

UCCC 2024-2025 Recap

Topics Covered:

- Created standardized format for Core Course MCDs
- New requirement for lab courses to include safety information in MCDs
 - Discussion of further safety topics, especially as pertains to the ECE 137 lab. General information should be generated and posted where highly visible. And information should be made available in the website for instructors to add to their syllabi.
- EE 280:
 - Revisions and MCD approved.
 - New EE 215 corequisite approved.
 - Looks likely to be approved effective Winter 2025
- EE 201:
 - Revisions to course and MCD approved.
 - Revised to now offer 2 credits.
 - New once per week 50-minute lecture to cover information for labs.
 - Allows for better use of 3-hour lab sections.
 - Changes instituted for Autumn 2024 through added 1-credit EE 299 section to serve as lecture component.
 - Full revision to the catalog expected to be effective starting Spring 2025.
 - Approval will be effective Winter 2025, but Time Schedule for Winter 2025 will need to be submitted before approval.
- MCDs reviewed and approved for remaining ECE Core Courses:
 - EE 201, EE 215, EE 241, EE 242, EE 271, EE 280
- Initial discussion of reimplementing EE 491: Undergraduate Seminar
 - No final proposal could be generated, but committee believes it should continue to work on it and have the course be offered as soon as possible.
- EE 241/EE 242
 - The committee spent a fair amount of time reviewing and discussing the issue of whether or not EE 241 should be a prerequisite for EE 242 rather than its current status as a corequisite.
 - Anecdotal information from conversations with instructors who are members of the committee, as well as with other instructors during quarterly handoff meetings suggested that students would do better in EE 242 if they took EE 241 prior to 242.
 - Data did not show student to do worse when taking 241 concurrently with 242 than when taking 241 prior to 242.
 - The committee decided not to make a change to the 241/242 corequisite structure.
- The committee examined the quarterly course handoff meeting structure initially implemented when the committee was an advisory group for the previous iteration of the Curriculum Committee.
 - While the process can at time be difficult to implement and engagement by faculty in the process varies, the committee found that it is still an important process to continue, and minor clarifications

on the process were addressed.

- TA Assignments
 - The committee discussed the quality of TAs for ECE Core courses. The variability in TA quality and engagement can create issues, especially in courses like EE 215 where TAs are responsible for leading quiz sections that are vital to student learning.
 - With guaranteed funding for PhD students, whom are often the least engaged, according to some faculty, and are less preferred than hand-picked undergrad or masters students, the ability to move to a preferred, instructor-chosen model is not possible.
 - The committee agree that, with the limitations, creating some kind of mandatory training was necessary to make TAs aware of their responsibilities, and to better prepare them for more beneficial engagement with students.
- EE 393:
 - Mamishev shared the current structure (as of the 10/31/23 meeting of the UCCC)
 - Discussed issue with grading software that was now improved.
 - The committee continued after Mamishev's presentation, and after he had left.
 - Shepard shared that students often put off EE 393 as they want to get into the EE content as soon as possible.
 - Shepard also shared students don't generally like or appreciate the need for writing courses.
 - The upcoming discontinuation of ENGR 231 was raised, with the question about how to fulfill the writing requirement once ENGR 231 is no longer an option.
 - Further exploration and discussion was needed.
- Writing Requirement:
 - Approved a short-term fix for the writing requirement to adjust for the College no longer offering ENGR 231 starting in Autumn 2024
 - Students can take any "W" course offered by the University to replace the 3 credits ENGR 231 fulfilled.
 - One major complexity of finding a solution is the approx. 300 students per year for whom a solution is needed.
 - Slides from the 1/19/24 meeting: https://peden.ece.uw.edu/academic-ops/wp-content/uploads/sites/5/2024/03/BSECE_WritingRequirement_Jan17_2024.pdf
 - Also part of the discussion was the possibility of revising EE 393 to add much of the content covered in ENGR 231 as many students find that material useful.