

STEM

Student Ambassador Spotlight

Sukanya Dasgupta

Civil Engineering
University of Memphis



Q How did you select your college major?

A At first, I was really indecisive. It took me a whole year of trying different classes to realize that this was the major I wanted to pursue. I decided on civil engineering because I discovered how much it's involved in day to day life and the heavy influence it has on everyone.

Q What was the biggest influence in your selection of major?

A My parents were my biggest influence, because they showed me how important it was to learn in school and how STEM fields have many opportunities for jobs.

Q If you could go back to high school and select any elective course to take that would have better prepared you for college, what would it be?

A I would have taken AP Chemistry because college chemistry in one semester is the whole school year in high school, so that would have really prepared me for the college class as well as gotten me credit.

Q What is your favorite aspect of your major?

A My favorite aspect of civil engineering is being able to do hands-on labs, where knowledge learned from class is used practically.

Q How does your major make a positive impact on society/our community?

A The great thing about civil engineering is that it is involved in everything around us, whether it's buildings, roads, or even streetlights.

Q What's the most interesting thing you have been able to do in your college career?

A When I was unsure of which engineering path I wanted to follow, I got a chance to be a mentor in the Girls Experiencing Engineering camp over the summer. This allowed me to work with middle and high school girls on small group engineering projects. I also met women engineers in the workforce that were very encouraging.

Q What makes you get up each morning excited about your major?

A Every day is a new adventure, and being able to learn and expand my knowledge in things is what keeps me going every day.

Q What advice would you share with K-12 students who are considering your major?

A Becoming an engineer is not going to be easy, and that is what makes it so rewarding. There will be road bumps along the way, but you must keep your head up and continue on the path. At the end of the journey, you will have more than just a piece of paper; you will have the skill set and knowledge of the hard work you put in to get there.

