

# ECE Undergraduate Electives Committee Meeting

## Monday, April 15th, 2024

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

**Minutes of April 8th, 2024: APPROVED**

### **Agenda:**

1. Communications Group Undergrad Courses Review (Arabshahi)

### **Communications Group Undergrad Courses Review (Arabshahi)**

Arabshahi presented a review of undergraduate offerings of courses under the Communications Curriculum Group:

([See Slides](#))

- Course Changes:
  - EE 418 was increased from 3 to 4 credits to adjust for the amount of time students were spending on the course.
  - EE 420 was not offered, with the capstone offering for Communications having moved completely to ENGINE.
  - EE 391 was offered for the first time as an official course, having previously been run as a special topics course.
- ABET Outcomes:
  - No missing End of Course Reports.
  - Outcomes are satisfactory.
  - Outcomes in EE 416 have improved from 2022 offering.
- Course Evaluations:
  - Reviews are good.
  - Hours spent per credit averaging slightly above 2.
- Considerations moving forward:
  - For EE 391, Trivedi is teaching the course this spring and would like to teach the course twice a year.
    - Thomas stated that, if the course could be used to satisfy the Stats degree requirement, that it would be very helpful to have it run twice a year.
  - For EE 417, they are finding students are not well enough prepared with signal processing knowledge/skill.
    - EE 242 does not appear to be preparing students well enough.
    - Time between students taking EE 242 and 417 is too long, with students not having used the material since taking EE 242, so knowledge is lost.
    - Content in EE 342 is not really needed as prerequisite material, so adding it as a prerequisite is not a good option.
    - What is likely needed is some kind of reinforcement of the material prior to getting to EE 417.
    - Swanson noted that, with the course running jointly with EE 506, some undergraduate students felt blindsided by the introduction of grad-level material in the course.
      - Arabshahi has discussed this issue with the instructor of the course.

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- Course is heavy on theory, with the EE 416 prerequisite also being heavy on theory.
  - Would be good to find a way to provide some hands-on experience with wireless systems somewhere in the curriculum, perhaps in EE 371?