# INTERPRETIVE STATEMENT ON ELECTIVES IN
# BACHELOR OF ENGINEERING OR
# BACHELOR OF SOFTWARE ENGINEERING PROGRAMS

If you are registered in the Bachelor of Engineering (BEng) or Software Engineering (BSEng) programs, you might have noticed that there are extremely few choices in your program.  In fact, all electives in your program seem to have a descriptive adjective, for example:

- Technical Elective
- Natural Science Elective
- Complementary Studies Elective

Each of these terms can be defined by consulting the University Calendar and the Faculty of Engineering websites (see links below).  This document explains, in simple terms, the meaning of each.

**Technical Elective:** Each of the BEng/BSEng programs have 4<sup>th</sup> year elective courses that are, as the name indicates, technical.  For each program there is a well-defined list in the calendar for students to choose from and all have pre-requisite courses.  Please refer to your program's section of the UVic Academic Calendar to see the technical choices that are available for you.

**Natural Science Elective:**  As the name suggests, these are science courses; in particular, they are the natural (as opposed to engineered) sciences.  These courses might describe or understand the natural or physical world around us.  They are about empirical evidence or perhaps studies involving observation.  Many courses from the Faculty of Science have the potential to fall into this category.  The exceptions are those that are already in or very similar to courses in the engineering programs or the very introductory courses that are designed for people without any scientific background.

The Faculty of Engineering maintains a list of the courses that have been defined to be Natural Science courses and a list of courses that have been defined as **not** on the list.  If there is a course that is not on either list that you would like to take, it might be possible to add it to the list; there is a process to request course additions.

**Complementary Studies Elective:**  There are only one or two of these courses in our engineering programs; check your program to find out how many.  You can think of these as courses that are "certainly not engineering or science" courses.  They are about humanity, people, literature, how people act or about society.  Most of the courses from the faculties of Humanity or Social Sciences have the potential to fall in this category.  There is one general exception, introductory language learning courses, cannot be used for this elective, whereas more advanced courses taught in another language, that otherwise cover complementary topics (literature, society, etc.) are included.

The Faculty of Engineering maintains a list of the courses that have already been defined to be Complementary Studies courses and a list of courses that have been defined as **not** Complementary Studies courses. If there is a course that is not on either list that you would like to take, it might be possible to add it to the list; there is a process to request course additions.  (The committee meetings happen 3 times per year, so be sure to request well in advance of registering in the course).

**Important links:**

Faculty of Engineering: https://www.uvic.ca/engineering/

UVic Calendar: https://web.uvic.ca/calendar2018-09/

Request for Approval of a Natural Science Course: https://www.uvic.ca/engineering/assets/docs/student-forms/Natural-Science-Request.pdf

Natural Science Electives (ECE) https://www.uvic.ca/engineering/assets/docs/student-forms/Natural-Science-Electives-ECE.pdf

Natural Science Electives (SENG) https://www.uvic.ca/engineering/assets/docs/student-forms/Natural-Science-Electives-BSEng.pdf

Denied Natural Science Electives: in progress - coming soon.

Request for Approval of a Complementary Studies Elective: https://www.uvic.ca/engineering/assets/docs/student-forms/Comp-Studies-Request.pdf

Complementary Studies Electives: https://www.uvic.ca/engineering/assets/docs/student-forms/Complementary-Studies-Electives.pdf

Denied Complementary Studies Electives: in progress – coming soon.

Engineering Program Planning Worksheets: https://www.uvic.ca/engineering/current-students/planning/index.php