



THE UNIVERSITY OF
ALABAMA AT BIRMINGHAM



The University of Alabama at Birmingham

INTO  THE UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA AT BIRMINGHAM

Why INTO-UAB?

- To build on diverse growth goals
- To meet UAB's strategic goals related to internationalization of the campus
- To increase UAB's global reputation and renown
- To provide wider access and interest for international students to study at UAB



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Paths to UAB for International Students

- **Direct Entry**
- Students who meet the specified language and academic criteria may apply directly to The University of Alabama at Birmingham. Students who do not meet these requirements are encouraged to apply to INTO UAB's Pathway and English language programs.
- **INTO UAB Pathway Programs**
- INTO UAB's Undergraduate and Graduate Pathway programs are ideal for international students who may need additional English language and academic preparation before continuing to a degree.
- **INTO UAB English Language Program**
- INTO UAB's English language program can help students at all levels acquire the English language skills for university study at UAB and attain academic, professional and personal goals.



What are *Pathway Programs?*

- Pathway Programs are programs that allow students to start taking courses in their major while they continue to work on their English academic skills.
- Students are given specialized academic support to account for additional language needs.
- Pathway Programs are designed to provide a “soft-landing” for international students. The life and academic advising leads to greater retention through these wrap-around services.



The INTO UAB Learning Resource Center

- English tutoring for all international students in all skills
- Tutoring for degree/major courses in the Pathways
- Workshops on academic and non-academic topics
 - Ex: Plagiarism, US Culture, Safety, Area-specific Research, Citation Manager software, Writing Lab Reports, Participating in Class Discussions and Group Work
- Pathways students must attend a certain number of tutoring sessions for English and their major
- Students use our scheduling system through website:

www.uab.edu/elp



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Advising for Students *in* the Pathway

- Courses for each semester are pre-selected by department faculty or chairs; students track by cohorts in majors
- Students' main advisor is INTO UAB Academic Staff; required to meet once a semester
- INTO UAB Advisors track:
 - Attendance, grades, required tutoring/workshop attendance, other progression requirements
- INTO UAB Advisors meet with departments/programs at least once a semester or as needed



Advising for Students *Exiting* the Pathway

The last semester in a student's Pathway:

- INTO UAB provides a list of students expected to exit the Pathways
- Students are assigned an advisor in their program/major and set up meetings to choose courses
- Students cannot register until they have been re-admitted by the Grad School or Undergrad Enrollment
 - At times this means seats are held in courses until students can register.



**GRADUATE PATHWAY
PROGRAMS**

GPW Programs – Common Organization

Accelerated Pathway – 1 semester

- ELI 405 – Academic English Skills
- 3 Courses in major (9 credits towards degree)

Standard Pathway – 2 semesters

First Semester

- ELI 401 – Academic Reading/Writing I
- ELI 402 – Academic Speaking/Listening I
- 2 Courses in major (6 credits towards degree)

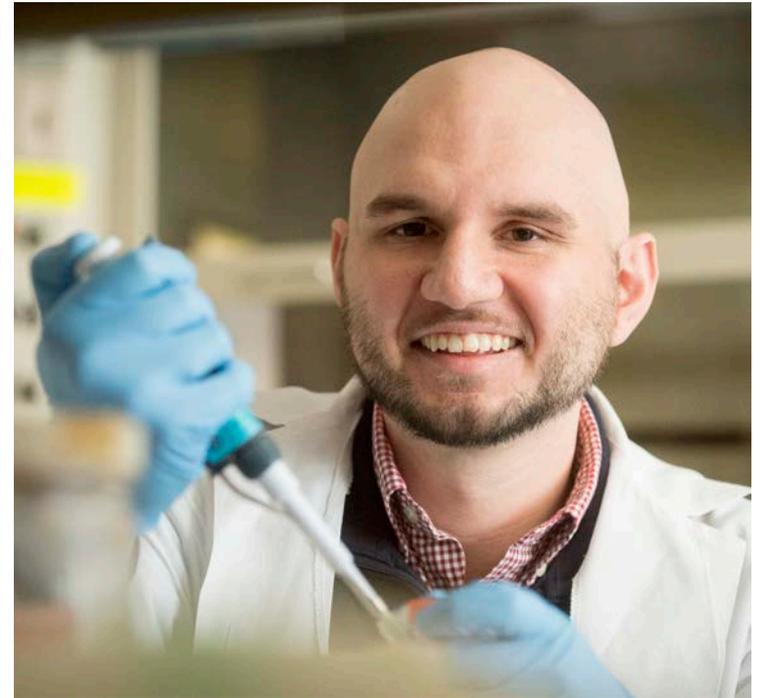
Second Semester

- ELI 403 – Academic Reading/Writing II
- ELI 404 – Academic Speaking/Listening II
- 2 Courses in major (6 credits towards degree)



