

Professionalism in Engineering

A thorough understanding of the principles of “Professionalism in Engineering” and the practice thereof is an important part both of your studies here at Tennessee Tech University and your future career as a practicing engineer.

Professionalism in engineering includes, but is not limited to:

- **Professional and Personal Integrity:** Complete honesty and integrity is essential to the engineer. In engineering, one has to make many statements and decisions on a daily basis upon which others have to rely without reservation. The engineer’s word must truly be their bond. Public health & safety, company or project success, and the engineer’s professional & personal reputation and career are just a few of the things at risk if these standards are not adhered to at all times and in all situations.
- **Engineers are Problem Solvers:** A successful engineer has the ability to search out solutions on their own, often with only minimal information given to them. Being a “self-motivated problem-solver” is essential in engineering and is a trait that companies seek out when hiring new engineers as employees. Don’t expect everything to be handed to you or wait for someone else to do it for you.
- **Effective Communication:** Effective and professional communication is essential for success as an engineer, both written and oral. Take extra care when writing to use proper grammar, capitalization, and punctuation. Proper forms of address (Mr., Ms., Dr.) should be used unless given permission otherwise. Be careful of what you say or post in emails and social media such as Facebook. Profanity is never acceptable in any form. Always be fair and objective in your opinions.
- **Respect for Others:** Engineers have to interact with persons of different educational backgrounds, experience, job level, national origin, race, and gender. Respecting all, without pre-judgment or bias is essential to skillful interpersonal communications. Try not to judge by external appearances.
- **Accept Responsibility:** Accept responsibility for your own actions or lack thereof. Deliver what you promise within assigned deadlines.