



Department of Bioengineering

UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO
DENVER | ANSCHUTZ MEDICAL CAMPUS

Criteria for Substituting a Core Class – MS & PhD

This policy document outlines the criteria used to determine if a course may be substituted for a core class. Students must complete the form for Petition for Core Class Substitution. The form requires several supplemental documents including a syllabus of the proposed substitution. Petitions are reviewed by the Graduate Affairs Committee.

The Bioengineering faculty has agreed that other specialty graduate level classes may be substituted for core Bioengineering classes if:

1. the substituted class is not offered in Bioengineering (i.e. a similar class cannot be substituted for convenience);
2. the student's advisor agrees that the class is more relevant to the student's research and still meets core competency goals of the program; and
3. the Graduate Affairs Committee approves the substitution.

Petitioning Non-Bioengineering Substitutions

A list of previously approved substitutions can be found in the Bioengineering Graduate Student Handbook. No petition is required for these courses, but students should consult with their advisors to ensure the course is appropriate for his/her program of study.

General description of an appropriate Life Science Core substitution: *Deep understanding of a biological or physiological system.*

General description of an appropriate Technology Core substitution: *The course proposed must be relevant to the application of technology and/or engineering principles towards understanding, interacting with, or controlling biological or physiological systems.*

Generally, substitutions will only be approved if the proposed course offers depth in content provided by experts in the field (e.g. immunology class from Immunology Dept.).

Download and complete the Petition for Core Class Substitution. Email the completed petition with all required signatures to the Graduate Affairs Committee via the Graduate Program Manager. Petitions should be received at least one month before the term in which the course will be taken. The GAC is not responsible for the consequences of denied petitions received after the start of the term in which the class was taken.