

**Freshman Student
Academic Advising:
Class of 2013**

SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING



**Presented by:
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**Dept. of Civil and Environmental Engineering
Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute**

Nov. 3, 2009

Group Advising Session #3



Rensselaer

Items Available for Download

- Advising presentations (#1, #2, #3)
- Four-Year timeline
- Resources: Where to Go for Answers
- Tips from ALAC

www.rpi.edu/~symans/advising

Topics

- Course Selection and Registration for Spring 2010 Semester
- HASS Requirements
- Communication Intensive Requirement
- Majors, Minors, Dual Majors, Double Majors
- Co-terminal Degree Program
- Professional Communication

Typical First Semester Courses for CEE Students

- **R** CHEM-1100: Chemistry I – 4 credits
 - Prerequisite for ENGR-1600 (Materials Science) which most civil engineering students take in second semester
 - Prerequisite for CHEM-1200 (Chemistry II) which many environmental engineering students take in second semester
- **R** ENGR-1100: Intro. to Engineering Analysis (IEA) – 4 credits
 - Civil students: Take first semester if possible
 - Environmental students: Should take Physics I instead (or Honors Physics)
- **R** MATH-1010: Calculus I – 4 credits
 - **MUST take or receive credit first semester**
- **R** XXXX-XXXX: HASS Elective – 4 credits
 - Example: STSH-1110: Science, Technology, and Society

4 x 4 =
16 credits

- Possible Additional Course (1 credit) – Do NOT need to take first semester.
- **R** ENGR-1200: Engineering Graphics and CAD (*recommended that CEE students do NOT take this course; Instead take AutoCAD which will be offered in Spring semester*)

- **O** ENGR-1962: Engineering Communications

R = Required course
O = Optional course

Typical Second Semester Courses for CEE Students

- **R** Science Elective
 - Civil students: ENGR-1600: Materials Science – 4 credits
or CSCI-1100: Computer Science I – 4 credits
 - Env. students: CHEM-1200: Chemistry II – 4 credits
or BIOL-1010: Intro. to Biology – 4 credits
- **R** PHYS-1100: Physics I – 4 credits (or PHYS-1150: Honors Physics)
 - Env. Students take ENGR-1100 if took Physics I or II in fall semester.
- **R** MATH-1020: Calculus II – 4 credits
 - **MUST take or receive credit second semester**
- **R** XXXX-XXXX: HASS Elective – 4 credits
 - Example: STSH-1110: Science, Technology, and Society
- Possible Additional Course (1 credit) – Do NOT need to take second semester.
 - **R** ENGR-1960: AutoCAD
 - **R** CIVL-1961: Introduction to Civil and Environmental Engineering (*recommended*)
or
 - ENGR-1300: Engineering Processes

4 x 4 =
16 credits

R = Required course
O = Optional course

Not Sure about CEE?

- CIVL-1961: Intro. to Civil and Environmental Engineering
 - Typically taken by undecided freshman
 - Open to decided freshman and others
 - Must take either CIVL-1961 or ENGR-1300
 - Spring semester only
 - 1 credit

Humanities, Arts, and Social Science Class

- Selected HASS Courses Specifically Designed for First-Year Students:
 - Small classes (25) to allow for student participation
 - Only open to first-year students
 - IHSS courses can be used to fulfill *either* humanities or social science requirement
- Other HASS Courses for First-Year Students:
 - Language classes (French, Japanese, Chinese & Spanish)
 - Intro to Economics (ECON-1200)
 - Intro to Literature (LITR-2110)
 - Intro to Philosophy (PHIL-1110)
 - General Psychology (PSYC-1200)
 - International Relations (STSS-1330)
 - Intro to Cultural Anthropology (STSS-1510)
 - Sociology (STSS-1520)
 - Writing for Classroom and Career (WRIT-1110)

Registration Considerations

- On Oct. 14, registration time tickets were electronically sent out - **Most freshman will start registration on Nov. 19**
- Students may register at that time and any time until November 23.
- Make sure you do not have any financial holds.
- Recommend that you log into SIS before registration to ensure your PIN works and to review registration process (CRN's, searching).
- Easier to register if you have multiple schedules ready.
- If you have any problems when registering, contact Registrar's Office (276-6231 or registrar@rpi.edu).

Registration Process

- If a student does not register prior to Nov. 23 deadline, there will be a \$75 late fee.
- Registration will re-open from Dec. 14 to February 5th for all students who do not have any registration holds.
- Reminder: The RPI scheduler is not tied to SIS. It will not show what classes are closed or restricted.

Guidelines for Meeting Humanities, Arts & Social Sciences (HASS) Requirements (1)

- 24 Credits are required for HASS
 - 2 credits automatically taken by engineering students in the form of engineering core courses (PD1 and PD3)
 - 2 credits automatically taken by engineering students in form of HASS course (PD-2)
 - Therefore, **20 credits of HASS courses (5 courses) are to be selected by student**
- Breadth Requirement:
 - Need to take a minimum of **2 courses from Humanities** (8 credits total) and **2 courses from Social Sciences** (8 credits total), although interdisciplinary IHSS courses can be substituted.

