Zachry Department of Civil Engineering

Pre-registration Briefing for Summer, Fall 2015

This presentation can be found at
http://Lowery.tamu.edu/a

Texas A&M University
College Station, Texas
Zachry Student Advising and Services Center, Undergraduate Office (Room 140 CE Bldg)

- Dr. Kelly Brumbelow, Assistant Department Head (Room 140)
- Mr. Richard Bartoskewitz, Senior Acad Advisor (Room 139b)
- Mr. Charles Donaway, Academic Advisor (CE Room 139d)
- Dr. Lee Lowery, Academic Advisor (CE Room 139c)
- Ms. D’Anne Crain, Administrative Coordinator (CE Room 140)
- Ms. Crystal Faust, Administrative Assistant (CE Room 140)
The pre-registration process

Attend this meeting. Good job!

- If you didn’t bring yours, pick up a Curriculum Planning Worksheet from the front of the room.
- You can find an extensive list of useful information including a copy of this presentation, what catalog you are in, a list and flowchart of your required classes, how to run and interpret a degree evaluation, how to get your Howdy Degree Planner worked out, what technical electives you have to take, a list of all courses and their prerequisites, who your advisor is and how to contact them, etc. at:

http://lowery.tamu.edu/preregistration
<table>
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<th>*Pre/Co-requisites</th>
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<td>CE 221</td>
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<td>CE 311</td>
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<td>CE 451</td>
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<td>CE 301 &amp; 339</td>
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Comments:

Advisor Approval: ___________________________ Date: ___________________________

After approval by your advisor, turn in form to Room 140 CE.

* Prerequisites and co-requisites must be listed for each course. See Catalog.tamu.edu
The pre-registration process

- Students who entered before Fall 2013 do **NOT** need to fill in the Howdy Degree Planner (HDP). Although it is very helpful in planning your required courses, it is not required. We will continue to advise you as before. Just use the attached Curriculum Planning Worksheet (CPW).

- Students who entered Fall 2013 or later **MUST** use the HDP on Howdy. Specifically, you must have an approved Degree Plan before they will unblock you for pre-registration in Fall 2014. After that, you must have your plan re-approved upon reaching 30, 60, and 90 credit-hours to avoid similar blocks. See [http://Lowery.tamu.edu/DegreePlanner](http://Lowery.tamu.edu/DegreePlanner) for instructions.
The Pre-registration Process (continuing)

Everyone should plan the next year of classes no matter which form you use. Planning beyond the next year is not required. It’s exactly the same process for both forms – just one is on paper, one is online.

If you filled out the HDP and it approves it when you submit it, you are good to go. It is likely that when you submitted it, we saw it and approved it. Check and see. If not, contact an advisor in Student Services, CE Room 139 and ask them to approve it. You do not have to enter all of your classes through graduation, just those through the next two semesters, although you can add more semesters if you like.

The Degree Planner won’t accept some courses like MEEN 221 (a substitute for CVEN 221) until you are moved to Upper Division C.E. Go ahead and submit it, and it will email it to us for approval.

Print it out so you can take it to your advisor.
The Pre-registration Process (continuing)

- Verify that you have all course prerequisites from the current catalog, and take your courses *in proper sequence*. You can see what they are at http://Lowery.tamu.edu/advising/Courses/RequiredClasses/

- Make an appointment with your faculty advisor (check for a sign-up sheet on their office door. Lowery and Bartoskewitz – walk in. Lowery office hours at http://lowery.tamu.edu/officehours.)

- Show up at your advisor’s office on time with a completed flowchart, a Curriculum Planning Worksheet (CPW) or Howdy Degree Planner (HDP), and a Degree Evaluation.

