Department of Bioengineering

Biomedical Engineering (BS)

Mission of the Department of Bioengineering

The mission of the Bioengineering Department is to provide a state-of-the-art, highly interdisciplinary, teaching and research environment for undergraduate and graduate students. Whether at undergraduate or post-graduate levels, our students will be able to reach across traditional disciplinary boundaries, and work effectively with experts in engineering, life sciences, and medicine. At the Bachelors level, our graduates will be ready to meet the rapidly growing demand for bioengineers, and tackle challenges in emerging areas, including but not limited to personalized medicine, biomedical devices, and targeted drug delivery. At the Masters and PhD levels, our graduates will undertake original cutting-edge research at the forefront of scientific and technological developments in bioengineering.

High School Preparation

Engineering education requires a strong high school preparation. Pre-engineering students should have high school preparation of at least one-half year in trigonometry and at least one year each in algebra, pre-calculus, plane geometry, chemistry, and physics, thus developing their competencies to the highest possible levels and preparing to move immediately into demanding college courses in calculus, calculus-based physics, and chemistry for science majors. It is also essential that pre-engineering students have the competence to read rapidly and with comprehension, and to write clearly and correctly.

Lower-Division Study

All lower-division students in Biomedical Engineering concentrate on mathematics, science, and introductory engineering courses, building competence in these cornerstone areas for future application in upper-division engineering courses. The following requirements apply both to students seeking to transfer to UT Dallas from other institutions as well as to those currently enrolled at UT Dallas, whether in another school or in the Erik Jonsson School of Engineering and Computer Science.

Academic Progress in Biomedical Engineering

In order to make satisfactory academic progress as a Biomedical Engineering major, a student must meet all University requirements for academic progress, and must earn a grade of C- or better in each of the "major requirements" courses. No "Major Requirement" course may be taken until the student has obtained a grade of C- or better in each of the prerequisites. If a higher grade requirement is stated for a specific class, the higher requirement applies.
Bachelor of Science in Biomedical Engineering

Degree Requirements [122 semester credit hours]\(^1\)

View an Example of Degree Requirements by Semester

Faculty

**Professors:** Orlando Auciello, Stuart Cogan, Baofei Fei, Stephen D. Levene, Joseph Pancrazio, Shalini Prasad, Robert L. Rennaker II, David Schmidtke, Mihaela C. Stefan

**Associate Professors:** Leonidas Bleris, Kenneth Hoyt, Danieli Rodrigues, Mario Romero-Ortega

**Assistant Professors:** Nicholas Fey, Robert D. Gregg, Heather Hayenga, Seth Hays, Hyun-Joo Nam, Shashank Sirsi, Victor Varner, Jun Wang, Taylor Ware

**Senior Lecturers:** Tariq Ali, Soudeh Ardestani Khoubrouy, Allison Case, Steven Foland, Clark A. Meyer, Kathleen Myers, Joe Pacheco, Todd W. Polk, Patrick Winter

**UT Dallas Affiliated Faculty:** Jeremiah J. Gassensmith, John Hart Jr., Michael P. Kilgard, Ann Majewicz Fey, Majid Minary, Faruck Morcos, Issa M. S. Panahi, Balakrishnan Prabhakaran, A. Dean Sherry, Mathukumalli Vidyasagar, Walter E. Voit, Hyuntae Yoo, Michael Qiwei Zhang

I. Core Curriculum Requirements: 42 semester credit hours\(^2\)

**Communication: 6 semester credit hours**

- RHET 1302 Rhetoric
- ECS 3390 Professional and Technical Communication\(^3\)

**Mathematics: 3 semester credit hours**

- MATH 2417 Calculus I\(^4\)

**Life and Physical Sciences: 6 semester credit hours**

- PHYS 2325 Mechanics\(^5\)
- PHYS 2326 Electromagnetism and Waves\(^5\)

**Language, Philosophy and Culture: 3 semester credit hours**

Select any 3 semester credit hours from Language, Philosophy and Culture core courses (see advisor)

**Creative Arts: 3 semester credit hours**

Select any 3 semester credit hours from Creative Arts core courses (see advisor)

**American History: 6 semester credit hours**

Select any 6 semester credit hours from American History core courses (see advisor)
Government / Political Science: 6 semester credit hours

   GOVT 2305  American National Government
   GOVT 2306  State and Local Government

Social and Behavioral Sciences: 3 semester credit hours

   ECS 2361  Social Issues and Ethics in Science and Technology

Component Area Option: 6 semester credit hours

   MATH 2417  Calculus I
   MATH 2419  Calculus II
   PHYS 2125  Physics Laboratory I

