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EE 302: Introduction to Electrical Engineering

Fall 2011

URL: <http://courses.utexas.edu> (Blackboard)
(Announcements, problem sets, handouts, etc.)

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(please include "EE 302" in subject line)

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Lectures: TuTh 11:00AM-12:30PM
ACA 1.104

Office hours: TuTh 12:30–2:00PM, ENS 312
or by appointment at ENS or MER

Labs: Mon 9:00AM-11:00AM (16390)
Wed 11:00AM-1:00PM (16395)
Fri 11:00AM-1:00PM (16400)
ACA 1.108

TA Office hours: Office hours and location(s) will be
posted on course web site after TAs
finish selecting their courses.

Course Description:

This course is designed to provide you with your first exposure to Electrical Engineering at UT Austin. Topics covered will include the following: the scope and nature of professional activities of electrical engineers; engineering professional ethics; general tools and approaches for problem-solving and analysis; analysis and applications of analog resistive circuits, including Kirchoff's Laws, nodal and mesh analysis, Thévenin and Norton equivalents; and operational amplifiers. The material covered here will help you to build the intellectual foundation for subsequent coursework in Electrical Engineering, and to establish and appreciate connections between the discipline of electrical engineering and your studies in basic sciences, mathematics, and liberal arts.

Prerequisite:

An appropriate score on the ALEKS placement examination, or Mathematics 305G with a grade of at least C-. Completion of or concurrent enrollment in Mathematics 408C or equivalent is required.

Required Text and Equipment:

1. F. T. Ulaby and M. M. Maharbiz, Circuits (National Tech. & Science Press, Corrected and Updated, 2010).
2. National Instruments myDAQ
3. Laboratory course notes

Instructions: Book and myDAQ are sold as a bundle at a substantial discount (\$200) through the ECE department (NI founder is an alum). You may purchase both in ENS 239, August 29th – September 2nd (9-11am and 2-4pm) using Bevo Bucks. Lab notes are \$15 and are available from the HKN office 9am-6pm in ENS 129.

Supplementary References:

- C. K. Alexander and M. N. O. Sadiku, Fundamentals of Electric Circuits, 4th Edition (McGraw Hill, 2009).
P. Horowitz and W. Hill, The Art of Electronics, 2nd Edition (Cambridge University Press, 1989).

Grading:

Homework	10%	
Laboratory	15%	
Project	5%	[Assignments posted on Blackboard, first due 8/31]
Semester Exams	40%	[3 in-class exams during semester, best 2 count 20% each]
Final Exam	30%	

Your final course grade will be determined using the course components and weightings given above. Because only your best 2 semester exams are counted, makeup exams will be given only under extraordinary circumstances and at my sole discretion. Per University policy, you must notify me of your pending absence at least fourteen days prior to the date of observance of a religious holy day. If you must miss a class, an examination, a work assignment, or a project in order to observe a religious holy day, you will be given an opportunity to complete the missed work within a reasonable time after the absence. Class attendance is not

considered explicitly in computation of your course grade, but is strongly recommended as an important part of your learning process (attendance and final grades are positively correlated).

Each course component will be graded on a curve, rather than an absolute scale, for translation of numerical to letter grades. This will almost certainly result in your receiving a higher letter grade than if the traditional absolute scale were employed. Final grades will be assigned using +/- grade increments.

Notes on exam grading: For exam problems, reasoning and analysis are typically as or more important than the final answer. You should explain your reasoning clearly and show all work. *In particular, you must solve each problem symbolically (showing work step-by-step), substituting numbers in only in the very last step. This is good practice to minimize mistakes and enables me to assign partial credit.* Be sure to erase or cross out any work you do not want to be considered in grading. If you demonstrate mastery of the key concepts required to solve a problem, you will receive substantial credit even if the final answer is not completely correct. Conversely, a correct final answer without explanation or justification will typically receive very limited credit. *Any requests for exam regrades must be made in writing with an explanation of the issue in question, and within one week of your receiving your original graded exam. If an exam regrade is requested, the entire exam may be regraded and your total score may increase or decrease.*

Drop Policy

All adds and drops should be discussed with your academic advisor. The last day to drop this course without permission from the Dean and the department advisor is the twelfth class day. After this day, drops are not approved unless students can demonstrate “good cause”, i.e. health or personal problems that did not exist at the end of the official add and drop period. Academic performance, such as making poor exam grades, is not a valid reason to drop. The Cockrell School of Engineering add/drop policies may be found at <http://www.engr.utexas.edu/undergraduate/policies>.

