

1. REQUIREMENTS FOR ADMISSION TO THE COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING (COE)

Intent – to modify the requirements for admission to the COE; specifically, to add the requirement of a minimum grade of “C-“ in specified required courses.

RATIONALE FOR PROPOSED CHANGE:

Main issues are:

- Instances of inadequate demonstration of the required necessary minimum skills in foundational supporting courses (MTH and PHY) before advancing through the engineering curricula.
- The need for the stronger development of these fundamental skills by students *early* in their engineering curricula.
- To address this several departments have already implemented prerequisites in sophomore and junior courses that require a specific average in a group of key supporting courses (i.e. MTH and PHY), some of which will no longer be needed with this change.

The goal of adding the “C-“ in each course to the existing “2.00 [“C”] average” in the group of required core courses is to better ensure that student’s have adequately mastered minimum fundamental required skills necessary to advance through the curriculum and to acquire them early.

As necessary, students would retake course(s) to earn the required grade(s), as they do now to meet the existing language for admission to the COE. The students would retake the course(s) early (perhaps using the second grade option) rather than later.

[Note: Students are admitted to the COE, not to any specific degree program; therefore, the language (both existing and proposed) applies to all students who wish to pursue an engineering degree in the COE and its modification is a college-wide decision.]

EXISTING LANGUAGE: “To be admitted to the COE, students must not only complete at least 24 credits (including transfer credits) with a grade point average of 2.00 or better, they must also have completed 20 credits from the following list of required courses with a grade point average of 2.00 or better: MTH 141, MTH 142, CHM 101/102, PHY 203/273, EGR 105, EGR 106, and either PHY 204/274 or CHM 112/114.”

PROPOSED LANGUAGE (FOR AY 2014-2015 CATALOG): “To be admitted to the COE, students must complete at least 24 credits (including transfer credits) with a grade point average of 2.00 or better, and must also complete the following required courses with a grade point average of 2.00 or better **and a grade of “C-“ or better in each course:** MTH 141, MTH 142, CHM 101/102, PHY 203/273, EGR 105, EGR 106, and either PHY 204/274 or CHM 112/114.”

2. WANTING ENGINEERING (WEGR) VERSUS UC ENGINEERING [*FOR CONSISTENCY WITH ITEM 1*]

Intent – to modify the requirements for changing from WEGR to UC Engineering; specifically, to add the requirement of a minimum grade of “C-“ in the required courses.

RATIONALE FOR PROPOSED CHANGE:

For consistency in COE requirements, the proposed language follows that for admission to the COE in determining a student’s eligibility to be given an engineering major.

Note:

- *The COE Dean’s Office regularly evaluates the progress of all WEGR students and determines their eligibility to be given an engineering major code.*
- *WEGR is not a degree code; therefore, a student must have a major code and then be admitted to a degree granting college to graduate.*

EXISTING LANGUAGE: “*To become an engineering major, Wanting Engineering students must have an overall grade point average of 2.50 or better, and complete (including transfer credits) the following required courses with a grade point average of 2.00 or better: MTH 141, CHM 101, 102, PHY 203, 273, EGR 105.*”

PROPOSED LANGUAGE (FOR AY 2014-2015 CATALOG): “*To become an engineering major, Wanting Engineering students must have an overall grade point average of 2.00 or better, and complete (including transfer credits) the following required courses with a grade point average of 2.00 or better and a grade of “C-“ or better in each course: MTH 141, CHM 101, 102, PHY 203, 273, and EGR 105.*”

3. LIMITATIONS ON COE COURSE ENROLLMENT: 300-LEVEL ENGINEERING COURSES

Intent – to limit enrollment in college courses to stop students from staying in UC until close to graduation.

RATIONALE FOR PROPOSED CHANGE:

Main issues are:

- Students still in University College (UC) have been allowed to continue taking upper level engineering courses even though they have not met the COE admission requirements. These students typically put off a required fundamental course or two (i.e. CHM 101, 102; EGR 105; PHY 203, 273, 204, 274) for various reasons.
- Students are not allowed to remain in UC after completing 75 credits of coursework (*UC only allows continuations on a case-by-case basis after consultation with the COE*). Once 75 credits are completed, the student must be admitted to some degree-granting college on campus. However, other colleges *refuse* to take an engineering student knowing that they will continue to pursue their engineering degree (i.e. by the courses they take), eventually apply for admission to the COE once they meet the requirements, and then graduate from the COE instead of their college.

EXISTING LANGUAGE: *None.*

[Note: Similar restrictions historically were in place in the COE, requiring either “junior standing” or “senior standing” as the requirement to take 300-level and above courses; however, this requirement is based on earned credits only and did not consider adequate preparation in required fundamental courses. ECBE had a similar restriction in place approximately 5 years ago. This requirement already exists in other colleges and programs on campus.]

PROPOSED LANGUAGE (FOR AY 2014-2015 CATALOG):

“Enrollment in 300-level and above College of Engineering courses is restricted to students who have been admitted to a degree granting college.”

4. LIMITATIONS ON COE COURSE ENROLLMENT: 200-LEVEL ENGINEERING COURSES

Intent – to control enrollment in 200-level engineering courses from the perspective of workload management.

RATIONALE FOR PROPOSED CHANGE:

Main issues are:

- Recently, Wanting Engineering (WEGR) students have become a larger share of our sophomore course enrollments, taxing our limited human resources.
- WEGR students often lack the required necessary minimum skills in foundational supporting courses (MTH and PHY) needed for the engineering curricula in the sophomore year.

[Note: The COE Dean's Office regularly evaluates the progress of all WEGR students and determines their eligibility to be given an engineering major code.]

EXCEPTION PERMISSION: To allow for ***non-engineering*** students to take COE courses (*i.e. as in pursuing a minor*), the proposed language allows the department chair where the course is offered to review each student on a case-by-case basis, granting permission to enroll in the course(s) if the student is eligible (*i.e. they meet the required prerequisite(s)/co-requisite(s)*).

The chair is responsible for the degree program(s) in their department; therefore, it is their responsibility to ensure compliance when making any exceptions to this requirement (*exclusive of any WEGR student*). The chair, in consultation with the instructor, would also be the individual providing consistency in allowing any exceptions.

The permission clause in the proposed language requires that each individual student exception be fully reviewed by the department chair, and that it be documented in writing in the student's file and contact logs.

If the chair is not the one granting this exception (*i.e. after consultation with the instructor, the chair delegates the decision to instructor*) after careful review of the student's record, then the responsibility will fall upon the individual instructor to do so, including documenting the exception in writing in the student's file and also contact logs.

EXISTING LANGUAGE: *None.*

PROPOSED LANGUAGE (FOR AY 2014-2015 CATALOG):

"Enrollment in 200-level College of Engineering courses is restricted to engineering majors. Exceptions can be made by permission of the department chair."