Guidelines for Meeting Humanities, Arts & Social Sciences (HASS) Requirements (2)

- Depth Requirement:
 - At least two courses in a single area code (STSH and STSS can be counted as one area)
 - At least one of these two courses must be at advanced level (above 1000-level).
 - Can not take these courses as pass/no credit.
 - Examples:
 - 1000 WRIT & 2000 WRIT
 - 2000 PHIL & 2000 PHIL
 - 2000 STSS & 4000 STSS
 - 4000 ARTS & 4000 ARTS

Guidelines for Meeting Humanities, Arts & Social Sciences (HASS) Requirements (3)

- 1000-level HASS courses
 - No more than three
- 4000-level HASS courses
 - At least one
- Pass/No Credit:
 - No more than 6 credits of HASS courses

Understanding HASS Codes

Humanities	Social Sciences
Arts (ARTS)	Economics (ECON)
Literature(LITR)	Psychology (PSYC)
Foreign Languages (LANG)	
Communication (COMM)	
Writing (WRIT)	
Philosophy (PHIL)	
Science & Technology Studies – Humanities (STSH)	Science and Technology Studies – Social Sciences (STSS)
Interdisciplinary Humanities and Social Sciences – IHSS	Interdisciplinary Humanities and Social Sciences – IHSS

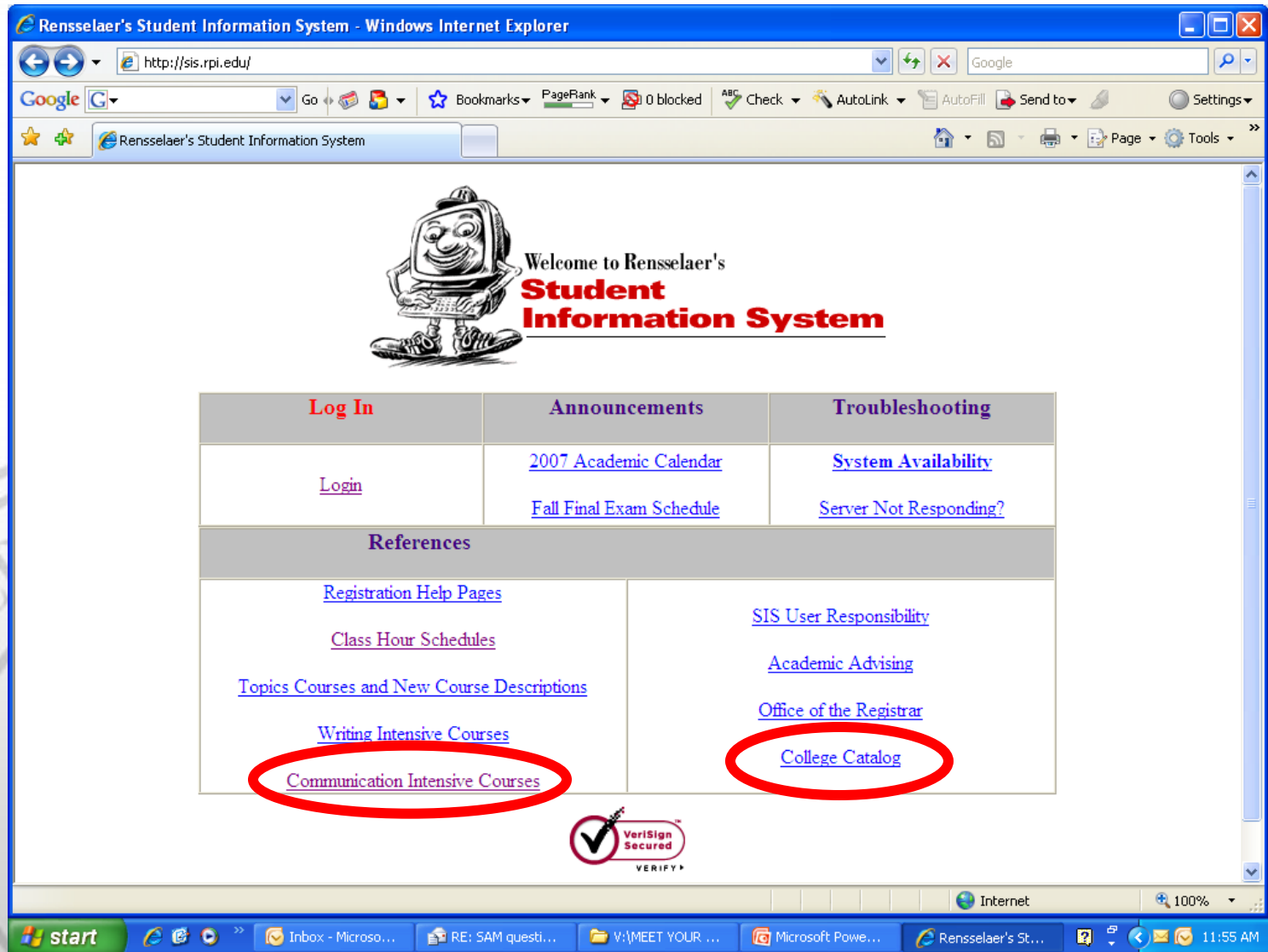
Additional HASS Information

- In your CAPP report, IHSS Courses will be shown in the free elective section
- Students can contact the Registrar's Office to request that the course be assigned to either Humanities or Social Sciences (although this is not necessary)
- Students can only transfer in or receive AP credit for 8 credits within the HASS core requirements.

Communication Intensive Requirement


- Two communication intensive courses are required.
 - One course in major (for civil engineering majors, the course is CIVL 4920 – Civil Engineering Capstone Design).
 - One HASS course that is writing-intensive (for civil engineering majors, PD2 can satisfy this requirement if STSS-4840 is taken)
- A list of courses that satisfy the communication intensive requirement are available on the SIS webpage.

Information on SIS



Welcome to Rensselaer's Student Information System

Log In	Announcements	Troubleshooting
Login	2007 Academic Calendar Fall Final Exam Schedule	System Availability Server Not Responding?
References		
Registration Help Pages Class Hour Schedules Topics Courses and New Course Descriptions Writing Intensive Courses Communication Intensive Courses	SIS User Responsibility Academic Advising Office of the Registrar College Catalog	



Windows taskbar: start, Internet Explorer, Outlook (Inbox - Micro...), File Explorer (RE: SAM questi...), File Explorer (V:\MEET YOUR ...), Microsoft PowerPoint, Rensselaer's St...

System tray: 11:55 AM

Minors, Dual Majors, and Double Degrees: Questions to consider

- What are my interests?
- Do I want to pursue two degrees/majors with the same intensity? Why do I want to do that?
- What advantage do these different options have?
- What are the downsides?

Minors

- Requirements for a minor
 - 16-20 credits in an area that is outside your major (e.g. Economics, Management, Math, Psychology)
- Why do it?
 - Explore an area in more depth but with minimal additional effort (4 or 5 additional courses)
