

One-week Engineering Summer Programme with Cambridge University (Girton College) 2024

In its 4th year, the One-week Engineering Summer Programme with Girton College of Cambridge University welcomed 36 students in the summer of 2024. This unique learning journey aimed to strengthen their Engineering Mathematics skills while allowing them to experience the cultural differences at Girton College, Cambridge University.



△ Participating students, Dr Elisabeth Kendall, The Mistress of Girton College of University of Cambridge (front row, 4th from left) and Dr Henry Chan, Associate Professor and Associate Head (Partnership & Collaboration) of Department of Computing (front row, 4th from right)



△ A group photo of the participating students and Dr Henry Chan

The programme, held from July 7 to 13, 2024, was exclusively organised for FENG students and co-sponsored by GEO, FENG, and its departments.



Like the previous year, the course comprised 15 contact hours focused on theoretical concepts and covered valuable knowledge for engineers, including vector analysis, matrix algebra, numerical solutions and quadrature, and an introduction to engineering statistics and data analysis. During the week at Girton College, Dr Henry Chan of the Department of Computing, visited the students and conducted an entrepreneurship workshop, aiming to inspire their innovative and entrepreneurial thinking.



While students immersed themselves in the unique learning atmosphere at Girton College, a series of special events were arranged to foster personal growth and social connections, as well as to learn about Girton College and student life at Cambridge.

Evening talks on engineering, entrepreneurship, and innovation enriched the diversity of the learning journey, broadening students' knowledge and providing insights from industry experts. A social programme was organised by Girton Student Assistants at Cambridge University, including visits and activities around Cambridge.



The students reflected that they gained an excellent learning experience through this summer programme, as indicated in their reflection reports. Indeed, all of them strongly agreed or agreed that they had a valuable learning experience, with 89% strongly agreeing.



Here are learning reflections from students across the seven FENG departments:

“From this experience in Cambridge, I had a great chance to taste the Western culture of learning and living. The college is full of greenery and unique designs that allowed me to calm down, increase my focus and ability to study well. With the experience in lectures, I had the chance to talk with the lecturers and broaden my understanding of the knowledge we learned. These experiences changed the way we learn, not for money and grades, but for interest and finding meaning. Other than the learning, the student ambassadors and friends there showed a lot of care for us. Overall, I treasure the experience.” - AAE student

“My week-long Summer Programme in Engineering Mathematics at Girton College, Cambridge, was an intellectual odyssey beyond words. Immersed in the hallowed halls of academia, every lecture sparked a fire of curiosity within me, illuminating complex concepts with clarity and passion. Collaborating with students from diverse backgrounds fostered a global perspective, while the historical ambiance of the college inspired a sense of awe and ambition. It was not just a course; it was a transformative journey that ignited my passion for engineering math and instilled a lifelong thirst for knowledge. Truly, a week I'll cherish forever.” - BME student

“The curriculum of the summer camp was very exciting. The lecturers were experts in various fields, and their in-depth explanations gave me a more comprehensive and deeper understanding of mathematics. Studying and living on the beautiful campus of Cambridge and spending time with like-minded people worldwide were precious memories. Through discussions with them, I made many mentors and friends and gained more thoughts and visions for the future. This cross-cultural

experience also broadened my horizons and strengthened my ability to communicate and cooperate with others.” - COMP student

“The immersive experience of studying and living in Cambridge helped broaden my horizons. It made me realise the importance of proactively seeking out new knowledge and stepping outside my comfort zone. Collaborating with student ambassadors and other programme participants, especially making friends from different countries such as Pakistan, enhanced my interpersonal skills and ability to work in a team.” - DSAI student

“Participating in the one-week exchange programme at Cambridge University was an incredibly rewarding experience. Cambridge, a historic and world-renowned institution, captivated me with its rich academic and cultural heritage. I was privileged to attend lectures by leading professors and engage in meaningful discussions with talented peers from around the world. This opportunity broadened my academic horizons and enhanced my critical thinking skills. I am deeply grateful to my university for providing me with this chance to study at a world-class university, experiencing the unique charm and excellence of Cambridge. This experience will inspire me to pursue academic excellence in my future endeavors.” - EEE student

“Having a glimpse of university life in Cambridge was a once-in-a-lifetime experience that I'll probably take with me for the rest of my life. I got to immerse myself in their university culture and meet a diverse background of students. Although some aspects of the programme were challenging—especially since it was a completely new environment—it was a worthwhile and enlightening experience that not only deepened my understanding of mathematical concepts but also widened my perspective on different lifestyles. I'm so grateful for my stay at Cambridge and would highly recommend it to anyone with the opportunity.” - ISE student

“It was my privilege and honour to attend the one-week summer programme at Cambridge, a globally top university, with other extraordinary undergraduate engineering students from our faculty. The teacher introduced dozens of cases in which mathematics applied to engineering, which profoundly enlightened me... The social activities were fascinating, showing us the life of Cambridge students. The student ambassadors were very friendly and patient.” - ME student



*Due to the pandemic, the summer programmes for July 2021 & July 2022 were conducted online.