GPW Programs – Standard and Accelerated

- Arts and Sciences
 - Computer and Information Science
 - Bioinformatics
 - Computer Graphics
 - Parallel and Distributed Computing
- Business
 - Business Administration
 - Finance
 - Information Technology Management
 - Healthcare Management
 - Marketing
- Clinical and Diagnostic Sciences
 - Biotechnology
- Engineering
 - Civil
 - Design and Commercialization
 - Electrical
 - Materials
 - Mechanical



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Sample Pathway: Civil Engineering

Master of Science in Civil Engineering				
Standard Pathway - 2 Semesters	Degree Program Components		Program Information	
Fall: August 23, 2016 Spring: January 3, 2017 Summer: May 2, 2017	30 credit hour program 12 credit hours apply from Pathway 18 credit hours remaining toward degree			
Entry Requirements	Semester 1	Course Title	Credit Hours	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Four-year undergraduate Engineering degree in Civil, Environmental, Mechanical, Structural, Transportation or related field • 2.5 undergraduate GPA • Language requirement: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TOEFL IBT 65 or • IELTS 5.5 or • PTEA 44 or • Completion of Academic English Level 4 or • Password overall level 6 	ELI 401	Academic Reading/Writing I	3	
	ELI 402	Academic Speaking/Listening I	3	
	EGR 602	Methods for Engineering Practice I	3	
		Engineering Major Course	3	
	Total			12
	Semester 2	Course Title	Credit Hours	
	ELI 403	Academic Reading/Writing II	3	
	ELI 404	Academic Speaking/Listening II	3	
	EGR 603	Methods for Engineering Practice II	3	
		Engineering Major Course	3	
Total			12	
Progression Requirements				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minimum 3.0 GPA in graduate level courses • B or better in all courses • No grades I or W permitted 			
	<i>These courses are generally delivered through the INTO UAB Center and are for Pathway students only.</i>			
Accelerated Pathway - 1 Semester	Degree Program Components			
Fall: August 23, 2016 Spring: January 3, 2017 Summer: May 2, 2017	30 credit hour program 9 credit hours apply from Pathway 21 credit hours remaining toward degree			
Entry Requirements	Semester 1	Course Title	Credit Hours	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Four-year undergraduate Engineering degree in Civil, Environmental, Mechanical, Structural, Transportation or related field • 2.5 undergraduate GPA • Language requirement: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TOEFL IBT 80 or • IELTS 6.5 or • PTEA 53 	ELI 405	Academic English Skills	3	
	EGR 602 or 603	Methods for Engineering Practice I or Methods for Engineering Practice II	3	
		Engineering Major Course	3	
		Engineering Major Course	3	
	Total			12





ACADEMIC ENGLISH

Academic English

Program Overview

- 5 levels of instruction from high beginner to advanced
- 20-22 credit hours of instruction each semester
- 2-credit hour skills enhancement/cultural integration course each semester
- Electives are available for higher levels
- Conversation partner program and other activities for extra practice offered each week
- Average class size:15





ADMISSION PROCESS

Entry Requirements

Academic Entry Requirements

- Four-year undergraduate degree or equivalent
- 2.5 undergraduate GPA

English Language Entry Requirements

Standard Pathway

- TOEFL iBT 65 or
- IELTS 5.5 or
- PTEA 44 or
- Completion of Academic English Level 4 or
- Password overall level 6

Accelerated Pathway

- TOEFL iBT 80 or
- IELTS 6.5 or
- PTEA 53



Application Life Cycle

- Student **applies** on either the UAB web application or INTO's web application
- Application Processing Center (APC) **Collects Documents**
- **Communications** are integrated with the APC and UAB International Admissions Department
- Completed Application is sent to UAB International Admissions for **evaluation** and **decision** is made
- **Decision letter** and next steps communication is sent from the APC
- If student **Confirms** (accepts offer) UAB Intl Admissions sends a form **I-20**



Department of International Admissions

- Currently we process admissions for:
 - Graduate Pathway
 - Undergraduate Pathway
 - Undergraduate Direct
 - Academic English



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Student Snapshot

- Total for Fall 2016: 140
 - 8 Undergraduate Pathways
 - 42 Academic English
 - 90 Graduate Pathways
- Total for Spring 2017: 179
 - 18 Undergraduate Pathways
 - 63 Academic English
 - 98 Graduate Pathways



Ultimate Goal for International Admissions

We would like to become a One Stop Shop for all international student applicants at UAB, and act as a resource and service to all academic departments.

- Centralize and Streamline all communication to initial applicants and funnel them to the appropriate program
- Focus on the customer service aspect and shorten response time to increase completion and conversion of an application



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The INTO UAB Center, 2nd Floor of Sterne Library

- We moved in on Friday, March 17th
 - Open from 8:00am-8:00pm M-F
 - Student-centered with student kitchen, lounge, quiet rooms, study area Learning Resource Center, computer lab, etc.
 - Large open main lobby that can be reserved for UAB events
 - A hub for all internationals on campus (ISSS moving there as well)
 - 14 classrooms (5 will be for UAB Schedule 25)





QUESTIONS?

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