Academic Enrichment (AE)/Free Electives

What is it?
- 14 credit hours of courses; only 3 lower division
- It’s flexible, YOU pick your courses
- Courses can be from ECE or other departments
- Requires an advanced math/basic science course
  ❖ Visit our ECE website for more details

How does it work?
1. Review the Course Database for pre-approved courses to count toward AE / Free Electives (on ECE website)
2. Once you decide on your courses from the Course Database, submit your courses via a Qualtrics survey. Afterwards, an ECE advisor will update your degree audit.
3. Want to take a course that’s NOT listed on the Database? Student can petition a course- but you have to upload a link to the most recent course syllabus. You can petition via the same Qualtrics survey.

Reminders:
- Only 3 hours can be lower division
- NO Pass/Fail courses accepted (except EE 125S)
- Career Plan statements are not required
- When submitting the survey, include the course number and name. Example: M 325K – Discrete Math

Tips for Petitioning Courses

Courses must count towards a degree in the offering department.
- For example, ITD courses are not accepted because there is no ITD undergrad degree.

Courses for non-majors are not accepted.
For example, Sculpture for non-majors is not accepted because it doesn’t count towards an Art degree.

For more on the Course Database & a link to the Qualtrics Survey, please visit our website:
https://www.ece.utexas.edu/undergraduate/academic-enrichment
**Acceptable**

- Courses taken for a letter grade.
- Courses taken in-residence.
- Courses taken via a study abroad program if pre-approved.
- Courses completed as part of a dual degree.
- EE 109K Enhancing Academic Success or First-Year Design (taken for a letter grade).
- Research done for course credit (EE X60 Special Problems course, no more than one semester; ES 321 or ES 322 GLUE Undergraduate Research, up to two semesters).
- 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). Paperwork is due before the internship begins.
- Service Learning for Engineers (ES 160, ES 260, ES 360, up to two semesters)
- ES 277K and ES 377K, up to two semesters
- Graduate coursework if taken for undergraduate credit.
- Courses taken for a minor:
  - ✓ Up to one course from the minor (14-16 catalogs and earlier).
  - ✓ Multiple courses from the minor, as long as at least 9 hours of the minor are NOT used towards BSEE requirements (16-18 catalog).
- Courses taken for a certificate. At least 1 certificate course must be outside the requirements of the BSEE degree.

**Unacceptable**

- Lower-division courses (only 3 credit hours allowed).
- University Extension courses
- Pass-Fail Courses
  - ✓ Exception: EE 125S
- Transfer coursework
  - ✓ Exception: 18-20 Catalog is allowed 3 hours of transfer credit
- Courses that do not count toward a degree in the offering department.
  - Examples:
    - General Engineering courses
    - Elements of Computing courses
    - Business Foundations courses
    - Information Studies (INF) courses
    - Integrated Design (ITD) courses
- AP credits
- ES 107S or ES 119 “Bites” courses
- Courses from the BSEE/MSE integrated program CANNOT count towards AE and the MSE.
- Courses that lack substantial rigor.
  - Examples:
    - CH 301, CH 304K, CH 305K, INF 312
- Courses that apply to personal growth and do not apply to specific careers.
  - Examples:
    - PED, ROTC, HDF courses
- Courses that duplicate required course content.
  - Examples:
    - SDS 322 (overlaps with EE 312)
    - EDP 371, M 362K, and SDS 321 (overlap with EE 351K)