

Academic Planning Tips

[Department of Chemical and Nano Engineering website](#): helpful pages are *CENG/NANO Engineering Courses, Curriculum, Advising, Academic Planning, Student Petitions, and Student Resources*.

Which curriculum do you follow?

First-year: entering UC San Diego after high school. May have a transferable course or AP credits. For **NANO**: will follow the new FA25 4-year curriculum. **CENG**: curriculum listed hasn't changed.

Transfer: entering UC San Diego after community college or another institution. Will have transferable credits. Will follow a 2 or 3 year curriculum plan.



Important Notes:

- Core courses are usually **offered once a year** and in the quarter they are listed on the curriculum.
- **All courses required in the major must be taken for a letter grade** (except CENG or NANO 4 and 199, which are Pass or No Pass courses).
- Grades must be C- or above.



Note: The majors require Nano electives (NANO 100-199) and [CENG Technical Electives](#) (pre-approved).

Student Petitions and Course Pre-authorization Requests

Student petitions are used for course substitutions and major waiver requirements. Once the petition has been submitted it will be reviewed by an advisor, and then the Undergraduate Affairs Committee (UAC) Chair.

Enrollment Authorization, known as an EASy request, is required if you do not meet the prerequisites or restrictions for a course. Prerequisites and restrictions for courses are listed on the CENG and NANO courses pages. Once an EASy request has been submitted it will first be reviewed by an advisor, then the teaching faculty.

It is best to submit petitions and/or EASy requests as early as possible. More information about the processes can be found on our [Petitions and Enrollment Authorization System \(EASy\) page](#).

How and when do I enroll in courses?

Follow your curriculum to determine in which courses you should be enrolling. For your first pass, we encourage you to prioritize non-core classes (lower division STEM courses (CHEM, MATH, PHYS), gen ed, electives, etc), then core classes. Your second pass could be core courses. **Don't delay enrolling in core classes after the second pass.** Be sure to submit any required EASy requests prior to your scheduled 1st/2nd pass date to avoid delays. EASy requests can be submitted as early as Week 5



Note: Students within the major are given priority enrollment in core classes (not electives). For students not in the corresponding major, approval will be considered closer to the start date when seat

capacity is reviewed. If a CENG or NANO course has two sections, and one section is already full, do not join the waitlist for the full section as it will not be cleared. Students need to enroll in the section that still has seats available.



Note: Please direct all questions on transferability or equivalency of Chemistry, Physics, Biology, or Math courses to that specific department.

Changing majors

CENG is a selective major, meaning that there are limited seats in the major and currently enrolled students who want to switch will be able to apply to CENG once per year (between Summer and Fall quarters). The selection criteria for entry to the major will consider academic achievement in the specified screening courses and will also be aligned with UC San Diego's priorities of serving California residents, first-generation college students, and students from low-income families.

NANO is not a selective major. Students can apply during the academic year using the [Major/Minor Tool](#).

Please review our [Admissions page](#) for more details, including application cycles, screening courses, and major overviews.

Advising

All students have college advisors and department advisors. All questions regarding general education requirements, double majors, minors, maximum credit appeals, etc. should be directed to your college advisor. Department advisors can assist you with any questions regarding major requirements. [Student Affairs Undergrad Advisors](#) are available for questions through the VAC, by appointment (via Zoom or in-person), or in-person drop-ins.

All advising questions must be sent through the VAC, not email.

If you need to send an attachment, please use ne-ugradinfo@ucsd.edu as students cannot send attachments through the VAC.

CENG/NANO 199 – Research Opportunity

Eligible students must have completed at least 90 units, with a minimum GPA of 3.0, are eligible to enroll in CENG/NANO 199. This course can be taken as an elective on a P/NP basis. It must be done over **two consecutive quarters** and the student must find a faculty member who will oversee the research project. Detailed policy and procedures may be obtained from the Student Affairs Office. Visit the [website](#) for more information.