

Program Information Talks – 2022

Summary of Question and Answer via Slido.com

Question: Where's the declaration site again?

Answer: <https://servicecatalog.engr.uvic.ca/students/declare/>

Question: What are the criteria for Program Declaration?

Answer:

You must satisfy all program declaration criteria, which are:

- achievement of 2nd year standing (starts at 12.0 units or more), and
- a C+ average, and
- no grades less than C.
- **PLUS – a competitive average where required by program.**

Please note, it is not the 'best of 12' units. All courses that are program requirements, even those beyond 1st year courses, are used both in the program declaration criteria, and used in the calculation of your competitive GPA.

Question: What GPA do I need to get into each of the disciplines?

Answer: Programs that receive more applications than we have spaces, require competitive GPA's (ie: higher than the 3.0 average). Historically, competitive averages for MECH/CIVE have been around a 4.50, BME/SENG around 4.0 and because CENG and ELEC share essentially a common 2nd year as well as a common 1st year, a larger cohort is able to progress into the 2nd year of those programs, and thusly students that meet program declaration criteria, will progress into ECE programs.

Question: What if we already come in with a lot of transfer credit?

Answer: Applicable transfer credit will be considered towards program declaration criteria and the grades that you received for those courses will also be calculated into the competitive GPA. If you have repeated a course here at UVIC since transferring in, your most recent academic attempt will be considered.

Question: What is the difference between biomedical and electrical engineering?

Answer: Biomedical engineering combines mechanical and electrical engineering with the study of human anatomy, physiology and biochemistry. We develop technologies that are improving human health and healthcare, here and around the world.

An electrical engineer is involved in the design and study of various electrical and electronic systems, such as electricity generation and transmission, consumer electronics, control systems, signal processing, computer design, sensor design, telecommunications, biomedical imaging, and mechatronics

Question: When will I know the results of my program declaration?

Answer: Every effort will be made to announce the results of the program declaration process by May 31st. You will receive an email. Program declaration is effective for September. Rankings will not be returned before classes begin for the Summer session (ie: you will not be eligible to take restricted, discipline-specific courses in the Summer session).

Question: Where can I find a list of requirements for a minor in each engineering specialization?

Answer: You can refer to the Calendar, under each program is listed the requirements of the minor.
<https://www.uvic.ca/calendar/future/undergrad/index.php#/programs>

For example, Electrical Systems Minor information:

<https://www.uvic.ca/calendar/future/undergrad/index.php#/programs/r1xlt6mAM4?bc=true&bcCurrent=Electrical%20Systems&bcItemType=programs>

You can also contact the Advisor of the discipline that you want to complete the minor to get more information.

Question: Can I do a minor in one specialization and a major in another? (ex. major in software engineering and minor in mechanical engineering)

Answer: You can only declare one minor. Yes, you can do a minor in another engineering discipline, there are requirements to be able to declare the minor. You can contact your Academic Advisor to get more information. You are also able to complete a minor from another faculty. You can contact either the Academic Advising Centre in the Jamie Cassels Centre, or the Faculty Advisor for the program that you are interested in (Geography, Math, Physics, etc.)

Question: Can I take courses from my discipline this summer session?

Answer: No, the program declaration is effective for September. You will not have access to courses that are restricted to the discipline. However, you can do courses that are not restricted by discipline. Keep in mind, that any courses that you do in summer session, must still meet program declaration criteria, even if they are required courses beyond 1st year.

Question: Can SENG people (who doesn't have a degree in Electrical/Computer Engineering) work on Artificial Intelligence or smart systems also?

Answer: There are elective courses related to Artificial Intelligence in fourth year in the BSEng program.

Question: Can the courses that are required for my major also contribute as units towards a minor?

Answer: Courses that fulfill requirements for a Minor cannot form part of the requirements of the other program.

Question: Can you take technical electives from multiple fields are so they need to be related?

Answer: Students take their 400-level technical electives from their discipline area, it is possible to take courses from other disciplines with approval.

Question: Does it matter which courses make up the 12.0 units for declaration? Are there first year courses that must be within those 12.0 units?

Answer: No, it doesn't matter, so long as the courses are indeed program requirements. Certainly, there are important courses in the 1st year curriculum that make up important prerequisites for your next year's course registration. If you have more questions for your individual plan, please contact our office for advising. Contact us at enr@uvic.ca.

Question: How many students are admitted to 2nd year of each discipline?

Answer: Every September, each program (with Computer and Electrical Engineering combined) can accommodate the following number of new second year students:

ECE – 125

MECH – 125

CIVE – 80

BME – 50

SENG – 100

Question: How much is C and C+ grade in gpa? And also, our gpa is calculated out of 5?

Answer: C=2.0 and a C+ is a 3.0. The Grade scale is out of 9.0. A+ (9), A (8), A- (7), B+ (6), B(5), B- (4), C+ (3), C(2), D(1)

Question: I was admitted with a guaranteed program, do I still have to declare?

Answer: Yes. You must still meet program declaration criteria, even with a guaranteed program. Also, many students change their minds about areas of engineering over first year. Use the program declaration website to confirm the area of engineering you are interested in pursuing.

<https://servicecatalog.engr.uvic.ca/students/declare/>.

Question: If I am not able to declare for this summer? When will the next declaration be? Will I be able to take courses from my desired declaration?

Answer: If you are not eligible for program declaration by the end of this Winter session (April), we can review that again, at the end of the Summer session (if you are registered in courses). If you are still not eligible at the end of this summer session, then the next program declaration period will be this time again next year. You will not be eligible to take discipline specific courses (BME, MECH, ELEC, etc), but there are often ‘common core’ courses that can be done that do not require that you are declared to access them. Contact our advising office to discuss your program plan towards to program declaration. Contact us at engr@uvic.ca.

Question: If I choose one discipline, can I switch later?

Answer: Switching between programs can happen. The criteria for switching between programs, is the same as program declaration criteria (C+ average, no grades less than C in program applicable courses, competitive GPA, etc). We do have to make sure there is room in the program that you seek, so there may be a waitlist. For more information, inquire with the Admissions/Advising Officer, LeAnne Golinsky (engradav@uvic.ca).

Question: Is there a notable difference between software engineers and computer scientists once we are in the working field? Why would someone study SENG instead of CS?

Answer: While there is certainly some overlap in the career titles obtained by graduates of Computer Science and Software Engineering programs, the use of the terms ‘Engineer’ and ‘Science’ indicate the largest difference: “Science is the body of knowledge that explores the physical and natural world. Engineering is the application of knowledge in order to design, build and maintain a product or a process that solves a problem and fulfills a need (i.e. a technology).” (credit: blog.eie.org) In Computer Science the emphasis is on exploring what can be done with a computer, whereas Software Engineering emphasizes building a product that fulfills a specific need. The overlap in educational programs indicates that both careers need skills in software development.