

Information for MABE Undergraduate Students

Advising

Any MABE student who is on Academic Probation must meet with the Associate Department Head each semester to be cleared for preregistration for the following semester.

Any engineering student who has earned fewer than 30 hours at UTK must meet be advised every semester. Engineering Advising Services, in 202 Estabrook, will advise the student until he/she is released to the MABE department. Thereafter, the student must meet each semester with an advisor in the MABE department until 30 hours have been earned at UTK.

After a student has earned 30 hours at UTK and is no longer on Academic Probation, he/she is required to meet with an advisor once an academic year. (Every MABE student is strongly encouraged to visit an academic advisor at least once a semester to discuss the student's progress and to resolve any questions the student may have regarding the student's program.) A student's required advising term is determined by the last digit of the student ID number:

Even number: Advised in Fall for Spring
(A last digit of zero is considered an even number.)

Odd number: Advised in Spring for Fall

The process for a required advising session is described in the flow chart on the following page. Note that most of the process is to be completed BEFORE meeting with an advisor. Without a completed Advising Record Form, an updated Plan of Study and a current DARS report, you will not be able to complete a required advising session.

Catalogue

All curricular requirements are given in the Undergraduate Catalogue, which is here:

<http://diglib.lib.utk.edu/dlc/catalog/index.html>

You must satisfy all degree requirements (including those for any minor that you may wish to receive) from a single year's catalogue. You may select any catalogue that is in effect while you are enrolled at UT, except that you may not use a catalogue that is more than six years old at the time of your graduation.

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DARS Report

Every MABE student is strongly encouraged to generate a DARS report at least once each semester. (Unless you have a reason to print it, you could simply view it online or save it to your computer.) Because DARS is a computer program continuously maintained and updated by the Registrar's staff, programming errors sometimes occur. Since the Registrar's staff will use your DARS report to determine whether you may graduate, it is in your best interest to monitor your DARS report and promptly report any errors to an advisor. You can generate a current DARS report here:

<https://darsweb.utk.edu/>

Be sure to specify your chosen catalogue year.

Departmental Electives

Any course numbered 300 or above in Aerospace Engineering, Biomedical Engineering or Mechanical Engineering may be used as a departmental elective, except that the course may not also be used to fulfill another requirement for the degree.

General Education Requirement (GER)

At the web page for your catalogue, click on **General Education Requirements** to find courses that meet requirements for Arts and Humanities, Social Sciences, etc. Some specific GER courses are required for the BSAE, BSBME and BSME degrees. The others are electives that must be chosen from the lists of approved courses in the catalogue. The table below summarizes the required and elective courses.

| Requirement | Courses |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| A. I. Communicating through Writing | English 101, 102 Philosophy 241 |
| A. II. Communicating Orally | AE/BME/ME 410 |
| A. III. Quantitative Reasoning | Mathematics 141, 142 |
| B. I. Natural Sciences | Chemistry 120 Physics 231 |
| B. II. Arts and Humanities | Philosophy 241 Select ONE other from approved list. |
| B. III. Social Sciences | Economics 201 Select ONE other from approved list. |
| B. IV. Cultures and Civilizations | Select TWO from approved list. |

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Preregistration Date

A student's preregistration date is based on the number of credit hours earned towards graduation at UT. For example, seniors will have an earlier preregistration date than sophomores. Your preregistration date will be listed at CPO once the timetable for the coming semester is posted on the web.

Prerequisite Waivers

Except in unusual circumstances, you may not take a course unless you have completed all prerequisite courses and are either taking or have completed all corequisite courses. (See below for information about prerequisites and corequisites.) To gain approval for taking a course without having a prerequisite or corequisite, you must submit the form found here:

http://www.engr.utk.edu/mabe/forms/pre_corequisite_waiver.pdf

On the form, the advisor's signature indicates that he/she has determined that denial of the waiver will delay your graduation. (If taking the courses in the normal order will not delay your graduation, a waiver will not be granted.) The instructor's signature indicates that the instructor will permit you to take the course without the missing prerequisite or corequisite. (If the instructor does not think you should take the course without the missing prerequisite or corequisite, he/she will not sign the form and the waiver will not be granted.) The form also requires signatures from the Program Coordinator (AE, BME or ME) and the Department Head.

Prerequisites

At the web page for your catalogue, click on **Courses of Instruction** to find prerequisites for courses. Courses are listed alphabetically by academic discipline. Prerequisites listed immediately following the code (RE) are enforced by the Registrar. (If you do not have these prerequisites, the online system may not allow you to register for the course.) Prerequisites following the code (DE) are departmentally enforced. If you do not have these prerequisites, the online system will allow you to register for the course, but the department may drop you from the course.

Prerequisites for courses in the Aerospace Engineering, Biomedical Engineering and Mechanical Engineering curricula are also shown in the flowcharts found here:

<http://www.engr.utk.edu/mabe/up-me-curricula.html>

<http://www.engr.utk.edu/mabe/up-be-curricula.html>

<http://www.engr.utk.edu/mabe/up-ae-curricula.html>

Note: If there is a discrepancy between the flowcharts and the Undergraduate Catalogue, the catalogue takes precedence.

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Professional Engineer (PE) Licensure

There is no way to know now if you'll ever need a PE license. Certain jobs require it. State law requires it before you can advertise your services as an engineer. There are three steps to getting a PE license: pass the Fundamentals of Engineering (FE) exam, work for four years, pass the PE exam. To help you on this path, we require you to take EF 402, which prepares you for the FE exam. Although you must pass EF 402, taking the FE exam is not a graduation requirement. However, there is no time in your life when it will be easier to pass the FE exam than when you are a senior in college. The exam covers fundamentals (statics, dynamics, strength of materials, etc.) Because no job requires you to use all of those, you will forget much of it in the years after college. Hence, preparing for the exam several years after college could be very difficult. (Think about having a full-time job, and perhaps a family, and then finding time to review the fundamentals on your own. And after passing the FE exam, you would then have to prepare for the PE exam. People who have to do that sincerely regret not having taken the FE exam in college.) The fee for the exam and the time to take it will be the same whether you take the exam as a senior or ten years later. But the preparation time will be significantly different. Conclusion: You should take the exam during the semester that you take EF 402.

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Technical Electives

DARS will not recognize a course as a technical elective until you obtain departmental approval by filing one of these forms:

http://www.engr.utk.edu/advising/pdfs/engr_petition_form_09.pdf

To be approved as a technical elective, a course must be in mathematics, a natural science or engineering and be numbered 300 or above. But not all such courses are acceptable. For example, a course for which the only prerequisite is "senior standing" will probably not be approved. (If it does not even require a freshman course in math, science or engineering, how technical can it be?)

Free advice: Browse the course descriptions in the Undergraduate Catalogue to find a few courses that meet the criteria given above and that you would like to take as your technical elective. Show your list to an advisor to see which courses on your list would be acceptable. (If your advisor is not sure whether a course is acceptable, he/she should contact the Associate Department Head, who has sole authority to approve technical electives.) Have your list of acceptable courses with you when you register. When you see that one of them fits your schedule, you can register for it and be assured that it will be approved when you submit the form mentioned above.