

IGEN 340 to COMM 280 - Announcement and FAQ (last update - August 16, 2019)

Starting in September 2019, the Technology Entrepreneurship course IGEN 340 has been converted to a special section of “COMM 280 Entrepreneurship (Section 104)” as part of the IGEN core course requirements. For this fall, this section fits in exactly at the same time as the scheduled time for IGEN 340, and will be taught by the previous IGEN 340 course instructor and current IGEN 201 instructor Matt Wong, and will be restricted for students in the IGEN program. Matt has been working with other members of the Sauder School of Business on an overall update to COMM 280, and has worked to ensure that that Section 104 is the best experience for the IGENs going through the course.

It is expected that all IGENs will be restricted to just this one section to maintain one cohesive, shared experience for all IGENs, with content delivery geared towards the IGEN program and expectations. Going forward, it is planned to continue offering one special section of COMM 280 for IGEN students, even though in practice the COMM 280 Section 104 is equivalent in credit and standing to the other COMM 280 sections. These changes will begin to appear formally in the UBC Calendar starting in Fall 2020, but will be instituted this year as a transition year.

This change to the IGEN program allows students to get a core experience in Entrepreneurship with the IGEN cohort, while also getting 3 credits towards the Minor in Entrepreneurship offered by Sauder and APSC. Note that IGEN students interested in pursuing the Minor in Entrepreneurship will still have to apply for this option in the month of March, as described here:

<https://academicservices.engineering.ubc.ca/degree-planning/minors-dual-degrees/>

To register for COMM 280 section 104

For this fall, Students currently enrolled in IGEN 340 can do one of the following:

1. Drop IGEN 340 from your online registration, and directly enrol into COMM 280 Section 104 on your own.
2. Stay enrolled in IGEN 340, and we will assist with the conversion to the course at the start of classes.

FAQ

Can I take another section of COMM 280 if it better fits into my schedule?

Currently, IGEN students are restricted to only register for this one section of COMM 280 (and non-IGEN students are blocked from taking this section).

We would very much like to have all IGEN students stay with this one section, but if there are special considerations (e.g. conflicts with other core IGEN courses, meeting graduation requirements, unavoidable issues with your scheduling, etc), please email both the IGEN Program Director and COMM 280 course instructor with (a) a description of your current circumstances; (b) your current timetable; and (c) a list of alternate sections of COMM 280 which would fit your schedule and the requests will be reviewed (jon.nakane@ubc.ca, matt.wong@ubc.ca). Requests will be reviewed as they are submitted.

Are all IGENs automatically part of the Minor in Entrepreneurship? Are IGENs automatically allowed to take the New Ventures Design (NVD), APSC 486, in place of our 4th year Design Course, IGEN 430?

No, you will have to apply separate for both the Minor in Entrepreneurship, and to get into the NVD course. Introducing COMM 280 as part of the IGEN core was meant to make this easier for students to pursue these options, but the Minor in Entrepreneurship still requires a formal application and approval, and NVD has its own application and competitive selection process for entry into the course. See here for further information:

<http://www.calendar.ubc.ca/vancouver/index.cfm?tree=12,195,272,1630>

<http://design.engineering.ubc.ca/design-courses/new-venture-design/admission-procedure/>

I have already completed IGEN 340, do I need to take COMM 280?

No, you will not have to take COMM 280 to meet IGEN graduation requirements. The previous course can be used to meet all graduation requirements.

What if I have already completed both COMM 280 and IGEN 340?

Unfortunately, only one of COMM 280 and IGEN 340 can be used toward IGEN graduation requirements (this was also true before the conversion as well, so the status has not changed with respect to the IGEN program). Contact the IGEN Program Director to discuss any special circumstances.

What if I have already completed COMM 280 but did not yet take IGEN 340?

Previous completion of COMM 280 is sufficient to meet IGEN graduation requirements. This is the one case where students will NOT have to re-take our IGEN-specific section of COMM 280 in order to meet graduation requirements.