



Dear IBE Class of 2027,

I want to welcome you to the Integrated Business and Engineering ([IBE](#)) Honors Program and congratulate you on your decision to come to Lehigh University. My name is [Bob Storer](#). I am a Professor of Industrial and Systems Engineering and also the Co-Director of IBE. I work closely with my IBE colleagues [Prof. Rick Kish](#) and [Prof. Pat Costa](#). Together for over 20 years we have built IBE into Lehigh's most prestigious program. We are excited to meet our next class, and confident that IBE will challenge you and prepare you well for the future.

I am contacting you on your "personal" email since I have not yet received your Lehigh email address. In the future, I will use the Lehigh email address, so be sure to check it regularly.

I will serve as your academic advisor over the summer and help you through the process of registering for fall classes. As I mentioned, I am a Professor, and thus do not know much of anything about housing, financial aid or other similar topics. For answers to these sorts of questions, you can contact the first-year student office (here is their website: <https://studentaffairs.lehigh.edu/content/first-year-experience>). My main job is to get you into the right fall courses and answer any academic questions you might have. You will register for fall courses starting on July 17, 2023.

IMPORTANT TIP #1: AP Exams and other college credits

By far, the **biggest issue IBE students face** in registering for their first semester is the failure to have AP scores reported to Lehigh University. Similarly, students who have taken college courses forget to arrange for credit transfer through Lehigh's Registration & Academic Services (RAS). You can find the [Transfer Credit Policy](#) on RAS's website and may contact them at ras@lehigh.edu or (610) 758-3200 with questions.

If you do not take care of these AP score issues before registration, you will not be allowed to register for the right courses. For example, if you have AP credit for Math 021 ("Calculus I") but Lehigh does not receive your AP scores, you will not be allowed to register for "Calculus II". While you will have a chance to change your schedule when you arrive on campus in the fall, it will make your life much much easier if you get your schedule right before you arrive. What if all sections of Math 022 are full when you arrive on campus? Answer: you have a big problem.

Since registration will occur shortly after Lehigh receives the last round of AP test scores (July 14), it is critical that you take care of these issues **well** in advance. It takes the College Board a long time to respond to requests to send out scores. Even if you pay them extra \$\$\$ to expedite the request, it still typically takes more than a week. If you think you have already arranged for your scores to be sent, we urge you to double check (I can't tell you how many times I have heard "I swear I took care of this.....I don't know what happened").

Lehigh should have all AP credits (that they know about) posted on your transcript by July 16th. Thus, you should check your transcript then to see what credits you have been awarded. However, if you learn on July 14th that there are AP credits missing, it will be too late. Note that the registrar will only post credits you receive. Thus, if you took an AP exam but did not score high enough to receive credits, you will not see this on your transcript.

Registrations and the Course Request System (<https://fysenroll.lehigh.edu/>)

First-year students will request courses via the campus portal (that is via the internet) during the week of July 17. You will receive additional instructions about how to gain access to, and how to use the web registration system from the University.

IBE Fall Semester Classes

For IBE students, course selection is fairly easy since the first semester curriculum is standard and pre-specified. In some cases, students with AP or other college credits will deviate from the standard curriculum, but these deviations are explained below as well.

The standard first semester curriculum for IBE students is shown below. If you do not have AP or other college credits you should sign up for these courses.

- Physics 11 Introductory Physics I (4 credits)
- Physics 12 Introductory Physics Laboratory I (1 credit)
- Math 021 Calculus I (4 credits)
- English 001 Composition and Literature (3 credits)
- Economics 001 Principles of Economics (4 credits)
- IBE 010 IBE Freshman Seminar (1 credit)

Variations on the Basic Schedule Resulting from AP or Other College Credit

If you have received AP or other advanced college credit for some of the first-year courses, the following rules will help determine which courses you should take.

1. Students with credit for Physics 11 and 12 should take Chem 30.
2. Students with credit for both Chem 30 and Physics 11 and 12 should take Engineering 010 (2) and Management 043 (3).
3. Students with credit for Math 21 should take Math 22.

4. Students with credit for both Math 21 and Math 22 MAY take Math 23 (see note below).
5. Students with credit for Math 021,022, and Physics 11,12 and Chem 030 may take Math 023 and Physics 21,22.
6. Students with credit for English 1 should take Engineering 010
7. Students with credit for English 1 and Physics 11,12 and Chem 030 should contact Prof. Storer for advice.
8. Students with credit for Eco 001 and English 001 should contact Prof. Storer for advice.

If these rules do not cover your situation, please contact Prof. Storer at rhs2@lehigh.edu

What AP scores do I need to receive Lehigh credits

See this link: [Advanced Placement & College Credit Chart-Class of 2027](#)

ALEKS Exam

The ALEKS Exam is a math placement exam designed to help decide which math class you should start in. The University will eventually contact you about the exam. If you have AP credit for Math 021, you do not have to take the exam. Otherwise you do have to take the exam.

