

# Courses and Curricula

## Course Descriptions

### Course Numbers

Courses are arranged numerically by department or program. In general, courses numbered from 100 to 199 are intended primarily for first-year students (freshmen); 200 to 299 for second-year students (sophomores); 300 to 399 for third-year students (juniors); 400 to 499 for fourth-year students (seniors); and 500 to 599 for graduate students. Exceptions may be made with the approval of the major advisor and instructor. Graduate students may be allowed credit for courses numbered 300 and above.

### Credit Hours

Following the course title, you will find the number of credit hours (cr) you will receive for completing the course. Credit hours are measured in class hours (cl hrs), lab hours (lab hrs), and recitation/discussion hours (recitation hr).

"1 cl hr" and "1 recitation hr" correspond roughly to one hour spent in class each week and is equivalent to one (1) credit hour. "3 lab hrs" equals about three hours per week in the laboratory and is also equivalent to one (1) credit hour.

In addition to class and lab time, you can expect to spend about two to three hours of study and preparation for each credit hour of class.

Most one-semester classes average three credit hours. To graduate with a bachelor's degree, you will need a minimum of 130 credit hours, depending on your chosen major.

### Prerequisites and Corequisites

Some courses have prerequisites or courses you must take before enrolling in that course. Exceptions can be made with the instructor's approval. If you enroll in a course in which you do not have the prerequisites without the instructor's permission, you will be disenrolled.

Corequisites are courses taken during the same semester.

### Semester Offered

Odd-numbered courses are usually offered in the fall semester; even-numbered courses are usually offered in the spring semester. Courses that are offered only one semester ("Offered fall semesters") or alternate years ("Offered Spring 2000 and alternate years") are so noted. "Offered on demand" implies that a sufficient number of students want to enroll in the course.

### Description

The course description contains a short list of topics to be covered during the semester. This list is not meant to be exhaustive.

### Cross-listing

Sometimes courses fulfill the requirements for two different degrees and are listed under both programs. In such cases, the course description will end with the cross-listing "(Same as BCS 283)."

## Electives

Electives are courses taken in addition to the specific courses required by your major. Electives bring your credit hours up to the required number for graduation. Some majors allow students to choose many electives; others, few.

New Mexico Tech's community college classes (designated by the letter "C" in the course number) may not be used to fulfill the General Degree Requirements for a Bachelor of Science degree (listed on page 47). However, these classes may be used to fulfill elective credit for some programs.

## Degree Requirements

In order to graduate, every student enrolled in a Bachelor of Science program must complete Tech's General Degree Requirements, which are listed on page 47. This core set of requirements contains courses in humanities, mathematics, and basic science or engineering.

Graduate students must also complete a set of general requirements.

In addition, each program has its own set of courses you must complete to earn the degree, as well as the minimum number of credit hours needed to graduate.

## Sample Curricula

Each program provides sample curricula to help you set your schedule. While you will graduate at the end of four years if you follow the sample curriculum faithfully, *these curricula are meant to be guides only. Talk with your advisor to chart your individual curriculum and select electives to round out your degree program.*