

ENTC 399 – High Impact Experience

WHY?

At Texas A&M University we are committed to making our Aggie engineers the most sought-after candidates in the workforce. This requires going beyond the core curriculum in engineering to provide you with skills and experiences which will enhance your engineering degree and thus make you more attractive to employers. Colleges and universities nationwide together with employers and entrepreneurs have studied and recognized a great need to broaden a students' college experience to better prepare them for their professional lives – The ENGR High Impact Experience is our solution.

HOW?

All College of Engineering students in the Fall 2017 catalog and later must complete a high impact experience in order to graduate. Unlike a traditional course, this is a three-step process. First, you will need to get your experience approved using this form: <https://it-lf-ecmf2.ads.tamu.edu/Forms/High-Impact-Experience-Approval>. Then you will complete an approved high impact experience on your own. Lastly, you will register for the 0 credit hour ENTC 399 and complete the requirements for that course. Once those steps have been satisfactorily met, your degree audit will reflect completion of the required high impact experience. The timeline for ensuring this experience is completed in time to graduate includes:

- Identifying a high impact experience (options are listed below). **If you have questions about whether a high impact experience will count, ASK AN ETID ADVISOR before completing it!**
- Have your experience approved. **This must be completed before the start of the experience!** You can find the links to the forms at etid.tamu.edu under Academic Forms. <https://it-lf-ecmf2.ads.tamu.edu/Forms/High-Impact-Experience-Approval>
- Complete the high impact experience. The experience must be completed by the second semester of your ETID Capstone coursework sequence.
- Register for ENTC 399 (0 credit hours). Your experience must be completed no later than two weeks before the end of the semester in which you register for ENTC 399, but can be completed sooner. While ENTC 399 is a 0 credit hour course, you **MUST**:
 - Complete a two page self-reflection for the course (see instructions for the reflection paper at the end of this document)
 - Turn in the two page self-reflection by the date assigned during the orientation
- If you have completed an approved High Impact Experience prior to joining the ETID department please visit with an ETID advisor on how to proceed.
- **Only once you have completed the high impact experience AND ENTC 399 with a passing grade, will you be able to graduate.**

Approved High Impact Experiences List

All experiences **MUST** be approved by filling out the form at the following link: <https://it-lf-ecmf2.ads.tamu.edu/Forms/High-Impact-Experience-Approval>

1. Internship or Co-Op Experience

A paid or unpaid internship with a company doing work that is related to your major. Must be six weeks or more in duration, full-time effort, and taken either during the summer, fall or spring while you are a student in ETID. Alternatively, a co-op experience where you register for an ENGR 385 course while working for the company will qualify.

Proof of completion: A signed letter from your immediate supervisor with a short description of the internship/co-op including start and end date.

2. Undergraduate Research

Student must engage in research that pertains to their major with a chosen professor. In order to earn credit for your High Impact Experience requirement, you must complete 1 hour or more of 491 coursework with a grade of C or better and be able to furnish a letter of reference from the professor who supervised your research. Research with college of engineering faculty is recommended. If you are researching with faculty outside of the college of engineering, your project will be reviewed for relevance to your major and level of rigor and may not be approved.

Proof of completion: An unofficial transcript indicating that you successfully completed a minimum of one hour of 491 credit and a reference letter from your faculty supervisor.

3. Study Abroad Courses and Experiences

An international travel and study abroad course related to your major. The experience must be two weeks or more in duration and offered through ETID or the College of Engineering. Must be for Texas A&M University course credit of one or more hours.

Proof of completion: An unofficial transcript showing the study abroad course with a grade of C or better.

4. Talent Incubator

Student will be hired through the Talent Incubator through the Industrial Distribution department. The program will be nine months in length and complete a presentation to the company at the end of the program.

Proof of completion: A letter from the Talent Incubator confirming that you completed a minimum of one semester of meaningful activity in their incubator

5. TAMU Minor or Certificate Program

Student must complete any minor or certificate program offered and recognized by Texas A&M University. Student may choose any valid TAMU minor or certificate program. The coursework for the minor or certificate needs to be completed before your expected graduation date for this to count as your High Impact Experience. In addition, the minor or certificate must include at least six hours of coursework that is not included in coursework being used towards your degree.

Proof of completion: A degree evaluation that indicates successful completion of all minor or certificate requirements (or an evaluation showing you are in the rest of your courses needed for the minor).

