Chemical engineering may at first conjure visions of test tubes and lab coats, but in reality, chemical engineering is all around you. It makes our fuels burn cleaner, our batteries last longer, drug therapies more easily deliverable, our water safe for drinking, and the fibers in our clothes more resistant to the washing machine. As a chemical engineer, you will know—at a molecular level—how raw materials become products and how we can innovate.

“The best part about my job is that each day is unpredictable and different, yet super exciting. I never know what I will have to tackle each day, but I know that I will work through it.”

Priyanka Sharma, BS ’11, PhD ’16
Co-CEO, Kazmira LLC

Learn, watch, experiment
Studying in the College of Engineering’s newest building has its advantages.

Knowing that chemical engineering concepts can be challenging to grasp at first, UIC designed a chemical engineering classroom to make things a whole lot clearer.

Our state-of-the-art Unit Operations Lab—where students can conduct all the foundational experiments that are relevant to chemical engineering—is located in our new Engineering Innovation Building and is connected to an adjacent classroom by a panoramic window. You’ll be able to learn the core principles of the field in the classroom, observe other students in the laboratory demonstrating key techniques, and then head into the lab to do it yourself.

Visit our Internships and Jobs and Student Profiles pages at che.uic.edu to learn more about current students and alumni.

CREATIVITY IN ACTION
For our annual senior design showcase, the UIC Engineering Expo, chemical engineering students have created:

- A plan for improving biodegradable plastic shopping bags made from corn
- Biodiesel fuel made from wood chips, a unique form of renewable waste
- Schematics for a zero-emissions power plant for hydrogen-fueled trains in Germany
- A method to convert excess carbon dioxide from Chinese cement production into methanol, an industrial chemical in demand in China

With a chemical engineering degree, you might:

- Improve processing techniques to increase the range of plant-based foods
- Develop plastics that are less detrimental to our environment
- Identify ways to make more materials recyclable
Chicago is where you will rise.