Freshman Advising

Advanced Credits: AP, IB, A-Level

First-Year Engineering Undeclared Program

Illinois Engineering First-year Experience (IEFX)

Typical First Semester Schedule

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Advanced Credits: AP, IB, A-Level

The Office of Admissions’ website has a listing of Early Credit students may bring:

1. AP: Advanced Placement
2. IB: International Baccalaureate
3. A-level: Advanced Level courses (international students)

AP, IB, A-Level Credits: Course Selection Strategy:

1. Credit in prerequisite courses: Are students ready for next course?
2. Students should be aware that having earned credit does not require them to advance to the next level.
3. If student does not have perfect scores:
   1. In prerequisite courses, less than perfect scores in AP, IB, or Advanced Levels may not be sufficient for next level of coursework. Discuss with students to determine their confidence and sense of accountability for college-level work.
   2. Students may take a proficiency exam to help them decide on whether to advance to the next level.

First-Year Engineering Undeclared Program

Approximately 100 incoming freshman join the First-Year Undeclared Engineering (FYEU) program each year. They are in the College of Engineering, but with no set major. These students spend the fall semester and part of the spring semester exploring engineering majors. By the beginning of March, students indicate their top three major choices and are assigned a home department in time for fall pre-registration. They officially join their new departments the fall semester of their second college year.

Program Components:

- Access to introductory courses in all engineering majors
- Designated sections of ENG 100 (Engineering Orientation) with trained student-instructors
- Required enrollment in a special ENG 101 (Engineering at Illinois) section to explore majors
- Opportunities to engage with engineering departments
- Opportunity to shadow fellow engineering students already in a major
- Major/minor fair to explore options and ask questions
- Encouraged to attend Engineering Career Services Career Fairs (fall and spring)
- Advising by College of Engineering staff, including a main FYEU advisor
- Streamlined, priority assignment process into their new home departments

In the past, approximately 90% of engineering undeclared freshman received their first-choice major. These students were guided in their course selections, so that they would be able to explore majors, yet not be behind in the major they would eventually declare. Grade-wise, to be assigned to their first-choice major, students are expected to perform comparably to students already in that major. Expectations for those interested in high-demand majors (e.g., bioengineering, mechanical engineering, computer science, and computer engineering) may be somewhat higher. While the Department of Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering is not administratively in the College of Engineering, we work with them to streamline the transfer process for undeclared students wishing to join that department.

Example fall semester course schedule with credit hours (varies based on majors of interest and AP credits):
- ENG 100 (0)
- ENG 101 (1)
- Math (3-4)
- Chemistry or Physics (4)
- Department-specific course (3-4)
- General Education course, free elective, or Rhet 105 (3-4)

Approximate TOTAL credit hours: 14-17

**Illinois Engineering First-year Experience (IEFX)**

The Illinois Engineering First-year Experience (IEFX) is an interdisciplinary program designed to enhance the learning experience of every first-year student in Illinois Engineering. For more information, visit [http://iefx.engineering.illinois.edu/](http://iefx.engineering.illinois.edu/)

**Typical First Semester Schedule**

Before registering, you will discuss appropriate fall courses with an advisor. Your first-semester schedule should consist of the courses below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hours</th>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Placement</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0</td>
<td>ENG 100 (Engineering Orientation)</td>
<td>THIS IS MANDATORY (Engr Undeclared students also take ENG 101)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0-2</td>
<td>Department Orientation / Introductory Course(*)</td>
<td>Department Intro courses</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4-5</td>
<td>Mathematics</td>
<td>Math placement</td>
<td>Want to retake the placement test? Try a refresher first. • ALEKS Learning Module • Khan Academy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Science</td>
<td>• Chemistry placement • Physics placement • MCB placement</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3-4</td>
<td>Composition and/or Department Intro course</td>
<td>• Composition placement • English Placement Test (EPT) (for international students)</td>
<td>Department Intro courses</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3-4</td>
<td>Foreign Language, Exploration course or liberal education</td>
<td>Foreign Language/LOTE placement</td>
<td>• General Education courses • Grand Challenge Learning courses</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1-3</td>
<td>Enrichment course / Freshman elective</td>
<td></td>
<td>• IEFX courses • Merit for Chem, Math, MCB, ECE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14-16 hrs (**)</td>
<td>(total)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(*) Students in majors without a designated Introductory course will take an additional General Education course.
(**) Remember that 15 hours credit feels like having a job and half (about 60 hours per week, studying, going to class, etc) for 99% of students.

**Departmental Intro Courses**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Major</th>
<th>FALL Course with ODD UIN</th>
<th>FALL Introductory Course(s)</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
Aerospace Engineering | AE 100 (1hr) | AE 100 Section: AD-Aircraft Design SD-Spacecraft Design
---|---|---
Agricultural and Biological Engineering | SE 101 (3hr) | ABE 100 (1hr)
Bioengineering | BIOE 100 (1hr) | Section 120 for non-BioE majors. Students should contact Bioengineering regarding transfer or minor.
Chemical Engineering | | Students interested in Chemical Engineering should take CHEM 202/203 and 204/205 in place of CHEM 102/103 and 104/105
Civil Engineering | SE 101 (3hr) | CEE 195 (1hr) CEE majors taking SE 101 should register for section AL1
Computer Science | | Take CS 125 as soon as possible. CS 103 or 105 are prep-courses (no graduation credit)
Electrical & Computer Engineering | ECE 110 (3hr) or ECE 120 (4hr) | |
Engineering Undeclared | Any gateway course | Any gateway course SE 101, section AL1 is reserved for Engineering Undeclared students.
Engineering Mechanics | ME 170 (3hr) | TAM 195 (1hr)
Engineering Physics | | PHYS 110 (0hr) PHYS 225 to be taken at the same time as PHYS 212.
Systems or Industrial Engineering | SE 101 (3hr) | SE 100 (0hr) ISE majors (SE and IE) with RHET 105 credit should petition to take SE 101 in the Fall semester. Lab monitors can contact ISE directly.
Materials Science and Engineering | | MSE 182 (2hr)
Mechanical Engineering | ME 170 (3hr) | |
Nuclear, Plasma and Radiological Engineering | | NPRE 100 (1hr)

**Useful Information**

- **Registration tips.** Common problems when registering and troubleshooting.
- **Proficiency exams** can give you credit for courses. If you think you know the material for a course, feel free to attempt the proficiency test - it's free. Just Google the test you want to take, e.g. “math proficiency uiuc” or “cs 125 proficiency uiuc.”
- **Suggested Sequence** (click on your major and scroll down) for second semester and beyond. **Always** consult an adviser before you register for classes!
- **Course Explorer** for Fall Courses.
- **College Resources in Engineering:** students talk about opportunities available to all engineering students (see Resource Map as well)

**Things to Do When you Come to Campus in the Fall**

- **What was I really given credit for? Am I missing anything? Do I need to adjust my schedule?** on the Friday before classes start, your New Student Hold will be taken off so you can adjust classes as necessary. A few days before the semester start, **generate YOUR degree progress report** (“u.achieve” is the Degree Audit Reporting System used at Illinois) to guide adjustments to make.
- **REQUIRED:** Come to IEFX Launch (Noon-2pm, Saturday before classes start)
• OPTIONAL: Come to campus **Quad Day** (Noon-4pm, Sunday before classes start)
• Online Advisees will need to get their **i-card** when coming in August (on-campus advised students can get i-card while here for summer registration). Simply visit the **university i-card center**.

Please contact the College of Engineering Undergraduate Programs Office at engineering@illinois.edu if you have questions.