6. Student Research Worker

Students who are hired to work for a faculty or staff member on the TAMU campus. The work must be related to your degree and must be research/development/teaching/training in nature. Administrative and/or office work will not satisfy this requirement. Examples of activities that might be approved include working as a paid undergraduate researcher, working on the development of technical training materials, having responsibility of delivering a STEM workshop, etc. This activity must be at least one semester and no less than ten hours/week in duration. Research for a project that is required for a course can not be used for the high impact experience

Proof of completion: A reference letter from your faculty supervisor indicating that you spent no less than one semester at 10 hours/week of effort and that your efforts were satisfactory.

7. Leadership in Student Organizations

Student must be in a Texas A&M University recognized officer position (ETID organization leadership is preferred). Leadership in organizations outside of ETID, and especially outside of the college of engineering will be reviewed for relevance to your major and level of impact, and may not be approved.

Proof of completion: A reference letter from the faculty advisor of the organization indicating that you completed a minimum of one semester in an officer position. The letter must indicate the value you contributed to the organization.

8. Corp of Cadets Membership

Must be enrolled in one of the core of cadets units, Aggie Band, ROTC-Air Force, ROTC-Army or ROTC Navy/Marine.

Proof of completion: Must have successfully registered and completed 3 credit hours of SOMS/band, NVSC, MLSC or AERS sections.

9. AggieE_Challenge

The program provides engineering undergraduates with opportunities to engage in multidisciplinary team projects addressing elements of some of the most important engineering challenges. Student is required to take a total of 3 hours of courses that contribute to AggieE_Challenge. For more information about Aggie Challenge see:

<https://engineering.tamu.edu/easa/areas/enrichment/aggiechallenge/about.html>

Proof of completion: An unofficial transcript showing at appropriate ENGR 491 coursework (≥ 3 hours) with a grade of C or better.

10. Honors Program

Students will participate in the University, College, or Departmental Honors Programs and complete no less than twelve hours of honors coursework. More information on these programs can be found at this link: <http://honorsprograms.tamu.edu/>. Students must complete at least twelve hours of honors coursework prior to the second semester of their senior year.

Proof of completion: An unofficial transcript showing at least twelve hours of honors coursework with a grade of C or better.

11. Startup Aggieland

Startup Aggieland is a globally recognized, award-winning, job creation program disguised as a multidisciplinary business accelerator. Students are required to show proof of completion of their Startup Aggieland project to earn credit for their High Impact Experience requirement.

Proof of completion: A letter from Startup Aggieland confirming that you completed a minimum of one semester of meaningful activity towards a startup in their incubator.

12. Engineering or Business Competitions

Student must receive pre-approval from their program coordinator or faculty advisor. The student must have placed first, second or third in the competition.

Proof of completion: A letter or certificate indicating that you have won 1st, 2nd or 3rd place in the competition.

13. Grand Challenge Scholars Program

A 3-year program beginning in sophomore year. Students meet with a Grand Challenge Faculty Mentor to build a custom curriculum that meets the five GCSP components: Research, Interdisciplinary, Entrepreneurship, Global Perspective, and Service Learning. Students will engage in research and complete a thesis, as well as serving as GCSP Ambassadors. Students will present their research at the Annual Spring Symposium. Detailed information can be found at this link: <http://engineering.tamu.edu/programs/gcsp/program-overview>

Proof of completion: Certificate of completion of the program or a letter from the honors office stating that you are on track after their first two years requirements

14. Other Experiences

If you would like to propose a high impact experience that is not listed above, you may submit a one page proposal via the approval form that describes the experience, indicates the number of hours of effort, lists a start and end date, and proposes how you will prove successful completion at the end of the experience. This will then be reviewed by the faculty member responsible for ENTC 399 as well as the appropriate program coordinator. APPROVAL FOR A PROPOSED EXPERIENCE MUST BE RECEIVED PRIOR TO START DATE OF THE EXPERIENCE OR IT WILL NOT BE COUNTED.

Proof of completion: As proposed by the student.

Instructions for the Two-Page Self Reflection

Purpose: The purpose for the self-reflection is for you to summarize the impact that your chosen activity had on you and your education. This self-reflection piece will then be evaluated by the faculty member teaching ENTC 399 and they will determine if you have satisfied your ENTC 399 credit.

Format: Your self-reflection must include the following components:

- a cover sheet with your name, major, type of high impact experience as per the attached list of experiences, the start date, and the end date
- the 2 page reflection should be double-spaced, 12 point Times New Roman font with 1" margins on all sides. The reflection should have:
 - a half page summary description of the high impact experience
 - a one and a half page discussion of how the experience impacted you and your education. It should answer the following questions:
 - What did you learn beyond your technical education from this experience?
 - How will you apply this experience to your career and professional life?
 - What recommendations can you make to future students about how to maximize the value of their high impact experience?

Due Date: The reflection is due the semester in which you are registered for the required ENTC 399 – High Impact Experience course.