

Terminology Guide

We know that the abbreviations and Cambridge-specific jargon can be a little bewildering at first so have compiled the following list as a guide. Please let the [Teaching Office](#) know if we have missed any important terms out.

Glossary of Cambridge-specific terminology

Demonstrator	A person (often a postdoc) who helps supervise labs and practical classes
Director of Studies	An academic (usually a College Fellow) who oversees an undergraduate's academic studies on behalf of the College
Easter Term	The third of three Terms in the academic year, between Easter and midsummer
Fellow	A senior member of the College, in an academic post, who is involved with College affairs
Lent Term	The second of three Terms in the academic year, between Christmas and Easter
Michaelmas Term	The first of three terms in the academic year, between October and Christmas
Part I	First and second years of the undergraduate degree programme
Part IA	First year of the undergraduate degree programme
Part IB	Second year of the undergraduate degree programme
Part IIA	Third year of the undergraduate degree programme
Part IIB	Fourth year of the undergraduate degree programme
Part II	Third and fourth years of the undergraduate degree programme
Tutor	An academic (usually a College Fellow) responsible for the pastoral care of students
Tripes	Undergraduate degree programmes at the University of Cambridge are known as Triposes
Supervision	This is the main form of teaching in College by Supervisors whose specialism is relevant to the area of study being taught. These are normally carried out individually or in small groups.

Commonly used abbreviations and acronyms

AV	Audio-visual
BA	Bachelor of Arts
CAD	Computer-aided design
CamCORS	Cambridge Colleges Online Reporting System for Supervisions
CAPE	Centre for Advanced Photonics and Electronics
CET	Chemical Engineering Tripos
COMET	Online module choice system for third and fourth year undergraduates
CUES	Cambridge University Engineering Society

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CUSU	Cambridge University Students' Union
DPO	Design and Project Office within the Department of Engineering
ECP	École Centrale Paris
IfM	Institute for Manufacturing within the Department of Engineering
LPE	Language Programme for Engineers
LU	Department of Engineering's Language Unit
MEng	Master of Engineering
MET	Manufacturing Engineering Tripos
MPhil	Master of Philosophy
NSS	National Student Survey
NUS	National University of Singapore
SSJC	Staff Student Joint Committee
VLE	Virtual Learning Environment (the Department uses Moodle as its VLE)

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