

Pre-Engineering at Austin College

Students interested in engineering are urged to contact the pre-engineering advisor, Andra Petrean, during their first semester at Austin College.

Austin College has formal agreements with two universities for what are referred to as 3/2 and 4/2 engineering programs. The schools are Washington University in St. Louis and Columbia University in the City of New York. The programs differ in their details, but share the following characteristics:

- Students attend Austin College for either three or four years, then attend an engineering school for two to three years. At the end of this time they receive a B.A. from Austin College and a bachelor's degree in engineering from the cooperating institution.
- Before leaving Austin College, students need to have arranged to satisfy all Austin College degree requirements by the end of a 3/2 program. Students in 4/2 programs first graduate from Austin College, then attend engineering school.
- Each engineering school also has its own prerequisites that students must satisfy to be accepted into their engineering program. At Washington University and Columbia University these requirements include the following:
 - Three semesters of calculus, including vector calculus
 - A course in differential equations
 - Three to four semesters of physics
 - Two semesters of chemistry
 - One semester of computer programming
 - One semester of English composition
 - Five-six additional courses in non-technical courses
 - An overall GPA of B+ (3.30 for Columbia and 3.25 for Washington) or better is required with a higher GPA usually needed for the better financial aid packages

Columbia University has additional prerequisites that must be met to enter specific engineering degree programs. Students should check with the pre-engineering advisor and consult the Columbia University website for additional information.

Austin College students can also make their own arrangements to enter engineering programs at other universities, including Texas A&M University, UT Dallas, and UT Austin, by transferring after three years at AC. If the proper arrangements are made before leaving AC, these students can be granted an Austin College degree at the time they finish with the engineering program.

Austin College is currently working, through the Gateways program, on agreements with other universities for programs leading to a master degree in engineering. We are in drafting and signing agreements with a few Texas universities for a 4+2 program that will lead to a B.A from Austin College and a M.S from the institution offering the Engineering degree. We recently signed a Gateways agreement with the Material Science and Engineering program at the University of Texas at Dallas. Expect more to come soon!