



Welcome to the University of Sussex

I am delighted that you will be joining us and I look forward to meeting you during the Welcome Week. Our Department of Engineering and Design is a great place to study and you will find it is a particularly friendly and supportive environment.

To be an engineer or product designer is to have the opportunity to serve the needs of people, to contribute to making our lives safer, more comfortable, and more productive, and to help sustain our planet. Our aim at Sussex is that your full University experience will allow you to develop your knowledge and skills in order to achieve your career goals.

During your chosen degree course you will gain a solid foundation in the principles of your discipline and develop the analytical, problem solving and design skills required for a wide range of occupations. Those of you who attended one of our Virtual Applicant Visit Days in 2020/21 may have heard from some of our inspiring young graduates and heard about their careers. This year's graduating cohort are also securing exciting jobs and I hope some of them will come back to tell you about them.

We expect you to work hard at your studies and also encourage you to take advantage of the wide range of activities available both on and off campus. Finding the right balance between study and other activities is an important element of the student life. The key to achieving your full potential is to attend all of your teaching sessions, to keep on top of your assignment deadlines and to work with us to develop your independent learning and problem solving skills. Life as a student can sometimes be very demanding and we have many support structures in place to help you. During the Welcome Week you will be assigned an Academic Advisor to help with study-related matters. This member of faculty will meet with you fortnightly during this year and remain your personal academic advisor throughout your degree. They will be your first point of contact regarding any academic matters or issues. For all non-academic problems, we have an excellent support team in the Student Life Centre: www.sussex.ac.uk/studentlifecentre. We are proud of the support we offer, but it is your responsibility to seek help if you need it. As part of your preparations before you arrive I encourage you to use a special web resource Skills Hub on www.sussex.ac.uk/skillshub, in particular, the pages on 'Preparing for university'.

Generations of students have told us that coming to Sussex was the best thing they ever did and that their time here had the most profound effect on their lives. I hope you will feel similarly about your experiences and find that this is the start of an enjoyable and memorable time at University. I look forward to meeting you here.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R. Glovnea', written over a horizontal line.

Dr Romeo Glovnea
Head of Department of Engineering and Design