

UC 10910 10F

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Proposal for Change in ENGR Major
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Redefine the ENGR Major

We currently have a major, ENGR, which is intended to be a major for freshmen who know that they want engineering, but have not yet chosen a specific major. It is called Engineering Unspecified, and is restricted to students who have not yet completed an XXXX1331 course. As specified on the web page:

http://www.uh.edu/academics/catalog/colleges/egr/majors/general_info/index.php

Once a student with an Engineering Unspecified (ENGR) major completes CHEE, CIVE, ECE, or MECE 1331 they must petition to declare a major in a specified discipline in Engineering.

I would propose that we change this information to the following:

The Engineering Unspecified (ENGR) major (plan) is meant for students who are intending to change their major (plan) to a program leading to an engineering degree. A degree cannot be earned by a student whose major is ENGR. This major is intended to be exclusively for students who are in transition to an engineering major where a degree can be earned. There is a fee charged each semester to students enrolled in this major. All students in this major must be advised by Engineering Undergraduate Programs advisors at least once every long semester (fall and spring).

Students cannot earn a degree while their major is ENGR. We plan to state this in many places on the web, and in other documentation.

We are planning to request a fee for ENGR majors. The fee charged to ENGR majors needs to be high enough to cover our costs for advising, offering additional courses, and monitoring these students. It should also support the expensive courses taught at the lower division levels (1000 and 2000 levels) in engineering. It should support the offering of XXXX1331 courses, and ENGI 2304. It is my expectation that we may have several hundred students in this major as we move forward with raised admissions criteria in the degree programs. Also, we expect to have a significant influx from students who previously would have been admitted as USD majors. Thus, I would expect to have on the order of 500 to 750 majors in ENGR within a few years. We expect to have costs as estimated below. I have added support to the departments to these estimates. Under the current plan, there will be increased enrollments in the courses in the departments that offer courses to ENGR majors. I would like to give some monetary support to those departments, based on enrollments by ENGR majors in those courses. I am assuming a formula of about \$50 per ENGR student per course. Assuming that 250 students enroll in two courses each, each semester, this would be \$50,000 per year. It would be appropriate to provide some support to departments which offer XXXX 1100 courses (the 1 SCH courses which introduce students to engineering) to ENGR majors, perhaps at a lower rate. This could include the PROMES course, ENGI 1100. In these estimates, this comes in addition to the support for the XXXX 1331 courses, which are also offered by the departments. The ENGI 2304

course is offered through the dean's office. The numbers which follow assume a 30% fringe benefits support requirement.

Staff advisor	\$40,000/year
Staff advisor fringe	\$12,000/year
Staff support	\$30,000/year
Staff support fringe	\$9,000/year
ENGI 2304 costs	\$30,000/year
XXXX 1331 costs	\$50,000/year
Support to depts.	\$50,000/year
½ of a data analyst	\$25,000/year
Data analyst fringe	\$7,500/year
Total:	\$253,500/year

If we assume 500 students, enrolling two semesters per year, and if we assume that each student enrolls in an average of 12 SCH per long semester, we could cover these costs with a fee of \$21 per SCH. Currently, there are four majors in engineering with a major fee of \$6 per SCH.

We propose that students who apply to UH and want an engineering major, who meet the UH criteria but not the criteria for their major of choice, be admitted to the ENGR major. This will probably result in an increase in the number of engineering majors.