Policy on Collaboration:

Discussion of course material and homework problems is permitted (and encouraged!). However, each student should work through the homework problems (and write up his or her solutions) independently. For additional details please see the section of this syllabus on Policy on Academic Integrity.

Course Policy on Academic Integrity:

Ethics and integrity in both academic and professional affairs should be part of your education at UT Austin. Academic integrity is a serious matter and will be treated as such in EE 302. My hope is that this will be beneficial to your education both technically and in a much broader sense.

While I am confident that the large majority of students will naturally perform in accordance with the university's guidelines and regulations regarding academic integrity, I provide below an explicit statement of course policy in this regard.

Homework:

EE 302 course policy is that discussion of course material, including homework problems, is allowed and indeed encouraged. However, each student should work through assigned homework problems and write up his or her solutions independently. Problem-solving is an extremely useful skill in itself, and in addition is the only really effective way to learn the material!

Specifically, each student is responsible for working out and writing up his or her own solutions to each homework assignment. Discussion of the course material and problems is encouraged, but practices such as allowing a classmate to copy your homework solutions, or a group working out a problem solution together which everyone then copies down and turns in, are forbidden. Use of problem solutions obtained from other students, over the web, etc. is forbidden. Students caught violating course policy on homework assignments will receive a warning possibly followed by a grading penalty and further disciplinary action, in accordance with university policy.

Examinations:

In general you will be allowed to use a calculator, writing implements and erasers, and blue books during exams. No other materials will be allowed. Students who are caught using unauthorized materials during an exam, copying from a classmate on exams, continuing to work on an exam after time has been called, or violating exam or course rules in some other manner are likely, at a minimum, to receive a score of zero on that exam and may be subject to further disciplinary action, again in accordance with university policy.

For further information:

Students with questions about course policy on academic integrity should consult the course instructor.

Additional information concerning UT Austin's policy on academic integrity is posted on the UT Austin web site at http://deanofstudents.utexas.edu/sjs/acint_student.php.

Homework

Homework assignments are intended to give you practice in problem-solving, and to enable you to apply and further explore concepts and techniques introduced in lecture and/or assigned reading. Typically there will be one homework assignment per week, except during weeks for which an exam is scheduled. Homework assignments are due in class, at the beginning of lecture, on the assigned due date. Late assignments will not be accepted except possibly in cases of serious, documented illness. Please see the sections of this syllabus addressing Policy on Collaboration and Policy on Academic Integrity for information on working with your classmates on homework assignments.

Laboratory

The laboratory sessions for this class meet once per week for two hours at the times indicated for your section, in ACA 1.108. All students are required to purchase a National Instruments myDAQ for use in the lab. This measurement device will also be used in subsequent courses in the curriculum. The instructor for the laboratory component is your TA. All lab issues, including lab grading, should be discussed with your TA. Participation in all lab sessions is required except for documented illness or religious observance approved in advance. Per University policy, you must notify me of your pending absence at least fourteen days prior to the date of observance of a religious holy day.

Laboratory sessions will start the week of 09/06/2011. The laboratory manual will be available from HKN (ENS 129, <http://hkn.ece.utexas.edu>) for \$15.

Project

The project for this course is designed to allow you to explore UT Austin and learn more about the engineering profession. The project consists of a series of assignments that are due on specified dates throughout the semester. Details will be provided in a separate handout and on the class web site.

Accommodation for Religious Observances

By UT Austin policy, you must notify me of your pending absence at least fourteen days prior to the date of observance of a religious holy day. If you must miss a class, an examination, a work assignment, or a project in order to observe religious holy day, you will be given an opportunity to complete the missed work within a reasonable time after the absence. If there is uncertainty regarding the precise date of a religious observance due to lunar cycles, etc., you still must inform me at least 14 days prior to the earliest possible date of the observance and provide the probable range of dates for the observance.

