

ECE Curriculum Committee Meeting

Tuesday, February 25th, 2025

Attending: Arabshahi, Chen, Dela Cruz, Fazel, Hauck, Kirschen, Kaushansky, Moritz, Overly, Reyes, Rudell, Shepard, Swanson, Van Fossen

Not Attended: Bushnell, Huberman, Majumdar

Minutes of Feb. 11th, 2025: Approved

Meeting Slides: [Link](#)

Agenda:

1. Discussion of whether AMATH 352 can be listed as an alternative for MATH 208 when listed as a course prerequisite for department's course offerings.
2. Discussion of updating EE 393 now that ENGR 231 is no longer available and there is no replacement

Discussion of whether AMATH 352 can be listed as an alternative for MATH 208 when listed as a course prerequisite for department's course offerings.

Overly brought to the committee the possible inclusion of AMATH 352: *Applied Linear Algebra and Numerical Analysis* as a prerequisite option for ECE courses that require MATH 208: *Matrix Algebra with Applications* as a course prerequisite. The advising team let the committee know that to work around AMATH 352 not being a listed prerequisite, they would send out add codes to students who are using AMATH 352 as a substitute for MATH 208.

- [MATH 208: Matrix Algebra with Applications Syllabus](#)
- [AMATH 352: Applied Linear Algebra and Numerical Analysis Syllabus](#)
- Van Fossen informed the committee that AMATH courses (AMATH 351 and AMATH 352) are listed as options for the MATH 207 and MATH 208 BSECE degree requirements, but are not listed for admissions requirements
 - Van Fossen suggested that AMATH 351 and 352 courses be included in the admissions requirements list as alternatives for the MATH 207 and MATH 208 degree requirements.
- Van Fossen added an addendum that MATH 208 no longer requires MATH 126, which means MATH 126 may need to be added for courses that require MATH 208 as a course prerequisite to ensure student have any needed calculus experience.

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- **Overly will reach out to the faculty course coordinators to see if they would like to add AMATH 352 and/ or MATH 126 to the prerequisite list where MATH 208 is a prerequisite option.**
- **Overly will write up a proposal for adding AMATH 351 and AMATH 352 to the admissions requirements list and bring it to Arabshahi for review**

Discussion of updating EE 393 now that ENGR 231 is no longer available and there is no replacement

Considering the college of engineering no longer offers ENGR 231: Introduction to Technical Communication, Overly brought to the committee's attention the need to discuss how the department wants to teach EE 393: Advanced Technical Communication. Questioning what the writing requirements will look like, if content should change, or if the department should have a required writing course given the resources needed, the committee discussed possible paths to cover the missing material that was covered as part of their degree requirements.

- [MCD for EE 393: Advanced Technical Communication](#)
- See Slide 7 in Meeting Slides for breakdown of ENGR 231 learning objectives
- Kaushansky described her experience in ENGR 231, that she found the content useful, as opposed to her experience in EE 393 which she did not feel was especially helpful as a writing course.
- Reyes too
- EE 393 is currently catered towards teaching students how to use writing tools for writing as opposed to teaching students writing skills
 - If EE 393 is used as the primary writing course for EE students, it will have to be offered to all students in the program
- Reyes discussed her experience in a previous version of EE 393, under Hinke in 2021, which she found to be very helpful, with assignments around presentations, use of graphics, and other topics centered on strong communications.
- There was general agreement that moving 300+ students through an advance writing course was a difficult problem for the department to solve.
 - Large numbers of TAs versed in grading writing and assignments would be difficult to find in our department, and expensive.
 - Classes ideally are smaller, needing teaching resources which neither the university nor the college are providing.

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- Rudell expressed the view that it would be great if the department could solve the problem, with students needing the skills such a course would provide, but admitted it was likely not something the department could provide without additional resources.

The committee was in agreement that the department is unable to allocate the resources necessary to teach writing as the faculty would prefer. Given the resource constraints, the committee will revisit options discussed as noted.