

ECE Undergraduate Elective Courses Committee

October 4th, 2024

2024-2025 Academic Year Kick-Off

Agenda

- Introductions:
 - Faculty
 - Staff
 - Jackson
- Committee Focus for Coming Quarter and Year
- Capstone Requirement and Proposed Changes
- Review of General Program Discussion

Focus for Coming Quarter and Year

- Creation of streamlined process for course proposals
 - How to make the process more visible
 - How to make it easier
 - How to incentivize
- Eric vision for the committee, and request
 - Review every course for health and place in program
 - Create a strong and clear progression through the curriculum
 - Review program to ensure our students are getting the degree expected of an ECE degree
 - Industry expectations
 - Grad school expectation
 - Student expectations

Motion to remove capstone from counting toward the Advanced ECE Electives requirement. 497/498 is counted as a capstone in total, with no credits applying to ECE Electives.

Capstone Requirement

- Currently, the capstone counts toward the 36 required Advanced ECE Electives, 20 of which must be at the 400-level
- Student can easily avoid taking other pure EE content 4XX classes. For example:
 - EE 499 (6 cr. - just lowered from 10 allowed)
 - EE 406 (3 cr.)
 - EE 492 (1 cr.)
 - EE 496 (2 cr.)
 - EE 497 (4 cr.)
 - EE 498 (4 cr.)
- Making the capstone a separate degree requirement would make it harder to avoid 400-level EE coursework

Review of General Program Discussions

- Leadership and various faculty and staff have been discussing weak areas in the new degree, and how the department might address them:
 - There is a concern that students are missing essential content that is expected from an ECE degree program
 - Circuit Theory (EE 233)
 - EM (EE 361)
 - Do we add the material to the core? If so, how do we do it?
 - Does the program provide enough access to intro 4XX course?
 - What can we do to increase students taking courses in pathways outside those centered on computing? (Embedded, Computer Architecture)