- Get your advisor to **approve** and **sign** your CPW/HDP.
The pre-registration process (continuing)

- If you don’t know who your advisor is, sign on to eCampus and look under “My Organizations”, “CVEN Information”. If not listed there call 979-845-7436 and ask for help.
- Take your advisor-signed CPW or HDP to D’Anne or Crystal in CE 140 to be unblocked.
- They will check for blocks and verify your correct local address and email address.
- Your TAMU e-mail account is your official contact point with the University. Forward any mail sent there to your preferred email account!
- Your general preregistration start date is posted at http://registrar.tamu.edu/Current/RegSchedules.aspx
- Your specific preregistration start date and time will be emailed to your Gmail account.
- Pre-register as approved by your advisor.
Registration Issues

- After registration, at the end of the semester, should you get a D or F in one of your classes where a C or better is required, you must re-evaluate your plans. Don’t just go ahead and take classes for which you don’t have the pre-requisites.

- Take your 3xx classes EARLY. If you wait until your senior year to take them you may find it difficult to avoid conflicts with your 4xx classes and be unable to graduate on time. Do not try to take both 365 and 400 your last semester.
Registration Issues

All students should get a degree evaluation from http://howdy.tamu.edu. It will tell you exactly which courses you should be taking to get a degree in Civil Engineering.

How to get a degree evaluation:

See http://Lowery.tamu.edu/advising/Audit

You should run a degree evaluation REGULARLY, at least twice a semester, and especially at critical times, such as before and after registration, after Q-dropping classes, etc.
Tips on interpreting your degree evaluation:

A degree evaluation shows what courses you still need to graduate, coursework which you have completed towards your degree, and courses which you have taken but which are not part of your degree plan. Sometimes a course which you have completed is shown in error as not being used in your degree. Don't panic. Check with D’Anne or Crystal. For information, see:

http://Lowery.tamu.edu/advising/audit/interpretationofaudit.htm
Lower Division Students (CVEL)

CVEL students cannot take engineering courses (CVEN, MEEN, etc.) numbered 200 or higher (except CVEN 207) until they have advanced to upper division status (CVEN.) They CAN take any classes to the left and below the solid line shown on the flow chart on page 5.

Acceptable courses include upper level math courses, political science, history, social & behavioral science, visual & performing arts, ethics, technical writing, KINE, statistics, and CVEN 207, anything to the left and below the solid line on your flow chart.
Lower Division Students (CVEL)

If you are listed as CVEL but are reasonably sure you will be moved to CVEN, you can go to

http://lowery.tamu.edu/movetoupper/

and fill in the request to be moved to upper.

CVEL STUDENTS WILL BE DROPPED FROM UPPER LEVEL COURSES.
Lower Division Students (CVEL)

- If you are listed as CVEL and expect to complete the requirements for CVEN status by transferring courses from other institutions, have them transfer your credit to A&M to prevent delays in being advanced to upper level.
- If an instructor in an upper division engineering course identifies you as a lower division student and not eligible for their course, and you think you are, come to the Student Services Office for advice.
- Unless special arrangements can be made, you must drop the course prior to the “drop” deadline. You can add replacement courses until the “add” deadline. These deadlines are listed at the university academic calendar at [http://registrar.tamu.edu/General/Calendar.aspx](http://registrar.tamu.edu/General/Calendar.aspx)
Other Policies:

- All math, science and engineering prefix courses require a C or better. D is passing in engineering ethics, technical writing, POLS, HIST, SBS, VPA, and KINE taken for a grade. If you take KINE as S/U, a D is Unsatisfactory and you will have to retake it.

- CVEN requires a 2.00 in-major GPR using ALL grades made in ALL CVEN and ENGR courses taken. D’s and F’s are included in this calculation, as well as in BAEN 320/MEEN 315/ECEN 215.
Other Policies:

You should take your courses in the order in which they appear on the flow charts. In particular you should take technical writing early, and CVEN 400 or other capstone design class your last semester.

ENGL 203/241 will no longer substitute for ENGL 210 for those who entered A&M no later than Fall 2013.

