

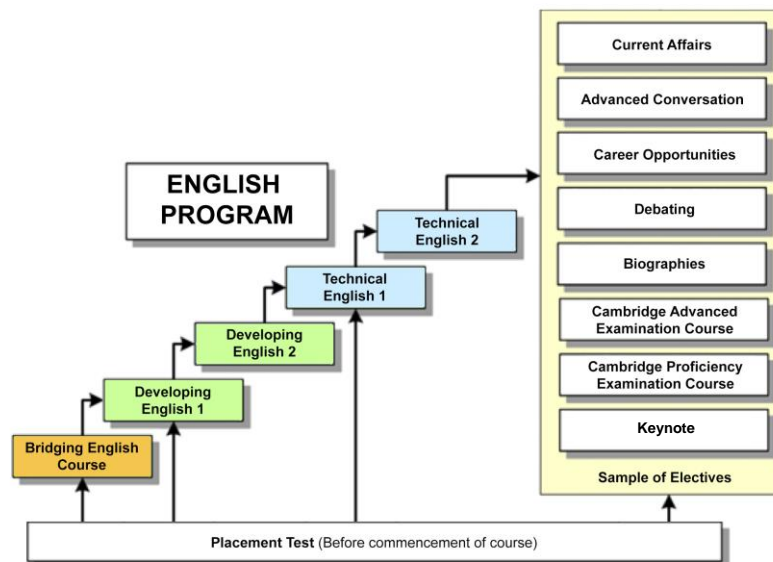
## English Program at the School of Engineering, FHNW

In every country and culture, English is acknowledged as being the leading language of science and technology. As an engineer, your ability to communicate successfully in English can help you synthesize the latest research, connect with colleagues, and advance your engineering career. The goal of the English program at the School of Engineering is to provide you with the language skills to help you become and remain competitive.

Our English program is designed with Engineers' communication needs in mind. The program is designed around the key communication skills that engineers need to succeed: listening, speaking, reading and writing. During our program, students learn technical language and terminology and learn how to implement this by describing various processes, products, problems and solutions.

Our goal is to promote collaboration within teams, develop writing skills to enable students to share research results and new ideas with colleagues, as well as to strengthen their presentation and oral communication skills and build confidence.

Our English modules are divided into core modules and elective modules.



### Core Modules

The core modules are divided into Developing English, a foundation course aimed at improving your general language skills, and Technical English, aimed at helping you communicate more successfully in technical and industrial specializations. The courses must be completed in sequential order.

The core modules are based on levels B1 to C1 of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR).

### English Electives

The elective modules, based on CEFR levels B2 to C2 are designed to further improve your English language skills and specialized communication knowledge but also to give you footing in a broader range of interdisciplinary subjects such as Debating, Career Opportunities, Financial English, and Film Studies, thereby bridging the gap between Technology, Business and the Arts.

Students placed directly into the Electives level must complete at least one module in Technical English during their studies.

## Placement

Students entering the college are required to do an online placement test, the results of which are used to place them in either the core modules or the elective modules.

Students must reach a score of at least 40 points to enter the English program. Students who do not reach this level must complete a Bridging Course (without ECTS). Students must pass this course in order to enter Developing English.

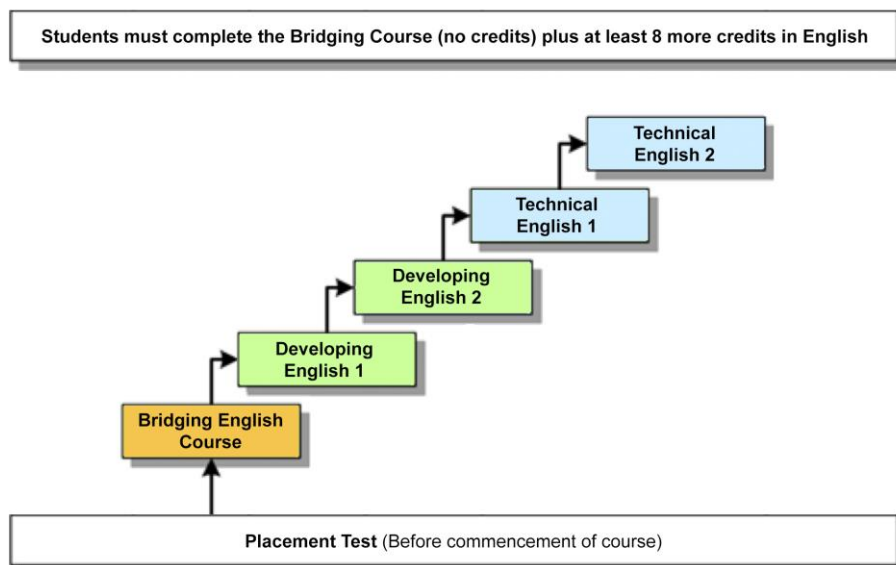
Students entering the college are either placed in Bridging English, Developing English 1, Technical English 1, or Electives.

Students are required to complete a total of at least eight credits during the course of their studies in English.

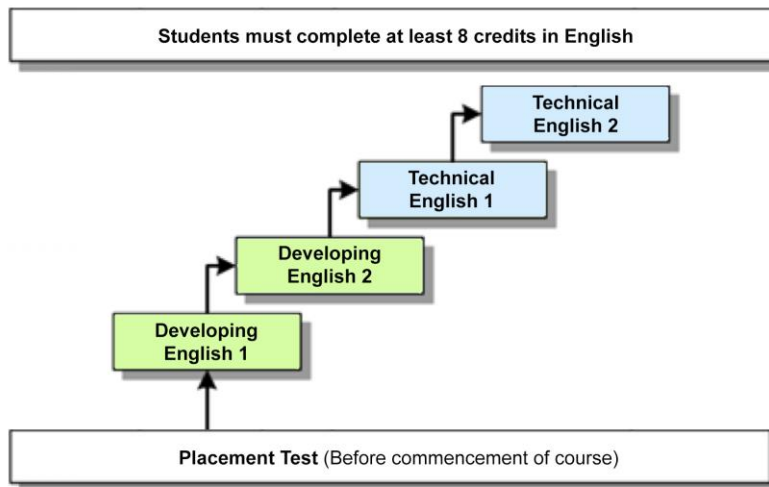
Students with a CAE, BEC Higher, or Cambridge Proficiency exam that is no older than two years are placed directly into Electives and do not have to do a placement test.

