Frequently Asked Questions About ME Major Form Preparation – revised January 2016

Note that all major forms must be typed.

What catalog year should I put down on my major form? What does “catalog year” mean?

Technically, you can either put down the catalog for the year that you entered SJSU or the year you are finishing. This means that you are following the approved curriculum of that particular year. If you wish to take advantage of any of curriculum changes that occurred while you were a student at SJSU, you’ll need to put down the year you are finishing. In this case, put down, for example, “16-17” if you’re graduating in Spring 2017.

What are Engr 195a and b on the revised major form? Do I need to take them?

These are two 1-unit classes that are used to replace SJSU Studies areas S and V (i.e., upper division GE) when taken in conjunction with ME 195a and b. The Engr and ME 195a and b classes MUST be taken together, and all four classes are needed to replace S and V. You need a “C” or better in all four to count for SJSU Studies credit.

Effective with Spring 2017 graduates, these courses are required. The only exception is if you took an S or V course prior to Fall 2015. Please see your advisor if you have a different extenuating circumstance that should be taken into consideration.

I took a bunch of classes at other schools. How do I put those down?

Strike through the class number and name. Right underneath put the name of the class you took along with the number of units and grade, something like this:

Phys 50 Gen Physics: Mechanics—4
Phys*4a Physics for Scientists & Engineers 4 B+

Then at the bottom where it says “Course taken at”, you’ll put this down:

*Course taken at Fresno City College

You can use multiple symbols if you took classes at more than one other school, such as

Course taken at *Fresno City College ** Mission College ^SJSU

Note that you can substitute an SJSU course with a different SJSU course using the same format.

I already turned in my major form, and now I want to change my capstone design course or electives. What do I do?

Turn in a substitution form, available on the registrar’s website. The form is found here:

http://www.sjsu.edu/registrar/docs/substitution_form.pdf

Turn the form in to Lilly Wilderman at the ME front desk. Do not turn in the form until you are registered in the substituted class.
I haven’t decided my electives yet. What do I do?

You need to pick electives to put on your form, but you can change them later using a substitution form, as discussed above.

Do my electives have to be in the same area as my capstone design course?

No. There is a list of recommended technical electives depending on which capstone course you choose:

http://www.sjsu.edu/me/programs/bsme/BSME%20Technical%20Electives.pdf

You are welcome to choose electives in different areas of ME – they do not need to be in the same area as your capstone course. Other upper division technical courses beyond this list may be acceptable, but make sure to check with an advisor for approval before taking any electives – particularly any outside of ME. Note that ME 157, the capstone design course for mechanical system design, has a co-requisite of ME 110 Manufacturing Methods. If you choose ME 157 as your capstone design course, then ME 110 must show up as one of your two electives on your major form.

Is ME 198 a technical elective?

No. ME 198 is an SJSU Studies (upper division GE) course.

Can I take CE 99 instead of 95 if I want?

Effective Fall 2014, you need to take CE 95. If you have a special situation and really need to take CE 99 instead of 95 (typically because of scheduling purposes), see an advisor for approval before you register. While CE 95 and CE 99 both cover introductory statics, CE 95 goes more in depth since it is 3 units instead of two. CE 95 should prepare students better for ME 101 and CE 112, which are typically difficult classes that require a lot of knowledge of statics.

I took an Intro to Engineering course at a community college. Will it count for GE area E?

No. Instructors had to add new material into Engr 10 to get it to count for E, and that material is not included in equivalent courses at community colleges.

I’m a transfer student, and I never took an Introduction to Engineering course. Do I have to take it?

With approval of an advisor, you can take Engr 11 Introduction to Engineering for Transfer Students. This class is 1 unit instead of 3. Effective Fall 2016, you can also take SCI 75 Life is a Start-Up. This is a 3-unit course that focuses on developing leadership skills, and you will work with leadership coaches from industry. Please meet with an advisor to discuss other options.

My advising report on mysjsu says that I’m missing electives, but I have taken two. Should I be concerned?

No. This report is not accurate for technical electives. As long as you have taken the electives on your major form, you are OK.