Howdy will now enforce pre-requisite requirements for almost all CVEN courses. Please emphasize to students that they must properly plan their courses in sequence. Also, be prepared for questions about PRE-requisites versus CO-requisites. Based on past experience, the Howdy programmers sometimes get CO-requisites wrong and code them as PRE-requisites. If this has happened and a student should otherwise be ok to take a class, send her/him to the Undergrad Office and we will take care of the issue.
Other Policies:

- PHIL 482/ENGR 482 is an in-major writing intensive class. Your degree requirements include taking two in-major writing classes. The Texas Tech version of engineering ethics does not include an approved writing component so you will have to take an additional writing class if you don’t take ethics at A&M. Your second writing class will be satisfied when you take the required CVEN 424 class.

- For 15 hour rule information see [http://lowery.tamu.edu/advising](http://lowery.tamu.edu/advising) section 10.J

- If you took a class from another university, do not have them send your transcript to us. Have them send it to:
  - TAMU Department of Admissions
  - PO Box 40003
  - College Station, TX 77842-4003
Other Policies:

- The following changes are now in effect:
- 1) Students will be granted the lesser of four Q-drops for coursework taken at Texas A&M University or a total of 6 drops for undergraduate coursework taken at any state-funded institution of higher education in Texas.
- 2) The Q-drop deadline has been extended from the 50th class day to the 60th class day during the fall and spring semesters. See [http://registrar.tamu.edu/Current/RegSchedules.aspx](http://registrar.tamu.edu/Current/RegSchedules.aspx) for dates.
Getting Bumped from a Current Class

- The Civil Engineering Department maintains a course inventory taught on a regular basis which hopefully makes it possible for you to graduate in a timely manner. However, the State has drastically reduced funding, making it increasingly difficult to keep pace with the growing number of students seeking degrees. In the past we taught multiple duplicate classes with unused seats, making it easy for you to get into a class of your choice. That is no longer always possible.
- How it works – (discussion)
- One thing is assured – if you need a class to graduate on time, you will be forced into it. Period.
- To be forced into a class go to http://lowery.tamu.edu/force
International & Cultural Diversity

- **International and Cultural Diversity (ICD) Requirements:**
  - Two ICD courses are required as listed at below. These can be satisfied by a careful selection of HIST, VPA, and SBS classes (dual credit classes) or by 6 hours of Study Abroad. Courses which work in Catalog 136 MAY NOT WORK in Catalog 137 and beyond!

- **For a list of Dual Credit Courses you MUST see:**
  
  http://Lowery.tamu.edu/Advising/Registration/ICDDualcredit.htm
### How To Identify Dual Credit, VPA, SBS Classes

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NEW SBS/ICD CLASS SPECIFICALLY FOR ENGINEERING MAJORS

- GEOG 201 Some sections of “Introduction to Human Geography” are being offered for Engineering majors. It will cover social, political, and economic aspects of engineering and technology.
- Note that only certain sections are for engineers only. Other sections will be open to other majors.
Technical Elective Requirements

CE students enter and remain in the “General” option unless they change to another specialty, taking a special set of technical electives approved for these areas:

- Coastal and Ocean
- Environmental
- Construction Engineering and Management
- Geotechnical
- Structural
- Transportation
- Water Resources

When you graduate, your diploma says CIVIL no matter if you optioned in General, Environmental, etc.

Job opportunities and pay are reasonably equivalent in most cases, and change constantly. You should be prepared to move around during your career.
Technical Electives

Your technical electives go in the “grayed out” boxes in the 
flow chart.

To see a list of your required technical electives, flow charts,  
and other information, go to:

http://Lowery.tamu.edu/advising/technicalelectives/

Notify D’Anne or Crystal in 140 C.E. if you wish to change  
from General to another option. If you are a structures option  
student and you have not yet taken the required linear algebra  
course, you now have the choice of MATH 311 or MATH 304. MATH 304 is greatly preferred. If you have questions,  
contact Dr. Jones at h-jones@tamu.edu.
Substitutions

• The Department hopes to offer 4 sections of CVEN 342 (Materials of Construction) next semester.

