Academic Requirements
Understanding General Education

You’ll be studying here!
This presentation will introduce you to the General Education (GE) requirements at UCSB.

This might seem complicated but please don’t worry. The College of Engineering academic advisors will assist you in planning your GE courses.
A helpful resource: GEAR
(General Education & Academic Requirements)
http://engineering.ucsb.edu/current_undergraduates/publications/

- Booklet published each year showing all requirements
- General Education (GE) information located at beginning of booklet
- Requirements for graduation
  - University of California
  - University of California, Santa Barbara
  - College of Engineering General Education
  - Major (Curriculum sheet and grid)
- Course descriptions and prerequisites
- Information about CoE programs
This is the GE worksheet (page 21 in GEAR).

Track your progress on this chart.

Some of your AP or IB coursework may fulfill some requirements. See pages 7-9 in GEAR.

Check with a College of Engineering academic advisor if you have any questions.

CHECKLIST OF GENERAL UNIVERSITY AND GENERAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS

GENERAL UNIVERSITY REQUIREMENTS

UC Entry Level Writing Requirement – (Must be fulfilled within three quarters of admission.)
Passed Exam ______ or Writing 1, 1E or Ling 12 ______ or transferred appropriate course ______

American History and Institutions* – (Refer to page 8 for the list of acceptable courses.)
One course ______ or Advanced Placement ______ or international waiver ______
*This course may also apply to the General Education requirements, if appropriate.

GENERAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS

A course listed in more than one General Subject Area can be applied to only one area. Course total in Areas D, E, F, G, and H must be at least 6.

General Subject Areas
1. Area A: English Reading and Composition
   Writing 2 or 2E ________________ and Writing 50, 50E, 107T or 109ST ________________

2. Area D: Social Sciences (2 courses minimum)
   ____________________________

3. Area E: Culture and Thought (2 courses minimum)
   ____________________________

4. Area F: The Arts (1 course minimum)
   ____________________________

5. Area G: Literature (1 course minimum)
   ____________________________

Special Subject Areas

In the process of fulfilling the G.E. General Subject Area requirements, students must fulfill the following Special Subject Area requirements, as outlined on page 11. Only approved courses can be used to fulfill these requirements.

a. Writing Requirement – At least four courses which require the writing of one or more papers totaling at least 1,800 words.
   ____________________________

b. Ethnicity Requirement – (1 course) ____________________________

c. European Traditions or World Cultures Requirement – (1 course) ____________________________
University of California Requirement: UC Entry Level Writing Requirement

ALL STUDENTS who will enter the University of California as freshmen must demonstrate their command of the English language by fulfilling the Entry Level Writing Requirement (formerly known as Subject A requirement).

- Pass System-wide UC Analytical Writing Placement Exam (AWPE) in May or September
- Score of 3 or above on either AP English exam
- Score of 5 or above on higher level English A International Baccalaureate Exam
- Score of 680 or higher on the Writing section of the SAT (“old” SAT taken pre-March 2016)
- Score of 680 of higher on the Evidence-Based Reading and Writing (EBRW) section of the SAT
- Score of 30 or higher on the ACT combined English/Writing test (“old” ACT taken pre-June 2015)
- Score of 30 or higher on the ACT English Language Arts
- Transfer course equivalent to Writing 2 with a grade of C or better
University of California Requirement: UC Entry Level Writing Requirement

If you have not met the Entry Level Writing Requirement by the time you matriculate (enroll) at UCSB you must take a placement exam.

Domestic students - Analytical Writing Placement Exam (AWPE)
Information: http://www.writing.ucsb.edu/academics/undergrad/awpe

International students - English Language Placement Exam (ELPE)
Information: http://www.ems.ucsb.edu/news/announcement/250

Many international students will be required to take English for Multilingual Students (EMS) courses (Linguistics 3A, 3B, 3C, and 12). Linguistics 12 fulfills the Entry Level Writing Requirement. If you are placed into these courses you must take them in the order you are told. You will take your Area A (Writing 2 and 50) courses later.
University of California Requirement: American History and Institutions

All undergraduate degree programs at UC require study in American history and institutions.

How to fulfill the AH&I requirement at UCSB:

1. Score of 3 or higher on AP American History or American Government and Politics
2. Passing non-credit examination in American History or American Institutions offered by History Department
3. Score of 650 or higher on SAT II: American History
4. Complete a 4-unit course (see GEAR for list)
5. International students on a nonimmigrant visa may petitions for a waiver of this requirement through the Director of International Students and Scholars (http://oiss.sa.ucsb.edu/).
College of Engineering,
General Education Requirements:
Area A, English Reading and Composition

Area A1: Students must complete Writing 2 or 2E*

Area A2: Students must complete Writing 50, 50E*, 107T, or 109ST.

*Writing 2E and 50E: open to first year students in Chemical Engineering, Computer Engineering, Electrical Engineering, and Mechanical Engineering

NOTE: Students must complete the UC Entry Level Writing Requirement before enrolling in courses that fulfill the Area A requirement of the General Education program.
Areas D, E, F, or G:

A minimum of 6 courses are required:

- 2 courses must be from Area D: Social Science
- 2 courses must be from Area E: Culture and Thought
- 1 course from Area F: The Arts
- 1 course from Area G: Literature

Notes (see GEAR or academic advisor for guidance):

1. AP, IB, A-level, and transfer credit may reduce the number of GE courses required.

2. Each course may be applied to only ONE GE Area D, E, F, G or H.

3. ONLY UCSB Academic Senate approved courses will apply to GE.
College of Engineering, General Education Requirements: Special Subject Area Requirements

- * Writing – maximum 4 courses
- & Ethnicity – 1 course
- ^European Traditions OR +World Cultures – 1 course

Symbols (*, &, ^, +) refer to the symbols used to identify courses in GEAR (pages 12-20).

Review GEAR or GOLD for applicable courses.

Usually you can find a course that fulfills both a D, E, F, G, or H requirement as well as a Special Subject Area requirement. College of Engineering Academic Advisors can help you plan your GE courses.
College of Engineering, General Education Requirements

Additional provisions pertaining to GE requirements:

- Each course may be applied to only one GE Area D, E, F, G, or H.

- A single course may apply to both a Area D, E, F, G, or H and the American History and Institutions, Ethnicity, European Traditions, or Writing Requirements.
Other UCSB Requirements for Graduation

Grade Point Average

At graduation, a minimum **2.0 UC GPA** is required in three areas:

1. Cumulative: All units attempted on a letter graded basis
2. Major: All units required for and applicable to the major (both lower and upper division)
3. Upper-Division Major: All units required for and applicable to the upper division major

Academic Residence

Students must complete:

- 3 regular terms within the UC System
- 27 upper division units at UCSB
- 20 upper division major units at UCSB
- 35 of final 45 units at UCSB

Unit Requirement

Required total number of units, including major, GE, and electives:

- CHEME: 187 units
- CE: 191
- CS: 184
- EE: 189
- ME: 180
Beware of duplicate matriculation

- You cannot receive credit for courses that you have already completed. This includes AP/IB, community college, other universities, and UCSB coursework.
- Please consult with an advisor if a class you are interested in taking sounds like a course you have already taken.
Wait Lists and Crashing
Is the class you want full?

- Consult the department website to see if a crash or wait list policy is posted.
- If it is a course for your major, speak with your major department or College of Engineering office.
- Add yourself to the waitlist via GOLD if there is one available.
- Attend the first course meeting.
Questions?

For any questions regarding this information, please contact the College of Engineering

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