II. Major Requirements: 80 semester credit hours

Major Preparatory Courses: 20 semester credit hours beyond Core Curriculum

   CHEM 1301  General Chemistry for Engineers
   CHEM 2324  Introductory Organic Chemistry for Engineers
   CS 1324  Introduction to Programming for Biomedical Engineers
   BIOL 2311  Introduction to Modern Biology I
   BIOL 2111  Introduction to Modern Biology Workshop I
   BIOL 2281  Introductory Biology Laboratory
   MATH 2417  Calculus I
   MATH 2419  Calculus II
   MATH 2420  Differential Equations with Applications
   PHYS 2125  Physics Laboratory I
   PHYS 2126  Physics Laboratory II
   PHYS 2325  Mechanics
   PHYS 2326  Electromagnetism and Waves

Major Core Courses: 51 semester credit hours beyond Core Curriculum

   ECS 1100  Introduction to Engineering and Computer Science
   BMEN 1100  Introduction to Bioengineering
   BMEN 1208  Introduction to Bioengineering II
   ENGR 2300  Linear Algebra for Engineers
   BMEN 2320  Statics
Prescribed Electives: 9 semester credit hours

Students pursuing the general program take 9 semester credit hours using any other BMEN 3000 level or higher class or any other upper division engineering course with approval from the department. Students must document 9 semester credit hours of engineering content for these to count towards their degree.

Fast Track Baccalaureate/Master’s Degrees

In response to the need for advanced education in Biomedical engineering, a Fast Track program is available to well-qualified UT Dallas undergraduate students. Qualified seniors may take up to 15 graduate semester credit hours that may be used to complete the baccalaureate degree and also to satisfy the requirements for the master’s degree. This is accomplished by (1) taking courses (typically electives) during one or more summer semesters, and (2) beginning graduate coursework during the senior year. Details are available from the Associate Dean for Undergraduate Education.

Honors Program

The Department of Biomedical Engineering offers upper-division Honors for outstanding students in the BS Biomedical Engineering degree program. This program offers special sections of designated classes and other activities designed to enhance the educational
experience of exceptional students. Admission to the Honors programs requires a 3.500 or better GPA in at least 30 semester credit hours of coursework. Graduation with Honors requires a 3.500 or better GPA and completion of at least 6 honors classes. These honors classes must include either Senior Honors in Biomedical Engineering (BMEN 4399) or Engineering Practicum (BMEN 4V98) and a Senior Honors Thesis must be completed within one of those two classes. While the topics may be related, the Senior Thesis does not replace the need for the student to complete a regular Senior Design Project. The other 5 honors classes can come from a mixture of Graduate level (up to a count of 4) classes and special honor sections of regular undergraduate BMEN classes (up to a count of 2). Departmental Honors with Distinction may be awarded to students whose Senior Honors Thesis is judged by a faculty committee to be of exemplary quality. Only students graduating with Departmental Honors are eligible. Thesis/projects must be submitted by the deadline that applies to MS Theses in the graduating semester to allow for proper evaluation. Students interested in Honors with Distinction are encouraged to start working on their thesis/project a year prior to graduation.

Considerations for Pre-Med Students

While the Department of Bioengineering does not have an official track for pre-med students, a suggested course sequence is available to guide pre-med students in selecting complementary coursework. It is critical that students interested in medical school meet with their advisor to ensure their biology and chemistry courses will meet the requirements for medical schools.

Minors

The Department of Bioengineering does not offer minors at this time.

1. Incoming freshmen must enroll and complete requirements of UNIV 1010 and the corresponding school-related freshman seminar course. Students, including transfer students, who complete their core curriculum at UT Dallas must take UNIV 2020.

2. Curriculum Requirements can be fulfilled by other approved courses from institutions of higher education. The courses listed are recommended as the most efficient way to satisfy both Core Curriculum and Major Requirements at UT Dallas.

3. Semester credit hours fulfill the communication component of the Core Curriculum.

4. Three semester credit hours of Calculus are counted under Mathematics Core, and five semester credit hours of Calculus are counted as Component Area Option Core.

5. Six semester credit hours of Physics are counted under Science core, and one semester credit hour of Physics (PHYS 2125) is counted as Component Area Option Core.

6. Semester credit hours contribute to the Social and Behavioral Sciences component of the Core Curriculum.

7. Students must pass each of the major requirement courses listed in this degree plan and each of their prerequisites, with a grade of C- or better.

8. Transfer students with sufficient background may petition to substitute upper-division semester credit hours in the major for this class.