

The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology

UG Course Syllabus

Academic and Professional Development I

CENG1010 (0 credit) / BIEN2990 (1 credit) / ENEG2990 (0 credit)

No prerequisite

Instructors:

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Course Description

CENG1010 / BIEN2990 / ENEG2990 is designed to provide new students in the CBE department with an introduction to the department, including faculty, staff, alumni, senior undergraduate students, and postgraduate students. Through experience sharing, it also serves to encourage students to pursue and plan for a more holistic and fulfilling undergraduate experience, one that includes academic achievements as well as co-curricular experiences (e.g., exchange, internship, research, etc.).

Methods of instruction include guest lectures, experience-sharing sessions, workshops, and interactive in-class activities. Students are expected to actively participate in all sessions.

Intended Learning Outcomes (ILOs)

By the end of this course, students should be able to:

1. Appreciate the versatility and breadth of an engineering education.
2. Develop a sense of belonging to the department and the profession of chemical, biological and energy engineering.
3. Recognize the need and benefit of out-of-classroom, co-curricular learning experiences.
4. Formulate a personalized study plan that includes both academic courses and co-curricular activities.

Assessment and Grading

This course is graded on a **Pass/Fail** basis using criterion-referencing. To receive a **Pass** grade, students must meet all the requirements listed below. Detailed criteria for each requirement are provided in the rubrics section.

Assessments:

Assessment Task	Contribution to Grade Determination	Due date
In-person Attendance (all required sessions)	Required to Pass	Ongoing
Pre-class Assignments (videos, readings, quick tasks)	Required to Pass	Before each relevant session
Dream CV and Study Plan Submission	Required to Pass	Week 13
Participation in In-class Activities	Required to Pass	Ongoing

* All submissions are made via Canvas. Assessment marks/feedback for individual tasks will be released within two weeks of the due date.

Mapping of Course ILOs to Assessment Tasks

Assessed Task	Mapped ILOs	Explanation
In-person Attendance	ILO1, ILO2, ILO3	Attending all sessions allows students to engage with faculty, alumni, and peers, fostering appreciation of engineering breadth (ILO1), a sense of belonging (ILO2), and awareness of co-curricular opportunities (ILO3).
Pre-class Assignments	ILO2, ILO3	Preparing for class through readings/videos helps students recognise departmental culture (ILO2) and the value of experiential learning (ILO3).
Dream CV and Study Plan	ILO4	This task directly assesses students' ability to formulate a personalised academic and co-curricular plan that integrates courses, internships, exchanges, and research.
In-class Participation	ILO1, ILO2, ILO3	Active engagement during guest lectures, sharing sessions, and workshops demonstrates appreciation of engineering (ILO1), belonging (ILO2), and recognition of co-curricular benefits (ILO3).

Grading Rubrics (Pass/Fail)

Criterion	Pass	Fail
Session Attendance	Attends all required sessions in person on time. <i>(Year 1 students: all sessions EXCEPT two of the three major specific talks; Year 2 students: all sessions.)</i> Late arrival or early departure counts as absent unless excused.	Misses any required session without an approved excused absence.
Excused Absences	For sickness or study-related reasons, submits a reflection (≈ 0.5 page) after watching the recorded session video.	Fails to submit the required reflection for an excused absence, or absence is unexcused.

Pre-class Assignments Rubric

Criterion	Pass	Fail
Completion	Completes all assigned pre-class readings/videos and submits associated quick assignments on Canvas before the deadline.	Misses one or more pre-class assignments without approval.
Quality of Responses	Responses demonstrate that the material has been genuinely reviewed and understood.	Responses are missing, incomplete, or show no engagement with the material.

Dream CV and Study Plan Rubric

Criterion	Pass	Fail
Completeness	Submits a one-page "Dream CV" and a personalized study plan on Canvas by the deadline.	Submission is missing, incomplete, or not a one-page CV/study plan.
Thoughtfulness & Realism	The CV and study plan reflect a genuine, realistic, and well-considered combination of academic courses and co-curricular activities (exchange, internship, research, etc.) aligned with the student's interests.	The submission is vague, unrealistic, generic, copied, or shows minimal effort in planning.
Clarity & Presentation	The document is clear, well structured, and professionally presented.	The document is disorganized, unclear, or difficult to understand.

In-class Participation Rubric

Criterion	Pass	Fail
Engagement	Actively engages in class activities, discussions, and workshops. Shows interest and asks/answers questions when appropriate.	Is consistently disengaged, disruptive, or inattentive during sessions.

Final Grade Descriptors:

Grades	Short Description	Elaboration on subject grading description
Pass	Satisfactory completion of all requirements	Demonstrates consistent attendance and engagement in all required sessions. Completes all pre-class assignments and submits a thoughtful, realistic Dream CV and study plan. Shows appreciation for the breadth of engineering education, a developing sense of belonging to the CBE department, and an understanding of the value of co-curricular learning.
Fail	Does not meet threshold requirements	Fails to attend required sessions, misses pre-class assignments, or does not submit a satisfactory Dream CV and study plan. Shows insufficient engagement with the course material and does not demonstrate the intended learning outcomes.

Course AI Policy

The use of Generative AI is **permitted** to assist with brainstorming and drafting ideas for the Dream CV and study plan. However, the final submission must represent the student's own genuine academic and career aspirations. Students must clearly acknowledge any AI-generated content used in their submissions. AI assistance will not be considered a substitute for personal reflection.

Communication and Feedback

Assessment feedback for pre-class assignments and the Dream CV/Study Plan will be provided via Canvas within two weeks of submission. Feedback will include comments on completion status and, where applicable, suggestions for improvement. Students who have further questions about feedback or requirements should consult the instructor or TA within **five working days** after receiving feedback.

Resubmission Policy

- **Pre-class assignments** submitted after the deadline may be accepted **only with prior approval** from the instructor/TA. Late submissions without approval will be marked as incomplete.
- **Dream CV and Study Plan** may be resubmitted once within **one week** of receiving feedback, if the first submission was deemed unsatisfactory (at the discretion of the instructor).
- Missed attendance can only be remedied through an approved excused absence reflection as described above.

Required Texts and Materials

No textbooks required. All reading materials, videos, and assignments will be provided via Canvas.

Academic Integrity

Students are expected to adhere to the university's academic integrity policy. Students are expected to uphold HKUST's Academic Honor Code and to maintain the highest standards of academic integrity. The University has zero tolerance of academic misconduct. Please refer to [Academic Integrity | HKUST – Academic Registry](#) for the University's definition of plagiarism and ways to avoid cheating and plagiarism.