• CVEN 343 (Concrete Materials for C.E.) is hoped to have 3 sections.

• All students whose option lists CVEN 342 as required, can also take CVEN 343 to satisfy the requirement, if preferred.
Courses

CVEN 405 - Construction Management, will be taught in Fall semesters only. It will no longer be taught in the Spring. If you are a Construction Option, or if you are pursuing the Project Management Certificate, plan accordingly.

You are responsible for determining when once-a-year courses are offered, so you can graduate on time. Many 400-level courses and sequences are offered on fixed schedules, and students get surprised because they haven’t checked ahead of time. In WRN, 463 is taught in the Fall only, and 455 and 458 in the Spring only. In Transportation: Fall only: CVEN 454 and 457, and Spring only: CVEN 456. Others are CVEN 403 (summer mini-semester only) and CVEN 423, Spring only.

Plan Ahead! See when your courses have been taught in previous semesters on Howdy, or use the Howdy Degree Planner. See http://Lowery.tamu.edu/DegreePlanner/
CVEN 250

- NEW CVEN COURSE ON GRAPHICS & VISUALIZATION
- CVEN 250 “Introduction to Graphics and Visualization Applications in C E Design” will be offered. Students who started in Fall 2013 or later are not receiving instruction in CAD in ENGR 111/112. This is a very useful skillset, and you should consider taking this course. One of the major factors for success in finding internships is having CAD skills. Although it is not required for Catalog 136 and earlier students, it is required for catalogs 137 and later. It is NOT a replacement for ENGR 111 or 112. Those remain required classes.
CVEN 403 (2 hours credit)

• “Applied Civil Engineering Surveying”
  • (Summer Surveying Camp)
• Offered in the May mini-mester
  • Taught in two weeks between the end of the spring semester and start of the summer semester.
  • Limited enrollment (~30)
  • Students enroll for this and other summer classes during the summer/fall pre-registration period.
• 403 is accepted as a technical elective in ALL specialty areas, but it is only a 2 hour course, so be careful that you end up with the required 128 hours to graduate. See http://lowery.tamu.edu/403. It WILL NOT replace one or your “TAKE” electives, only one of your “CHOOSE FROM” tech electives. Possible classes for an additional one hour class might be CVEN 489 Advanced AutoCAD 1 hour, when taught.
For Cadets only...

- If you successfully complete the required 12 hours of upper-level Corps courses, you will get credit for...
  - a 3 hr American History class of your choice
  - a 3 hr Political Science class of your choice
- If you are contemplating completing these courses, don’t take the second 6 hours in HIST/POLS until late in your career, when you know if you are going to take the upper level Corps classes.
Pay on time! Don’t get dropped!

• Make sure that you are enrolled for at least one hour before the first day of classes, or you will have to pay a $100 late registration fee. If you get dropped for non-payment the same applies to you.

• All adds and drops must be done by the 5th class day.

• See http://Lowery.tamu.edu/a for additional information.
Other Announcements...

- Q-drop deadline and last day to withdraw from the University are Tuesday April 21st, 5:00 pm. This is also the last day to change KINE 198/199 grade type.
- Study Abroad. See Dawna Rosenkranz, Room 326 Weisenbaker. [http://tx.ag/CEStudyAbroad](http://tx.ag/CEStudyAbroad) (last year)
- Coop – See information at [http://lowery.tamu.edu/a](http://lowery.tamu.edu/a) - [http://Lowery.tamu.edu/Things/engr385/385.htm](http://Lowery.tamu.edu/Things/engr385/385.htm)
- **Certificate Programs** – Management, Business, etc. See [http://essap.tamu.edu/cert-programs.htm](http://essap.tamu.edu/cert-programs.htm)
- CE Scholarships will open in early January. Students will be notified by email when the site opens.
Questions...?
“386 1/2 ...”