- Next step?
 - Start planning early since there may be required courses for the minor.
 - If interested in minor, contact departmental secretary or department chair in the department in which you want to pursue the minor. That department establishes the minor and checks that all requirements are met for graduation with the minor.

Dual Degrees

- Combination of two curricula. The total number of degree requirements are similar to that of a single major.
- Some examples are:
 - Aeronautical & Mechanical, Computer Science & Computer Systems Engineering, Management & Economics
- Dual degrees are not commonly pursued by civil engineering majors.
- Why do it?
 - Pursue two majors in depth
 - More exposure to different fields
 - More flexible Career opportunities
- Drawbacks
 - Meeting the requirements requires careful planning
 - Most free electives will no longer be free but rather will be needed to meet other major requirements
 - Some dual degrees require more than 128 credits
 - Two advisors are needed to track progress

Double Degrees

- Two separate degrees are obtained by completing all the major requirements for both majors.
- Need to complete a minimum of 30 additional credits beyond those required for a single degree.
- Civil engineering majors rarely, if ever, pursue double degrees.
- Why do it?
 - Two separate degrees with two diplomas
 - Pursue two majors in depth
- Drawbacks
 - Can require an extra semester or two (Financial aid for undergraduate studies is only available for 8 semesters)
 - The general public usually does not distinguish between dual and double degrees.

Co-Terminal Degree Program

- Instead of a dual or double degree, many students pursue a master's degree.
- Co-terminal program involves an additional year of study at the graduate level. Student does not graduate until end of fifth year and remains eligible for financial aid through the fifth year.
- When student graduates, they receive both a bachelor's and master's degree.
- Why do it?
 - More thorough understanding of area
 - For civil engineering, master's degree is becoming entry-level degree and thus many firms are only hiring students with master's degrees.
 - Harder to return for master's at a later date.
- Challenges?
 - GPA requirement (3.0 minimum)
 - -Careful planning

Professional Communication

- When addressing your instructors, advisors, administrators, use the appropriate title (e.g., Professor, Dr., Mr., Ms., etc.).
- In written communication (emails), be courteous and professional (e.g., use "Dear ..." or "Hello ...". Do not use "Hey ...".)
- In written communication, do not use abbreviations. Write out all words so that your writing can be clearly understood. Some people are not familiar with "texting" and the associated abbreviations.

Next Steps ...

- **Oct. 26 – Nov. 6: Individual Advising Sessions (if needed)**
 - These two weeks are Advisor Consultation Weeks. Primary purpose is to select appropriate courses for Spring 2010 semester.





Questions?

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