Students with Disabilities:

The University of Texas at Austin provides upon request appropriate academic accommodations for qualified students with disabilities. For more information, contact the Office of Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD). Additional information on this subject is posted on the UT Austin web site at <http://www.utexas.edu/diversity/ddce/ssd/>

If you feel you may be entitled to accommodation under these policies, please consult with the appropriate offices early in the semester. Evaluation and approval take time, and typical adjustments cannot be applied retroactively.

Sources of Help

Like most engineering courses, EE302 builds knowledge in a rapid step-by-step process throughout the semester. Each step assumes you have mastered the prior material. If you fall behind by even a few days, it can be difficult to catch up. If you do not understand something, ask questions in class, come to office hours, and/or take advantage of the other sources of help that are available. Get help quickly; do not wait! UT also provides resources to help you with nonacademic issues. A search of the UT website is often a good place to start.

The best way to get help from the instructor is during office hours. If you are not able to make it to my scheduled office hours, I am often available at my office on the Pickle Research Campus. If you would like to meet outside scheduled office hours, it is generally best to arrange a time and location with me in advance. Email is typically the best way to reach me. Please mention EE302 in the subject of any email.

Any professor teaching EE302 will also be available to help you during their normal office hours.

The EE honor society, HKN, provides free tutoring for Basic Sequence ECE courses including EE302 on Tuesday and Thursday from 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM in the HKN office, ENS 129. They also provide limited

assistance with basic math and science courses. HKN has a help desk service where you can “ask anything about anything”; just drop by their office at anytime. Their web site is <http://hkn.ece.utexas.edu/services.php>.

The UT Learning Center provides free tutoring in JES A332A. Consult their website for hours of operation and programs. The UT Learning Center also provides one-on-one tutoring for a reasonable hourly charge (some financial aid recipients may qualify for free tutoring). Visit their web page at www.utexas.edu/student/utlc/.

The ECE Undergraduate Affairs Office, ENS 135, is the best place to start if you have issues related to advising, registration, add/drop, or issues with the UT bureaucracy in general.

The Engineering Office of Student Affairs, ECJ 2.200, can assist with many issues. Their web page is <http://www.engr.utexas.edu/undergraduate/services>.

Lecture and Exam Schedule

Date	Topic/Event	Reading (Ulaby & Maharbiz)
8/25/2011	<i>First lecture</i>	
8/25	Introduction and overview	Chapter 1
8/30-9/1	Circuit terminology and basic concepts	
9/6-9/8	Circuit topology	Chapter 2
9/13-9/15	Kirchoff's Laws	
9/20-9/22	Simple equivalent circuits and transformations	
9/27	Examples and review	
9/29/2011	<i>Semester Exam 1</i>	
10/4-10/6	Nodal analysis	Chapter 3
10/11-10/13	Mesh analysis	
10/18-10/20	Superposition	
10/25	Additional techniques and examples	
10/27/2011	<i>Semester Exam 2 [tentative date]</i>	
11/1-11/3	Thevenin and Norton equivalent circuits	
11/8-11/10	Power transfer	
11/15-11/17	Operational amplifiers	Chapter 4
11/22/2010	<i>Semester Exam 3</i>	
11/29-12/1	Operational amplifiers; additional topics	
Tues 12/13/2011	<i>Final Exam [tentative date and time]</i>	
9:00AM-Noon		

Helpful Prerequisite Knowledge

To master the material in EE 302, it is essential for you to have a strong working knowledge of pre-calculus-level mathematics and high-school-level physics. In addition, you are required to have completed or be concurrently enrolled in M 408C (Differential and Integral Calculus) or its equivalent.

Specifically, the areas and basic topics you will find helpful to understand, and the ideal level of understanding, are as follows. We will discuss many of the ideas listed under “Physics” below, but prior familiarity with them will still be helpful.

1. Mathematics

- Excellent proficiency with elementary algebra
- Good proficiency with linear, polynomial, exponential, and logarithmic functions
- Some proficiency with systems of linear equations and (ideally) matrices
- Basic knowledge of differential calculus by mid-semester, and integral calculus by late in semester

2. Physics

- Some familiarity with basic concepts of charge, current, voltage, and resistance
- Some familiarity with basic concepts of energy and power
- Some familiarity with proper use of significant figures in calculations
- Some familiarity with proper use and essential nature of units in calculation of physical quantities
- Some familiarity with concept of physically “reasonable” quantities