Anticipatory Exams

A few Departments offer "anticipatory Exams" during orientation. Last year exams were offered by Math, Physics, Chemistry and Computer Science. If you do well on one of these exams (each exam is related to a specific class), you can not only get out of taking the class, you will receive credit hours for the class. Further there is no downside risk: if you do not pass the exam, you just have to take the class (anyways). You must sign up in advance (before orientation), and this will be your only chance to take these exams.

Should I use my AP credits?

Suppose you score high enough on the Calculus AB test to place out of Math 021 (Calculus I). This means that not only do you not have to take Math 021, but you also receive 4 credits for Math 021 and are thus 4 credits closer to graduation. This gives you additional flexibility in planning your curriculum. However, you do not have to use these credits. For example, suppose you received a 4 on the Calculus AB test, but are still not very confident about your knowledge of calculus, and decide to take Math 021 at Lehigh. This means that you are essentially "giving back" your AP credits since you are taking a course that you already have credit for.

Should you accept the AP credits and move on to the next course (e.g. Calculus II), or should you take the class anyways to assure that you receive a strong foundation in the subject? This question is not always easy to answer, and is ultimately up to you. However, we do have some experience with this over the years that we can share.

1. If you have **AP credits for humanities and/or social science courses**, you should accept these credits since these courses are not crucial prerequisites for engineering or business courses.
2. If you have **AP credit for Chemistry**, you should consider what major within IBE you might pursue. If you think you might major in Chemical Engineering, Bio-Engineering, or Materials Science, basic chemistry will be a necessary foundation for future courses, thus you should consider carefully how confident you feel about your knowledge of chemistry. If you do not think you will pick any of these majors, we would advise that you take the AP credits.
3. If you have **AP credit for Physics 11 and 12** (basic mechanics) you should take the credits as long as you are confident about physics. IBE students that have done this in the past seem to do fine in future courses for which Physics 11 and 12 are prerequisites.
4. If you have **AP credit for Math 021 (calculus I)** you should take the credits and start in Math 022 unless you are really not confident about your knowledge. The large majority of IBE students that have done this in the past seem to do fine in Math 022.
5. If you have **AP credit for both Math 021 and 022 (calculus I and II)** you should think carefully about starting in Math 023 (Calculus III). About half of the IBE students that have done this in the past have struggled in Math 023 (while the other half have done well).. Since the IBE program has a GPA minimum, a bad grade in Math 023 can put you in a bad position from the beginning. Thus again, it is a judgment call that you will have to make. However, of all the issues surrounding AP credits, starting in Math 023 has caused the most problems for IBE students.

More tips on registering for classes

1. There seems to be some confusion about who your academic advisor is. The answer is me! Please direct any questions about registration to me.
2. Hopefully you are all using the <https://fysenroll.lehigh.edu/> website to learn about the online registration system and to plan your fall semester schedules. In particular, the videos on the site are very helpful.
3. IBE students can register starting on July 17. This is before most other students can register, thus you have a good chance of getting into any section you want if you login at the earliest possible moment on July 17. If at all possible, I recommend doing this. In an ideal world, you will have your schedule finalized by July 17.
4. **IMPORTANT:** While it seems like registering as early as possible will solve all your problems, this is not necessarily true due to a little trick RAS (Registration & Academic Services) uses. In order to give students registering later than July 17 a chance at getting into sections, they impose an artificially small section capacity on many classes on July 17. Then on July 18 when the next group of students register, they will raise the capacity limits a little more. Then on July 19 when the rest of the students register, they will raise the capacity limits to their final value. What this means is that if you get “shut out” of a section on July 17, you may still have a shot at the section on July 18. And again on July 19. Of course, you could try to find another section of the class on July 17 and go with it.

5. If you are registering for a class also taken by sophomores (e.g. Math 022, 023, Physics 021 and others), the sophomores have already registered. Thus, you need to check online to see if there are spaces available in the sections you want to register for.
6. As discussed previously, some of your AP results may not have been received by July 17. It seems that AP tests taken online may be in this category. You should check your transcript on Banner (Lehigh's online student records and registration system) to see what AP credits you have received as of July 17. If there are credits you expect, but have not yet received, you will have to wait until Lehigh receives and posts the credits to your transcript before you can register for the "next" class. According to RAS, the registration system will be open until about July 28, and will open up again when you arrive on campus in August when you come to campus.
7. **Where to get help:** Hopefully I will be answering emails on July 17 (and fairly frequently during the July 17-19 time frame). I am the person to ask about what classes you should take. If you are having problems with the registration system, the best contact is RAS. In particular, they have an online chat facility at <https://ras.lehigh.edu/chat> that is very helpful.

Finally, if you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Cheers, Bob Storer