

# Advising Matters

ENGINEERING ADVISING CENTER • 230 CHRYSLER CENTER • MONDAY-FRIDAY 8-5  
[eac\\_advising@umich.edu](mailto:eac_advising@umich.edu)  
[www.engin.umich.edu/advising](http://www.engin.umich.edu/advising)

## Make Your Fall Advising Appointment Today!

Now that you are settled in your first term of college courses, it's time to begin planning for your next term! You are **REQUIRED** to meet with your EAC academic advisor OR an EAC faculty advisor in your field of interest before you register in December.

Sign up at [www.engin.umich.edu/advising](http://www.engin.umich.edu/advising). On this website, you can quickly search for your advisor's available times and schedule an appointment. In addition to the EAC academic advisors, faculty advisors from many CoE departments are available to meet with students for course planning in the EAC. Their available times are also posted on this scheduling website. Faculty advisors can share detailed information about their field and help you determine which CoE major fits your interests.

Here are a few helpful hints as you prepare for your advising appointment:

1. Be on time. If you need to miss your appointment, please reschedule online (up to 24 hours in advance). If it is the day of your appointment, call the EAC front desk as soon as possible at 734-647-7106.
2. Research majors and campus opportunities that interest you.
3. Bring a list of questions you would like to ask your advisor.
4. Bring a list of courses you would like to take in the Winter Term.

*See you soon at the EAC!*

## Peer Advisors Host Evening Walk-In Hours

Take advantage of the opportunity to meet with an EAC peer advisor during their convenient evening advising hours. Peer advisors can answer questions about courses, engineering majors, resources on campus, and life as an engineering student. It is a good idea to meet with a peer advisor to get a head start on course selections before your fall advising appointment.

**Peer Advising Walk-in Hours:**  
**Bursley Advising Office:**  
Thursdays, 7:30-9:30 p.m.  
**UGLI, Room 2124:**  
Tuesdays, 7:30-9:30 p.m.

**Remember, you can also ask questions on C-Tools! [www.ctools.umich.edu](http://www.ctools.umich.edu)**

**...AND, if you're not already a fan of the EAC on Facebook, Please join us!**



*The EAC has nine peer advisors who are available to help you through your first year in the College of Engineering. Use this resource well!*

**INSIDE THIS ISSUE: Peer Advisor Tips for October and Where to Get Help With Classes**

## Don't Be Seduced By September

By Jordan Wyrwa,  
BME Senior & EAC Peer Advisor

The above phrase is the major thing I remember from my summer orientation four years ago. Your first September in Ann Arbor may seem a lot like summer camp – you're making a ton of new friends, doing exciting activities and staying up late. Most professors tend to ease you into the school year with what I like to call "syllabus week." The first couple of meetings for your classes are all about introductions and course expectations. As the title of this article suggests, beware of falling into the lure of this lifestyle.

Syllabus week will quickly disappear, homework sets will start to fill up your MPlanner, and the looming October midterms will arrive sooner than you think. Start studying and completing assignments early. This will give you a chance to get help in office hours...because unfortunately, most professors and GSIs don't hold their office hours at 2 a.m. the night before the due date.

Also, while we love to see you participate in co-curricular activities, do not become over-involved in your first term. Attend three to five mass meetings to get a taste of each organization, and then choose one or two groups to stick with. The group you choose doesn't have to be connected to your major. I'm studying Biomedical Engineering, and I also compete with the rowing team. Choosing a group unlike your major gives you a chance to relax and learn things that you can apply to other areas of your life. Rowing has taught me teamwork and time management skills. A lot of people worry that they won't have enough time for studying, but I've found that I'm more focused and get more work done. Also, being in an organization is a great way to meet classmates and form study groups.

If you'd rather get used to classes before joining a student organization, you can join later in the semester or next term. Groups tend to only have mass meetings at the beginning of the term, but they are always looking for new members. Use Maize Pages (<http://uuis.umich.edu/maizepgs/>) to find contact emails. Some groups even have an office where you can stop by and chat with members. So find a group you're passionate about, study hard, and GO BLUE!

## A Guide to Surviving October

By Tony Martus,  
CHE Senior & EAC Peer Advisor

October can be a scary month as a first-year student in the College of Engineering. People are wearing frightening costumes, the weather is beginning to worsen, and you have midterms. The best way to get through these challenges is to plan ahead.

Find a costume for Halloween; most people on campus really get into the fun of Halloween, and you should too. The more unique the costume, the better. For example, last year I went as a Care Bear. There is no better stress-buster than good old-fashioned fun.

The next thing to worry about in October is the cold winter looming ahead. I recommend you buy a winter jacket and a thick sweatshirt. Layering is the key to surviving winter in Michigan. For those of you who are used to a warm climate, a big puffy parka is your best bet.

The most important thing you can do to survive the month of October is to prepare well for your midterms. It is important that you be confident when going to your first midterm exam, and the best way to build this confidence is to stay on top of your studies and start studying early. If you're having difficulty with your studies, use resources like office hours, the Math Lab, and Engineering Learning Center. Remember, you are smart! That's why you got into Michigan. But now it is time for you to work hard and earn your good grades.

HA HA HA! HA HA HA! HA HA HA!

