UB Seminars: Register Today!

The UB Seminar is the entryway to your UB education. These are “big ideas” courses taught by our most distinguished faculty in small seminar settings. Embracing broad concepts and grand challenges, they encourage critical thinking, ethical reasoning, and reflective discussion from across the disciplines. The seminars are specifically designed to address the needs of incoming first year and transfer students and to prepare them for the academic expectations of a world-class research university.

As an Intended Engineering major, you must select a UB Seminar and register for this class using the HUB Student Center!

- A complete list of UB Seminars is available online at buffalo.edu/ubseminar.
- Registration information and help is available at buffalo.edu/getstarted.
- Enroll in your UB Seminar within 5 days of receiving this information to ensure the widest selection of topics. Since all students must complete a seminar in their first semester, students who don’t enroll in a timely manner will be enrolled in random sections by the UB Curriculum Office.

The School of Engineering and Applied Sciences has developed a special UB Seminar for intended engineering majors. This seminar is particularly suited to students with an interest in engineering disciplines, however you may choose a different seminar if you wish.

### EAS 199 – Grand Challenges for Engineering

Engineers are problem solvers. Problem solving in engineering practice (i.e., industry) differs from the problems typically encountered in the classroom. Notably, "real world" problems are ill-structured, have multiple conflicting objectives, non-engineering standards and constraints, require knowledge from multiple disciplines (even beyond engineering!) and necessitate working on a team. The objective of this course is to allow students with an interest in engineering to explore an engineering identity. Through this exploration, students will gain an appreciation for the characteristics of good engineers: (1) Technical competence (technical knowledge, problem-solving skills, creativity); (2) Interpersonal skills (strong technical communication, effective teamwork); (3) Work ethic (attention to detail, diligence, persistence); and (4) Moral standards: honesty, integrity. This exploration will be facilitated through team projects, individual assignments and a professional development and career planning portfolio. The theme for this course will be consideration of the "Grand Challenges for Engineering" as defined by the National Academy of Engineers (www.engineeringchallenges.org).

Students are not permitted to change their UB Seminar on their own, so please choose carefully! If you need to change your UB Seminar due to change of major, you may submit this request via https://www.eng.buffalo.edu/undergrad/apps/schedule-change/. The deadline for schedule change requests is Friday, August 5th, 2016.
Common Questions Regarding “Intended” Major Status

Congratulations on your decision to enroll in the University at Buffalo. As you know from previous communications, you have been admitted to the University at Buffalo as an intended engineering or computer science major. Students who enter UB as an intended major are required to complete a collection of core courses and meet acceptance criteria to gain admission to the major. This scenario can cause confusion for students and families. Here is a collection of Questions and Answers that might be helpful to have handy.

Why am I unable to be directly admitted to the School of Engineering and Applied Sciences (SEAS)?

SEAS considers high school grades, class standing, Regents exam scores, and either Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT) or American College Testing (ACT) scores within our admission analysis. For example, we generally require a SAT (or equivalent ACT) score of at least 1180, and many students are declined direct admission to SEAS because of this criterion.

What are the implications of entering UB as an intended engineering or computer science major?

Intended engineering and computer science majors are permitted to participate in math, science, general education, and freshman and sophomore-level engineering and computer science courses, but are not permitted to participate in junior- and senior-level engineering and computer science courses. This constraint does not significantly impact a student’s course selection. Importantly, intended majors are able to graduate in four years with an engineering or computer science degree.

How do I gain admission to the School of Engineering and Applied Sciences?

The process is fully described at http://www.eng.buffalo.edu/undergrad/admissions/current. In short, our admission path requires students to (1) complete a set of four core courses with grades of C– or better and a combined core course GPA of at least 2.5 and (2) possess an overall cumulative GPA that meets or exceeds the GPA required for the major of interest.

Can I pursue majors other than engineering and computer science?

Absolutely. One of the wonderful things about UB is the breadth of academic majors it offers. As an intended major you will receive advisement that helps you discover how your interests and strengths relate to majors and careers, and assists you in developing a holistic academic plan.