Academic Enrichment [1]

Students may declare 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.

Before officially enrolling in these courses, the student must submit an application for Academic Enrichment, which includes a Career Plan Statement (see information below about how to write a Career Plan Statement). The application and Career Plan Statement are reviewed by the Undergraduate Faculty Advisor, who must approve your Academic Enrichment courses.

Academic Enrichment cannot be declared your last semester. You must submit your application and Career Plan Statement at least 12 months before graduation. AE Course Substitutions can be submitted until your last semester, though courses must be approved before you enroll.

AE is now 100% ONLINE!

Academic Enrichment Application + Career Plan Statement [2]
(Initial application - student has not completed ANY AE forms in the past)

Submit your Academic Enrichment Course Substitutions [3]
(Student’s AE application has been approved but now needs to change course[s])

***Note: Prior to completing your Academic Enrichment Application or Course Substitution forms, please complete the following 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.

[4]

Acceptable Coursework

- At least 14 credit hours of coursework to include an advanced math/science course.
- 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), an offer letter or other official summary of duties must be provided for AE approval.
• Approved Engineering Internship in Industry (EE 125S, up to three credit hours), an offer letter or other official summary of duties must be provided for AE approval.
• 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.

Unacceptable Coursework

• Courses that cannot count toward a degree at UT Austin or towards the BSEE degree via the official undergraduate catalog (courses include, but are not limited to: PED, RTOC, computer science foundations, and General Engineering supplemental instruction courses). Any certificate courses such as Elements of Computing Program courses may not be counted (including CS324E, CS327E, CS329E).
• Courses that lack substantial rigor. Examples of courses include but not limited to CH 301, 304K or 305K INF 312 EDP 363 (any of these classes).
• 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 EDP371 Introduction to Statistics, M362K, and SDS321, because they overlap with EE351K. If students wish more probability and statistics, they should consider classes like SDS323 and SDS378. SDS322 cannot be used because of the overlap with EE312.

The guidelines for AE do change, so the fact that some prior students were allowed to use a class does not constitute rationale for you to be able to count it. However, once we approve a class, then we will not revoke approval even if we change the guidelines prior to your graduation.

Additional Procedures for Software Engineering & Design Students

• If the EE 464 (Senior Design) project is software only, then the electives they choose must include at least two of EE 316, EE 445L, and EE 445M.
• If the EE 464 project involves a significant hardware component, then the electives they choose must include at least one of EE 316, EE 445L, and EE 445M.

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

Writing Your Career Plan Statement

Example of Academic Enrichment Career Plan Statement [5]

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. Therefore, you should think carefully about your personal and career goals and choose courses that appropriately support those goals. If your Career Plan Statement is not accepted this is NOT a
rejection for Academic Enrichment; you must RESUBMIT a new Career Plan Statement addressing the issues not accepted in the previous statement and any new courses suggested by the Undergraduate Faculty Advisor.

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.

***IMPORTANT REMINDERS***

- Carefully read over the information on this page. If you have any questions, please contact Melissa Sellars, Undergraduate Advisor, at msellars@austin.utexas.edu [6].
- Declare your Technical Cores prior to submitting your Academic Enrichment Application. Click here [7] for information on submitting your Technical Core selections.
- Research and select appropriate Academic Enrichment courses. Check for pre-requisites - remember that you must meet all prerequisite/co-requisite requirements for your Academic Enrichment courses.
- Submit your Academic Enrichment Application and Career Plan Statement ONLINE [2].
- Once your proposed Academic Enrichment courses are approved by the Undergraduate Faculty Advisor, you will receive a Secure Academic Note (SAN) asking you to confirm your Academic Enrichment Contract.
- If you wish to make changes to your Contract, please submit an Academic Enrichment Course Substitution Form ONLINE [3]. Any changes must be approved BEFORE you begin taking non-approved courses. These new courses must still conform to your original Career Plan Statement or be accompanied by a statement addressing why you are changing courses.
- You must make your own arrangements to register for courses offered in other departments. We cannot guarantee your admission to courses offered by other departments.