

Frequently Asked Questions

Study abroad, transfers, co-ops, and internships

Should I co-op? How do I get a co-op?

Students are strongly encouraged to participate in the co-op program. The experience you receive helps you in the classroom, and gives you a big advantage when you are interviewing for permanent jobs. Contact the Engineering Career Service office, M1002 Engineering Centers Building.

What if I take classes at another university or college? Can I transfer the credits?

It depends. See <https://www.wisconsin.edu/transfer/> for more information. Students considering a semester abroad should contact Professor Root (twroot@wisc.edu), who advises students for overseas studies and course transfers. Never take a course first and simply assume that it will be approved for degree transfer. It is always best to get approval first.

Grade requirements, courses, and regulations

Are there any unique grade requirements for CBE students?

All CBE students **MUST** get a minimum grade of C in CBE 250, and CBE 320. If you get a D or and F in one of these classes, you need to retake it; generally, you should retake the class before moving further in the curriculum. You should discuss retaking classes with your advisor. All students are subject to the College requirements regarding GPA and PCR required for graduation. Refer to the College of Engineering website (<http://www.engr.wisc.edu/current/coe-egr-homepage.html>).

Can I substitute courses?

Sometimes, but you *always* need your advisor's approval first. Pick up a copy of the Course Substitution Form from Dr. Greenberg's office, 3035 Engineering Hall, (also available online) think about why the course substitution makes sense for educational and career reasons, and then meet with your advisor to discuss your reasons for wanting to substitute a course. *Never* take a course first and simply assume that your advisor will later approve the substitution! Even if your friend was able to substitute a course, you may not be able to, because of differing circumstances. Substitutions must be approved before the beginning of the semester in which the course is taken, and at least two semesters before your anticipated graduation date.

Can I take fewer than 12 credits?

If it is your last semester on campus and you need fewer than 12 credits to fulfill all graduation requirements, you can request permission to register for fewer than 12 credits. Many students like to do this because they are busy interviewing for jobs or visiting graduate schools during their last semester. You **MUST** obtain permission

by filling out the request form in the Student Center at MyUW. You should do this no later than the first 2 weeks of the semester. There are a few other situations where you will be allowed to drop below 12 credits; contact the dean's office.

Which mathematics elective should I take, Math 319 or 320?

Math 320 is preferred over Math 319, but either choice satisfies the math elective requirement.

I cannot fit Chem 329 into my schedule. Is Chem 327 OK?

No, Chem 327 is not an allowable substitution for Chem 329.

Are there courses outside of CBE that can be taken as CBE electives?

Yes, there are numerous courses that students can take as CBE electives. Some popular choices are ME 417, ME 418, and BSE 642. You must have your advisor's approval for course substitutions. You should get approval BEFORE taking the class.

Do the courses I take for my liberal studies concentration need to all be from the same department?

The two courses for the "concentration requirement" must come from the same department. Substituting two liberal studies courses from different departments requires permission from your advisor, and is subject to the normal substitution rules (see above).

What are the most popular ethnic studies courses?

Some of the top choices in the last few years are: (1) Sociology 134, (2) Anthro 104, (3) Folk Lore 210, (4) Folk Lore 230, and (5) Folk Lore 329.

Can Stat 224 or 301 substitute for Stat 324?

No. However, with advisor approval, you may substitute Stat 311 for Stat 324.

How do I sign up to take courses Pass/Fail?

Students can request the Pass/Fail option for *free electives* via the Student Center at MyUW. Only free electives and courses that will not fulfill any degree requirements may be taken pass/fail.