

Problem Statement: Degree Audit Form

Julian Callin, Pranav Bheda, Carlos Rivera

At Santa Clara University, computer engineering students and advisors meet to discuss graduation requirements, which include core classes, technical electives, and educational enrichment electives. Right now, students and advisors have no easy way to view this information in an organized manner.

Currently students and advisors have access to a web-based tool called the “Degree Progress Report,” through which graduation requirements are tracked. This system for obtaining a degree audit is through the school’s online portal, eCampus, which fails to give information in the most efficient way.

Reports are rendered as a webpage in plain text which is often hundreds of lines in length. In addition, a single font size, ascii art formatting, and the use of a simple two-color coding scheme limits the student’s ability to discern necessary information from the report. Students and advisors have difficulty seeing which classes have fulfilled a particular requirement (electives, educational enrichment, major, etc.). Students are unable to store or transport this information since the report is not available in a downloadable format. Another issue with the system is that viewers are unable to see which classes can count towards educational-enrichment. Through eCampus, advisors have to laboriously identify and count remaining classes that can be used towards educational-enrichment.

Our alternative to the degree progress report is a website where students and advisors can track their requirement progress using a one-page form. Students can enter all courses they have completed and plan to take in future quarters. This information will be stored persistently between sessions. In an organized, color-coded, and downloadable manner, our system will dynamically display satisfied and remaining requirements. Our system will provide students the ability to tinker with their future schedule. In addition, unused credits will be displayed so students can decide to use them for educational enrichment.

Our system will allow students and advisors to easily see which core, elective, educational-enrichment, and major requirements have already been fulfilled and which ones remain, in a clean visually appealing, and responsive manner.