FAQs for 2018 Incoming University Studies/Explore Technology Students

MESSAGE FOR INCOMING STUDENTS AND PARENTS

Please click here for a message from Dr. Kimberly S. Smith, Director of University Studies.

ADMISSION

Why didn’t I get into my first choice/major?
If you did not get into your first choice of major, you can contact the Admissions Office to discuss your individual situation. Their contact information is vtadmiss@vt.edu – email
540-231-6267 – phone
540-231-9175 – TDD

Who do I contact to change my major before orientation?
If you are interested in changing into a different major before orientation, you should review the list of majors with available space for immediate entry at http://www.admiss.vt.edu/available-majors/. The list is current but subject to changes and updates as additional majors fill.

Should you wish to major in any of the programs on this listing, please send an email to appchange@vt.edu no later than June 15, 2018. You will receive email confirmation that your change has been made.

Can I graduate on time if I’m admitted into University Studies/Explore Technology?
Most degree programs require a minimum of 120 credit hours in order to graduate, and the majority of degree programs can be completed within four years (5 years for Architecture). There are factors, however, that could affect this timeline, including how many credits you bring to the University (AP, dual enrollment transfer, etc.), how many credits you take each semester at Virginia Tech, and course availability at Virginia Tech.

How long can I stay in University Studies/Explore Technology?
You can stay in University Studies/Explore Technology until you have earned 60 credits toward graduation or until you have attempted 72 hours, even if some of those hours do not apply toward graduation. “Hours toward graduation” would include any AP, IB, or dual enrollment credits you may have earned as a high school student.
**ARCHITECTURE**

Internal Transfers: [http://archdesign.vt.edu/admissions/transfer](http://archdesign.vt.edu/admissions/transfer)

Note that the internal transfer application information linked above is for students who entered VT summer or fall 2016. However, the application process described is the same each year. At the appropriate time, the College of Architecture and Urban Studies will update the page with dates specific to students who enter VT summer or fall 2017. There is no required coursework that will need to be completed prior to application to architecture.

**ENGINEERING**

**Letter from Admissions** – You applied to General Engineering but were offered admission into your second choice of University Studies or Explore Technology: *What does this mean?*

**Would my chances of pursuing Engineering be better if I committed to another major now instead of staying in University Studies/Explore Technology?**

Internal transfer requirements for the College of Engineering are exactly the same – no matter what your major is. If you think that you might change your mind about pursuing an engineering degree and prefer another major instead, consider making that change of major now. Be advised that the other major will expect you to make progress toward their degree requirements.

**I looked on your website for the curriculum and am concerned that I will have to spend an extra semester or an extra year at Virginia Tech because I was not directly admitted into the engineering program. Should I prepare to take classes at a community college over the summer?**

Admission to University Studies/University Studies instead of direct admission to the College of Engineering may add time, thus expense, to a degree program – most likely a 1 year minimum. Only a student admitted directly to General Engineering may enroll in ENGE 1215 in the fall semester.

**Important Information:**


- Information on transferrable ENGE courses at [https://www.eng.vt.edu/transferring/enge-courses](https://www.eng.vt.edu/transferring/enge-courses)
- Review this site for additional information on majors in the College of Engineering: [http://www.enge.vt.edu/explore-engineering.html](http://www.enge.vt.edu/explore-engineering.html)
CREDITS: AP, IB, TRANSFER/DUAL ENROLLMENT

What is AP credit?
Advanced Placement credits are awarded based on the scores you received on the AP test(s). Make sure you have sent the scores from ALL of the years and tests you have taken. This may impact the courses you will take in the fall semester. If your scores were not sent to the Registrar’s Office, you should contact the College Board at (888) 225-5427 and have the scores sent. Virginia Tech’s school code is 5859.

What is IB credit?
International Baccalaureate credits are awarded based on the scores received. Make sure you have sent the scores from ALL of the years and tests you have taken. This may impact the courses you will take in the fall semester. If your scores were not sent to the Registrar’s Office, please refer to the IBO website at https://ibanswers.ibo.org/app/answers/detail/a_id/133.

What is Dual Enrollment credit?
If you have taken classes at your local community college through your high school, these courses are considered to be Dual Enrollment courses. You will need to contact the specific community college to have your transcripts sent to Virginia Tech, because these courses may impact the courses you take in the fall.

What is the mailing address for the Registrar’s Office?
Office of the University Registrar (MC 0134)  
Student Services Building, Ste. 250, Virginia Tech  
800 Washington St., NW  
Blacksburg, VA, 24061

OTHER
How will I receive information from Virginia Tech?
All correspondence is sent to your Virginia Tech email address (@vt.edu). You are responsible for reading ALL emails sent from any Virginia Tech department.

I’m planning to take the Calculus Readiness test during Orientation. How much time do I have to take this test once I get started?
The Readiness Test is not timed, however, you must complete the test during the scheduled proctoring hours. Additional information can be found here: http://www.emporium.vt.edu/Readiness/Test.html

The Calculus Readiness test is also offered during the first two days of fall semester, during proctoring hours.
Computer Requirement

Use this link to view information about the VT’s computer requirement:  http://www.compreq.vt.edu/FAQ.html

In the menu at the top, go to “Get Ready”; open the “College and Department List of Specifications” on the right side of the page. Click on University Studies / Undecided or XT: Explore Technology. Review the information thoroughly.

University Studies has no recommendation on purchasing a computer that meets specifications for your intended major; this is at the student’s discretion.

ROTC Scholarship Information

AFROTC:  www.af.vt.edu ==> Scholarships

AROTC:  www.armyrotc.vt.edu ==> Prospective Cadets ==> VT Army ROTC Scholarships

NROTC:  www.usnavy.vt.edu ==> Scholarships