

IEEE student feedback notes 11/17/10

How did you decide to study ECE?

- Most students were decided upon ECE when they came to COE.

How did you know what part of ECE you were interested in?

- Some said the coop experiences helped to narrow it down.
- Project experience also helpful.

Comments about freshman year courses:

- High tech tools and toys was very useful
- Physics 2 should be first in the curriculum for ECE students
- Engineering design had nothing related to ECE. The course was not very useful, too basic. Did not teach any concepts. Course would be useful if it was broken down by disciplines. EE's don't use AutoCAD.

What influenced the choice of major?

- A number of students agreed that High tech tools and toys helped influence the choice of major.
- Another student thought some decided based on experiences in chemistry (if positive choose CHEM Eng) and physics 1 (if positive MECH Eng.)

Additional comments on Engineering design course:

- Course has some value with the design process and meeting friends that you will later take classes with. Some felt this course was more busywork than real applications. Another student asked why auto cad was used instead of solid works?

Suggestion of spending a few weeks on each engineering discipline was favorable.

Other issues/comments:

- TA for calculus 2 has math background but cannot offer any engineering practices or applications to the course.
- Discussion of 2 freshman courses having four parts. How many disciplines should you get exposed to? Students seem to like the idea of having 6 to 10 topics so you could go broad or deep.
- Comment from CE freshman major that he has to wait too long before doing programming. He had lots of experience in high school and then did not take anything to until sophomore year.
- Suggested that student could take a test to gauge their programming skills to place them in right level class. Also suggested that part of high tech tools and toys could be used in all sections of GE 1111 where the labs are more hands on.

- If you get AP credits for CS1500/1501, you still need to take GE1111.
- EECE3324 should be a pre-req for EECE4532.
- Discussion of overlap of DLD and discrete math. Later a student said that in his case, the overlap was no longer there so this issue may have been resolved.
- Noted that discrete structures as taught by CS may be more useful.
- MATH2341 expected matlab experience. This may be an issue for freshman who is taking this class. It seems some sections are using matlab/maple but not all of them. Also seemed to be a difference in the weighting of diff eqs. topics to linear algebra topics.
- EECE3410 being taught like an elective and not a required course. This seemed to be more of an instructor issue.
- Student suggested more labs offerings with technical electives.
- Networking lab was thought to be trivial. Student felt the lab could be done on your own time.
- The time spent on labs does not equal the credits earned.
- Don't know courses offerings early enough. Would like the schedule of courses as soon as possible. A plan that had course listings for a few years would be helpful for planning.
- Summer schedule only has 2 options. Students did not like the electives or lack of choices.
- Honors program students in dual major had problems fitting in honors seminar requirement. Many do not meet the art/hum or ss/hum requirement.
- Students wished they knew earlier on about study abroad so they could have planned it out better. Abroad opportunities hard to fit with curriculum.
- When asked if students prefer coop or academic study abroad, two students said they had bad experiences with the international coop advisor. Study abroad seems like a better option even though finding courses and calendars that match can be difficult.