### Engineering Joke of the Day:

Optimist: "The glass is half full."

Pessimist: "The glass is half empty."

Engineer: "That glass is twice as large as it needs to be."

<http://coolfunnyquotes.blogspot.com/>

## Classes more challenging than you expected? Get (FREE) help here:

NOW is the time to get help if you're feeling overwhelmed. Failure to ask for help is the #1 reason students find themselves in serious academic difficulty. Don't let that happen to you! Use the resources below, and meet with your EAC advisor to create a plan to succeed this term.

### Your Instructor's Office Hours

Take advantage of this time to ask questions that will help you understand the material.

This is one of the most useful (and most underutilized!) resources available to students.

### Engineering Learning Center: 273 Chrysler

Offers supplemental instruction sessions, practice exams, study space, and tutoring. Pick up a tutoring list at the ELC or the EAC. Tutors are available for Math, Chemistry, Physics, Engr 101, and some department courses.

### Math Lab: B 860 East Hall

Offers GSI help and reference materials.  
[www.math.lsa.umich.edu/undergrad/mathlab](http://www.math.lsa.umich.edu/undergrad/mathlab)

### Science Learning Center: 1720 CHEM

Offers study groups, GSI office hours, tutoring, and study materials.  
<http://www.lsa.umich.edu/slc/>

### Physics Help Room: 1416 Randall Lab

Offers GSI help and reference materials.  
<http://helproom.physics.lsa.umich.edu>

### Tau Beta Pi Engineering Society Tutoring:

Upper-class honors students provide free tutoring for all 100 and 200 level math and science courses, and 100-level engineering courses. Check their website for locations and times: [www.eecs.umich.edu/~tbp](http://www.eecs.umich.edu/~tbp)

## Feeling sick? Here's What to Do:

- 1) If you will miss class, contact your instructors to let them know you are ill. Note: Do not attend classes until you are fever-free for 24 hours.
- 2) Go to UHS if appropriate. Refer to the link "What to do if you have the flu" on their website: <http://www.uhs.umich.edu/> for advice on when to see a medical professional.
- 3) If your doctor says you have the H1N1 virus, go to the College of Engineering website to register: [www.engin.umich.edu](http://www.engin.umich.edu) (click on "What to do if you get sick" on the right-hand side). This will help the College keep track of how many students are affected.
- 4) After you are feeling better, see your instructors right away to make up any missed work.
- 5) If you will miss class for an extended period of time or feel you're falling behind in your coursework, inform your EAC advisor.

See an EAC advisor without making an appointment!

## WALK-IN WEDNESDAYS at the EAC

STARTING OCTOBER 7  
Wednesdays, 1-4:30 p.m.



*Thanks for joining us at Welcome Day.  
Watch your email for information  
about fun Halloween events at the EAC!*

University of Michigan  
College of Engineering  
230 Chrysler Center  
2121 Bonisteel Blvd.  
Ann Arbor, Michigan 48109-2092

The Regents of the University of Michigan:  
Julia Donovan Darlow, Ann Arbor  
Laurence B. Deitch, Bingham Farms  
Denise Ilitch, Bingham Farms  
Olivia P. Maynard, Goodrich  
Andrea Fischer Newman, Ann Arbor  
Andrew C. Richner, Grosse Pointe Park  
S. Martin Taylor, Grosse Pointe Farms  
Katherine E. White, Ann Arbor  
Mary Sue Coleman, ex officio

**Your EAC Advisors:**  
Mercedes (Mechy) Barcia, Director,  
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Rachel Flaten, Student Assist., rachelfk@umich.edu

*Adding/Withdrawing from a Course  
Pass/Fail Course Procedures  
Before **NOVEMBER 11th:***

1. Obtain an add/drop form from the Engineering Advising Center at 230 Chrysler.
2. Fill out the add/drop or P/F modifier section.
3. Get appropriate signatures.
  - For Add/Drop: Need signatures from EAC advisor and instructor.
  - For Pass/Fail: Need EAC advisor signature.
4. Submit the form to the Engineering Records Office, 145A Chrysler.

NOTE: Dropping a course at this point in the term will result in a "W" (withdrawal) posted to your transcript. A "W" does not affect your semester GPA and is better than a failing grade.

See your advisor if you're unsure about whether to drop or pass/fail a class. To drop a course after November 11, you must petition and provide evidence of extenuating circumstances. *Poor performance is not an extenuating circumstance. Read more at: <http://www.engin.umich.edu/students/bulletin>*

**Upcoming Dates to Remember:**

**October** = Sign up for an advising appointment this month! [www.engin.umich.edu/advising](http://www.engin.umich.edu/advising). You should meet with either your EAC advisor, or an EAC faculty advisor in the field of your choice.

**October 19-20** = Fall Study Break! Use this break from classes to get ahead on your homework and projects.

**October 21** = Global Careers in Engineering and Technology Information Session hosted by ECRC and IPE from 6-8 p.m. in Chrysler Commons.

**October 28** = *EAC Mythbusters: How to Succeed in the CoE* at 6 p.m. in Chrysler Commons. EAC staff and peer advisors debunk common myths that result in lower grades.

**October 31** = *Happy Halloween*. Watch your email for information about the EAC's Halloween festivities!

