to be successful.

### **Objectives**

As specific objectives, by the end of the course students should be able to:

- Appreciate the economic, social and industrial contexts of engineering.
- Understand how these contexts influence engineering decisions.
- Produce a non-technical report on topics related to these contexts.

### **Content**

- 1. Introduction - What do engineers actually do?**
- 2. Why things need to change**
- 3. Why managing change is really difficult**
- 4. How you can make things better**
- 5. How to make difficult decisions**
- 6. How to solve really big/difficult problems (Part 1)**
- 7. How to solve really big/difficult problems (Part 2)**
- 8. How you can engineer change to make the world a better place - and pass this module**

### **Assessment**

To complete the Engineer in Society module you must write a report of approximately 1000 (+/- 10%) words over the Christmas vacation.

**You will be given the title and further instructions for this report in the final lecture of this module.**

**The report must be submitted by 16:00 on Friday 20th January 2023 via the Moodle website for this module.**

Each lecture / guest speaker slot will provide you with content to help you prepare your report.

The aim of this task is to give you experience in preparing a professional response to non-technical questions – something that you will be required to do throughout your career.

### Readings

On-line resources for this module will be provided via Moodle.

### Examples papers

Please see the [Booklist for Part IA Courses](#) [2] for references for this module.

### Examination Guidelines

Please refer to [Form & conduct of the examinations](#) [3].

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### Links

[1] <mailto:thwm100@cam.ac.uk>

[2] <https://www.vle.cam.ac.uk/mod/book/view.php?id=364071&chapterid=42051>

[3] <https://teaching.eng.cam.ac.uk/content/form-conduct-examinations>