Academic Enrichment [1]

Students may select Academic Enrichment as their Secondary Technical Core. Under this option, a student can complete 14 credit hours of electives from diverse areas of study that are used to support his/her personal or career goals.

In order to use courses towards Academic Enrichment, the student must submit an application for Academic Enrichment, which includes a Career Plan Statement. The application is reviewed by the Undergraduate Faculty Advisor, who approves Academic Enrichment coursework.

Applications for the approval of Academic Enrichment coursework must be submitted at least 12 months before graduation. If Academic Enrichment courses have been previously approved, requests for course substitutions can be submitted until the 12th class day of your last semester.

*New Due Dates*

Academic Enrichment applications will now be accepted during the following dates only:

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**Academic Enrichment Due Dates**

- **Summer 2017 Semester:** June 5th-August 1st
- **Fall 2017 Semester:** September 6th-December 1st
- **Spring 2018 Semester:** January 20th-May 1st

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Steps to Completing the Academic Enrichment Application

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**Step 1:** Make sure you have selected your technical cores to include Academic Enrichment. Review information and procedures about selecting technical cores [here](https://www.ece.utexas.edu).
Step 2: Research Academic Enrichment courses.

- Carefully review the guidelines below for Acceptable and Unacceptable coursework listed below.
- Check for pre-requisites - remember that you must meet all prerequisite and co-requisite requirements for the offering department.
- Research how to enroll in courses in other departments as a non-major. Departments have different processes and procedures for this.

*Need suggestions for courses outside of ECE? Review the links at the bottom of this page.

Step 3: Review the ABET Advising Worksheet. You will need to ensure that your coursework meets the minimum engineering credit hours for ABET accreditation. If you do not have the minimum 48 hours of engineering courses, you may need to add an additional engineering course to your Academic Enrichment plan.

[ABET Advising Worksheet.docx](#)

Step 4: Write your Career Plan Statement. Review the information below about writing a career plan statement. View the example and the prompts in order to help you write your statement.

Step 5: Complete the **Academic Enrichment Application**. Include your Career Plan Statement and list your courses for Academic Enrichment. This must be completed at least 12 months before graduation.

If you need to **update** courses to be used towards Academic Enrichment, these changes must be requested by resubmitting the Academic Enrichment application to include the updated courses. This must be completed no later than the 12th class day of your graduating semester.
Step 6: If you have selected Software Engineering Design as your primary technical core and Academic Enrichment as your secondary core, please review the following information.

- If the 464 design project is software only, then you must choose at least two of the following courses as electives: EE 316, EE 445L, and EE 445M.
- If the 464 design project involves a significant hardware component, then you must choose at least one of the following courses as electives: EE 316, EE 445L, and EE 445M.

*If unsure, please meet with your Software Engineering Faculty Mentor

To verify this information, you will need to submit the Software + AE worksheet to the ECE Undergraduate Advising Office during the semester that you are taking EE 364D.

Software + AE Worksheet [5]

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Acceptable Coursework

- At least 14 credit hours of coursework to include an advanced math/science course. Please only include enough courses to meet the minimum 14 credit hours requirement.
- No more than THREE credit hours of a lower division course.
- Courses must be taken for a grade - no pass/fail courses will count
- Courses must be taken in-residence. No transfer coursework. Courses taken via an approved study abroad program may count if approved and via exchange.
- Research done for course credit (EE X60 Special Problems courses; no more than one semester) may be eligible.
- Engineering Co-op (EE 325LX, 325LY, & 325LZ, or EE 225MA & 225MB; up to three credit hours).
- Approved Engineering Internship in Industry (EE 125S, up to three credit hours).
- Graduate coursework if taken for undergraduate credit; courses from the BSEE/MSE 5 year program CANNOT count towards AE and the MSE.
- Students simultaneously enrolled in a dual degree program may count eligible courses upon approval.
- Up to one course counting towards a minor can be used for AE upon approval (2014-2016 catalogs and earlier). At least nine of the hours required for a minor must include coursework not used to satisfy the requirements of the BSEE (2016-2018 catalog).

*Need suggestions for courses outside of ECE? Review the links at the bottom of this page.
Unacceptable Coursework

- Courses that cannot count toward a degree in the offering department according to the official undergraduate catalog (examples include, but are not limited to: PED, ROTC, and General Engineering supplemental instruction courses). **Elements of Computing or Business Foundations courses may not be counted** (including CS 324E, CS 327E, CS 329E)
- Courses that lack substantial rigor (examples include, but are not limited to: CH 301, CH 304K, CH 305K, and INF 312). Also includes courses that apply to personal growth and do not apply to specific careers in ECE (like courses in PED and HDF).
- Courses that duplicate required course content. Examples include, but are not limited to: SDS 322 (because of overlap with EE 312); EDP 371 Introduction to Statistics, M 362K, and SDS 321 (because they overlap with EE 351K). If students wish more probability and statistics, they should consider classes like SDS 323 and SDS 378.

The guidelines for AE change, meaning that classes that were approved in the past for other students may no longer be eligible to be used in some instances. However, once a class is approved towards your AE contract we will not revoke approval even if the guidelines change prior to your graduation.

Writing Your Career Plan Statement

The Career Plan Statement serves two purposes. First, writing out your plan assists you in selecting appropriate elective courses and designing a plan that is right for you. Second, you will present this statement to the Undergraduate Faculty Advisor for approval on your Academic Enrichment application. Therefore, you should think carefully about your personal and career goals and choose courses that appropriately support those goals.

In your statement, please address the following:

- **Your field(s) of interest.** What elective courses are you interested in taking? Please provide specific course numbers and titles.
- **Your goals after graduation.** For instance, do you plan on working in industry? Will you attend graduate school? If so, what type of degree will you pursue? Are you thinking about entering an MBA program, medical school, or law school? These are just some of the examples. Please explain what your goals are.
- **Discuss how your Academic Enrichment elective courses support these goals.** Why have you chosen these particular courses? How will each of them prepare you for achieving your goals?
- **If applicable, please explain how your Academic Enrichment elective courses support your primary technical core.** It is not required that the courses taken in the Academic Enrichment technical core support the primary technical core.

Non-EE Course Suggestions
Please note that the courses listed in the links below are not guaranteed to be approved for Academic Enrichment. They are provided in order to give you ideas to use in preparing your application for Academic Enrichment. To register for non-EE courses, please contact those departments for instructions on how to register for courses as a non-major.

McCombs School of Business [7]

Moody College of Communication [8]

College of Liberal Arts [9] *Many courses in individual departments are open to non-majors

School of Information [10]

Bridging Disciplines Programs [11] *Some courses may count towards AE if they are offered for majors in that department.