### *Example: Placement in Bridging English in first Semester*

Students must complete Bridging before entering Developing English 1. All further courses must be completed in sequential order.

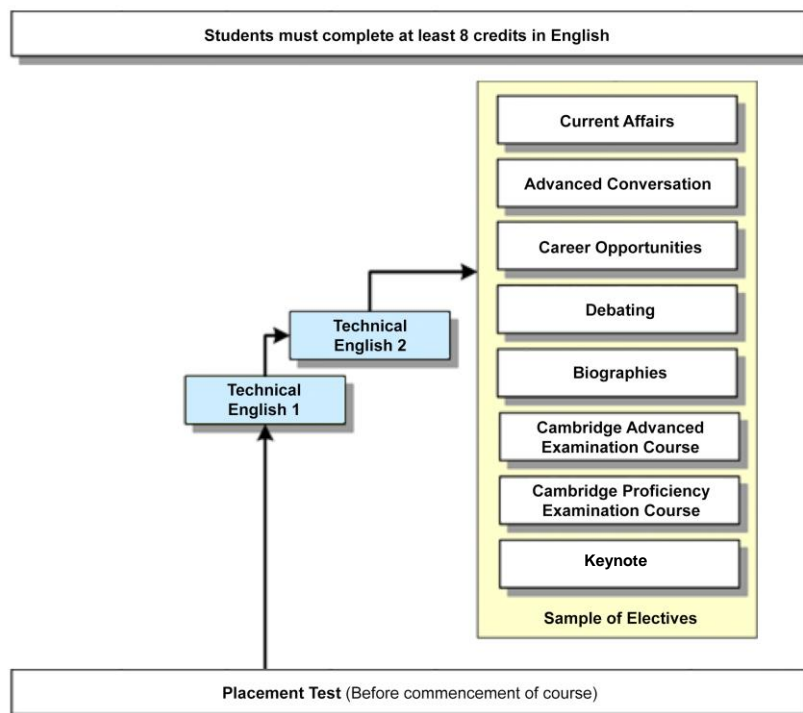


*Example: Placement in Developing English 1 in first Semester*  
All courses must be completed in sequential order.



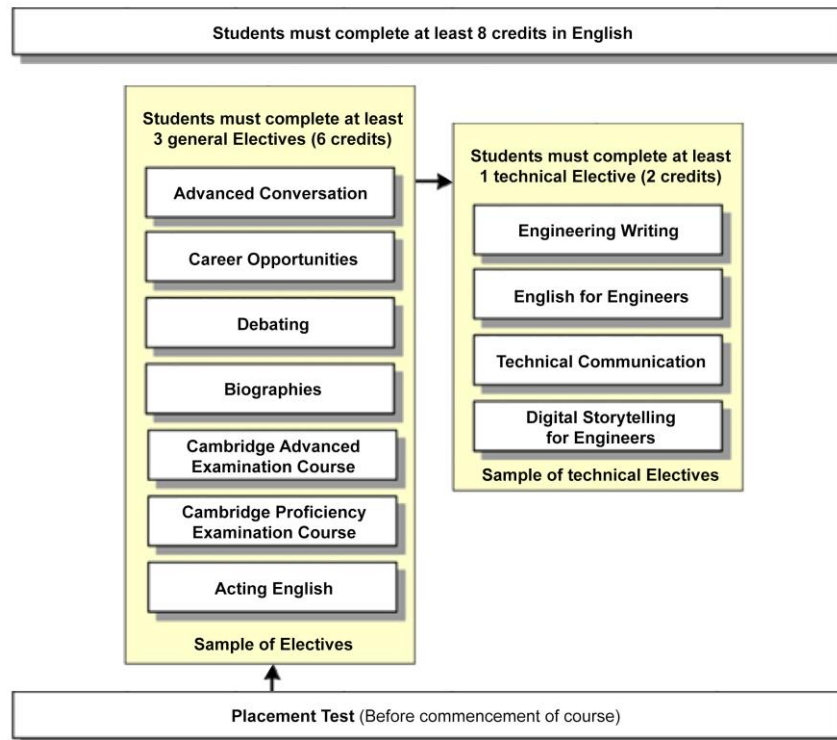
*Example: Placement in Technical English 1 in first Semester*

Students must complete Technical English 1 & 2 before entering the Electives. ten1 & ten2 must be completed in sequential order. Students can then choose any 2 Electives. These students do not have to complete an additional Elective in technical English.



*Example: Placement in Electives in first Semester*

Students placed directly into the Electives level must complete at least one module in technical English.



**Credits**

Students may apply to receive credits for the following, successfully completed certificate courses:

Cambridge BEC Higher Certificate (4 credits, 2 for BEC1 and 2 for BEC2)

Cambridge Advanced Certificate (4 credits, 2 for CAE1 and 2 for CAE2)

Cambridge English Proficiency (4 credits, 2 for CPE1 and 2 for CPE2)

Prerequisite for the eligibility is an official Cambridge certificate that is no older than two years.

Students who receive credits for Cambridge courses can no longer attend these.