Polymer and fiber engineers use their knowledge of engineering, polymers, processing, and structure and property relationships to develop or manufacture engineered materials that are changing our world.

The Auburn Advantage
Solid academics and a campus with a strong sense of place make Auburn special. Our alumni recall a friendly, safe campus with a sense of family, caring professors, academic variety and challenge, and extra-curricular activities that helped them grow into leaders.

- Outstanding instruction
- Classic college town atmosphere
- Scholarship opportunities
- Student exchange program in Germany or other study abroad programs
- Research opportunities for undergraduates
- Hands-on lab projects
- Diversified faculty and student body
- Engineering hovercraft and car teams
- Summer internship opportunities
- Co-op education
- Job search support for students and alumni
- Academic support
- Variety of career and graduate program options

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Auburn Engineering programs
Aerospace
Biosystems
Chemical
Civil
Computer Science and Software
Electrical and Computer
Industrial and Systems
Materials
Mechanical
Polymer and Fiber
Wireless
Polymer and Fiber Engineering

Faculty in Auburn University’s Department of Polymer and Fiber Engineering, one of 11 programs in the Samuel Ginn College of Engineering, recognize that engineering achievements develop in conjunction with advances in engineered materials, and that the relationship between the structure, properties, and performance of materials is critical to advances in technology.

Polymeric materials allow auto, aircraft, aerospace, and marine engineers to have greater flexibility in designing and building components, and give them the option to combine several complex parts into a single, integrated piece. Polymer components are substantially lighter than their steel counterparts, while retaining needed strength. Lighter vehicles exhibit more efficient fuel consumption with fewer emissions.

New generations of functional polymers are being developed for use in batteries, photonic sensors and devices, fuel cells and other applications. They promise to enable revolutionary advances in electronic devices and provide long-lasting, economical energy storage solutions.

Polymer and fiber engineering students have the opportunity to prepare for a variety of graduate degree programs, including bioengineering, materials engineering, polymer science, biochemistry, environmental science, industrial engineering, medicine and health-related fields, law, computer information systems, or business. The average starting salary for Auburn polymer and fiber engineers is $40,000s to $50,000s.

Undergraduate Curriculum

• Bachelor of Polymer and Fiber Engineering
• Bachelor of Textile Management and Technology

The polymer and fiber engineering curriculum stresses the fundamentals of engineering, the behavior of polymeric materials, polymer processing, and fiber-reinforced polymers. The degree includes two options, polymer and fiber. Major course work is concentrated at the junior and senior level, facilitating the transfer of students from community colleges and other institutions.

The textile management and technology curriculum is designed to prepare graduates for a career in the apparel business. Courses include applied materials, manufacturing processes, quality control, and business.

Professional Opportunities/Graduate Study

There is a strong demand for our alumni all over the U.S. Polymer and fiber engineering prepares graduates to work in research and development, product development, process engineering, composite engineering, quality engineering, industrial engineering, technical services, or technical sales.

At a Glance

Polymers are in your cell phone, your iPod, computer and car. They are components of watercraft, aircraft, and high-performance sports equipment from skis and snowboards to tennis racquets, golf clubs, and bicycles. Heart stents and artificial joints are made from body-friendly polymeric materials. Polymers form plastics and have been touted as the “materials of the century.”

At a Glance

Students can opt to spend six months studying in southern Germany at our sister institution, Reutlingen University, located near the Black Forest, Switzerland and Austria. The beautiful scenery, castles, and picturesque old towns surrounding Reutlingen make it a popular area for hiking and biking. The landmarks of Europe are a short train or plane ride away.

Scholarships/Financial Assistance

The Department of Polymer and Fiber Engineering provides one of the largest departmental scholarship programs at Auburn University, thanks to industry and alumni support. The application is available by request or at www.eng.auburn.edu/pfe.

Extracurricular Opportunities

Auburn Engineering students can participate in a wide variety of educational activities beyond the classroom, gaining experience with teamwork and project management. The Formula SAE hovercraft team challenges students from a variety of engineering disciplines to design, build and race an amphibious vehicle by learning skills in composites, analysis, modeling, and control systems.

Polymer and fiber engineering students are encouraged to participate in campus chapters such as:
• Tau Beta Pi honor society
• Phi Delta Theta Lambda Chapter
• Society of Women Engineers
• National Society of Black Engineers

www.eng.auburn.edu/organizations

Loan and grant opportunities include:
• Pell grants
• Guaranteed student loans
• Research internships with professors
• Birdsong study abroad scholarships

As students progress, the number of available scholarships and grants may increase. Although some consideration is given to financial need, most scholarship awards are based on academic achievement.

www.auburn.edu/student_info/student_affairs/finaid

Auburn Engineering is committed to helping students succeed. The following services are available at no cost:
• Study Partners mentoring program
• MentorNet e-mentoring network
• College of Engineering tutoring program
• BellSouth Minority Engineering Program tutors

Advising/Support Services

Opportunities

Guaranteed student loans
Research internships with professors
Birdsong study abroad scholarships