U-Start Session #1:

FIRST YEAR CLASSES, PROGRAMMING AND REGISTRATION
MAY 30, 2020

Online resources for first-year students

Q: Is the Engineering U-start Handbook available digitally online?
A: https://engineering.usask.ca/students/undergraduate/first-year-information.php#UStart

Q: Where can I find the first-year registration guide?

Learning Communities

Q: How can we join the learning communities?
A: Here is the link to the USask Library website where the information for learning communities is posted: https://library.usask.ca/studentlearning/lc/#EngineeringLCs

Q: If you registered for a learning community do you only need to register for courses for the second term?
A: Yes. When you register for a learning community, you are automatically placed into a set of first-term courses with the other members of your learning community. You are NOT preregistered for courses for the second term, so you must register for those. You can do this in June when registration opens.

Q: Can we still join a learning community even if we made our own sample schedule?
A: When you register for a learning community, you are placed in a set of courses with other members of your learning community, which allows you to build relationships with that group of students. If you need to have a different schedule than the courses listed for that learning community, you will not be able to join.

Registration and class scheduling

Q: Can we plan ahead for more than one schedule?
A: Yes, you can have up to 3 draft plans per term. You are also able to plan ahead for different terms.

Q: Is it required to use a sample plan or are we able to create our own?
A: You need to choose your schedule from one of the sample schedules created for our students and listed in the registration guide. Please do not mix schedules as it will result in certain classes filling too quickly. After registration, we do check to ensure that first years have registered for all the classes they need. If you register for a class that is outside of the sample schedule you chose, you will be removed from that class so that students using that timetable can have the spot.

Q: Is there some way to import the plan into the registering function? Or do we have to type in each CRN for registration?
A: We do not have an import functionality for scheduling, so you will need to input each CRN.
Q: Do we need to register to a specific section? Or does it depend on whatever fits my schedule without interfering with any other classes?
A: In order to ensure classes don’t overfill, please choose the sample schedule that works best for you and use the sections assigned to that specific timetable.

Q: Are we required to take six classes each semester? Or is it possible to take fewer?
A: It depends on your plan. You can certainly extend your first year and take courses over two years. Please contact an advisor first or book an appointment so we can discuss your scheduling options. Advising appointments may be booked online through the following link: https://share.usask.ca/go/engrstu.

Q: Is COMM 102 a mandatory first-year class?
A: No. In the sample timetables, the courses with an asterisk are core courses for first-year engineering. You must take these in order to be eligible to apply for your engineering major in second year. COMM 102 is not required.

Q: How many lab sections are required for GE 111?
A: Only one laboratory section is required for each course.

Q: Are there any fees to reserve our seat in a course?
A: No deposit is required to reserve a seat, you just need to accept your offer to enrol in the College of Engineering and register for your courses. Tuition will be assessed after registration.

Summer Classes

Q: Can you identify which summer classes could be used for our humanities elective? And also, how do we register early for these summer courses?
A: The list of acceptable humanities electives is in the Engineering UStart Handbook and the first-year registration guide. You can then search which one is available in the summer through the course listing https://banner.usask.ca/StudentRegistrationSsb/ssb/term/termSelection?mode=search

If you wish to take a class over this summer (July and August) you need to register prior to that. If your admission is effective in the fall, you also need to contact admissions office to request for a change of admission to summer.

Questions about engineering majors (disciplines)

Q: What is the program admission average for Mechanical Engineering?
A: Cut-off average for each programs will differ from year to year. Generally Mechanical Engineering has the highest cut-off average and is usually in the range of 70% or greater.

Q: Which course should we choose from the electives if we want to pursue computer science engineering?
A: Computer Engineering does not require a specific science elective, so you may choose based on your interest and schedule.