

# ECE Undergraduate Electives Committee Meeting

## Friday, December 1st, 2023

**Attending:** Arabshahi , Gadre, Lin, Lister, Overly, Thomas, Swanson

**Agenda:**

1. Approval request for changes to EE 361
2. Discussion of EE 476 – Strategy plan for Autumn 2024 offering

**Minutes of 11/17/2023: Approved**

**Approval request for changes to EE 361**

(See [MCD](#))

The Devices and EM groups would like to reduce the prerequisite requirements for EE361 to boost enrollment and allow students to take it earlier in the curriculum, allowing them to explore more advanced classes in photonics and microwave engineering (e.g. 462, 463, 464, 487). To this end, we have removed EE233 from the prerequisite chain as this is no longer a required class. We have also removed MATH 224 to remove dependencies on a class that is not controlled by the department. All material required from those two classes (phasors, vector calculus) is already, and will continue to be, covered in the class.

Course coordinators and instructors for the 4 courses that use EE 361 as either a prerequisite or a prerequisite option (462, 463, 464, and 487) have been involved in discussions regarding the proposed changes and have approved.

- After reviewing the MCD and changes to the prerequisites, Gadre raised the issue of impact on courses that use EE 361 as a prerequisite. If a course is using EE 361 as a prerequisite, it is essentially also counting on the fact students must have taken the prerequisites for EE 361. This means courses “downstream” from EE 361 may now have students missing expected knowledge.
  - Statement was just a general word of caution to members when considering any request to remove a prerequisite from a course.
  - Overly noted that all course coordinators and faculty relying on EE 361 as a prerequisite had been consulted and approved of the changes for EE 361.

**Motion to approve changes to EE 361 as proposed: Approved**

**Discussion of EE 476 – Strategy plan for Autumn 2024 offering**

Following the presentation by students and subsequent discussion of EE 476, the committee wanted to revisit what to do for the Autumn 2024 quarter offering of EE 476.

- Changes suggested for EE 476 were to add back in EE 233 as a prerequisite, with EE 331 also being urged by Rudell as necessary.
- There are current changes to EE 331 & EE 332 being considered, and most committee members felt they would need to see of what those changes consisted, and how the prerequisite change would be managed.

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- All members agreed that decoupling EE 331 and EE 332 (with EE 331 no longer being a prerequisite for EE 332) made sense for the new BSECE degree, and would allow for shortened prerequisite chains for some courses.
- Arabshahi stated he would take the discussion to the VLSE faculty for their input.

**Discussion table until more information can be gathered from VLSI faculty**