

# ECE Undergraduate Core Courses Committee Meeting

## Friday, March 8th, 2024

**Attending:** Arabshahi, Chen, Hameed, Makhsous, Overly, Shepard, Swanson, Van Fossen, Wilson (Chair)

### Agenda:

1. Review of EE 241 and EE 242 Master Course Descriptions
2. Setting time for Spring 2024 committee meetings

### Minutes of March 1st, 2024: Approved

#### Review of EE 241 & EE 242 Master Course Descriptions (MCDs)

As part of its review of all core course MCDs, the committee took up a review of the MCDs for EE 241: *Python for Signal and Image Processing* and EE 242: *Signals, Systems, and Data I*. The courses are companion courses, with EE 241 providing the preparatory Python skills needed for the labs in EE 242. ([EE 241 MCD](#)) ([EE 242 MCD](#))

- Makhsous shared the MCD for EE 241
  - Members pointed out a need to correct prerequisites from “either CSE 142, CSE 143, or CSE 163” to “either CSE 122, CSE 123, CSE 142, CSE 143, or CSE 160.”
    - Current catalog prerequisites are correctly listed, and no update needs to be made to the UW course database.
  - ABET Outcome 5: Teams was listed as “low relevance to course.” Under new department MCD policy, ABET Outcomes should no longer be listed if rated with “low relevance to course.” Makhsous will remove.
- Makhsous shared MCD for EE 242
  - Committee members discussed the issue of EE 241 being allowed as a corequisite course - allowed to be taken concurrently as is presently the case - rather than as a prerequisite course.
    - Shepard stated that his experience was that taking the courses concurrently worked fine.
    - Swanson mentioned that the issue has been raised at ECE Student Advisory Council (SAC) meetings.
      - Some students expressed that there is an assumption in EE 242 that they will already have covered the necessary information in EE 241 when that is not always the case.
      - Van Fossen mentioned students often ask if EE 241 is better taken as a corequisite or a prerequisite, showing there is some confusion about what is most beneficial in how to sequence the course.
      - Overly mentioned that the courses were specifically designed as corequisites, but the common starting of quarters mid-week may easily throw off the assumed synchronizing of the course material.
      - Hameed volunteered to take a poll in his current spring offering which committee members felt would be helpful.

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- The issue of 241 as corequisite or prerequisite was tabled since it would need greater consideration and was outside the primary scope of the current MCD review. The issue will need to be considered at a subsequent meeting of the committee.
- Grading scheme as outlined was approved.

**Motion to approve proposed version of EE 241 MCD: Approved**

**Motion to approve proposed version of EE 242 MCD: Approved**

#### **Setting Time for Spring 2024 Committee Meetings**

- For the coming Spring 2024 quarter, committee members agreed to meet on Fridays from 3:45 – 4:45, with meetings occurring every other week starting on April 5<sup>th</sup>. Additional meetings may be called if necessary and will be scheduled on as as-needed basis.