

**Western University  
Faculty of Engineering  
Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering**

**ECE 4416: Electrical/Computer Engineering Project  
Course Outline 2017-18**

**Description:** In this course, students will work in small teams to tackle a comprehensive engineering design project, building upon the overall undergraduate course material offered through the Electrical Engineering program. Throughout the course, students will be expected to complete milestones related to the design process including: problem definition, generation and evaluations of concepts, engineering analysis and testing, and preparation of design documentation. Each team will be supervised by a faculty advisor with whom they will meet regularly. Submitted work will be reviewed both by the faculty advisor and the course coordinator.

**Course coordinator:** Dr. J. Sabarinathan, P.Eng.  
TEB 259, 519-661-2111 ext. 81173, [jsabarin@uwo.ca](mailto:jsabarin@uwo.ca)  
Consultation hours: By appointment

**Academic Calendar Copy:** Selection and investigation of an engineering problem. Analytical and/or experimental work is carried out by individual students or project groups under the supervision of a faculty member. Progress reports and a final engineering report are prepared; each student must deliver a public lecture.

**Contact Hours:** 6 laboratory hours, 1.0 course.

**Antirequisites:** CBE 4497, CEE 4441, MME 4499, SE 4450, ES 4499.

**Prerequisites:** Completion of third year of the Electrical, Computer or Integrated Engineering programs.

Unless you have either the requisites for this course or written special permission from your Dean to enroll in it, you will be removed from this course and it will be deleted from your record. This decision may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course for failing to have the necessary prerequisites.

**CEAB Academic Units:** Engineering Design 100%.

**Required Textbook:** None assigned. General instruction and guidelines related to the course are posted on OWL (<https://owl.uwo.ca>).

**Recommended References:** None assigned. It is expected that each student will undertake a suitable literature search for the individual project undertaken.

### General Learning Objectives (CEAB Graduate Attributes)

Knowledge Base	3/3	Use of Engineering Tools	3/2	Impact on Society and the Environment	2/1
Problem Analysis	3/3	Individual and Team Work	3/2	Ethics and Equity	
Investigation	3/2	Communication Skills	3/2	Economics and Project Management	2/1
Design	3/3	Professionalism	2/1	Life-Long Learning	3/2

Notation:  $x/y$ , where  $x$  is the cognitive level (1: Remember, 2: Understand, 3: Apply) at which the attribute is assessed and  $y$  is the academic level (1: Beginner, 2: Intermediate, 3: Advanced) at which the attribute is assessed.

### Specific Learning Objectives:

By the end of this course, students should understand and be able to apply sound engineering design principles and methodology to the solution of an open-ended design problem. Students should also have good oral and written communication skills, and should be able to function effectively in a design team. In particular by the end of the course, students should be able to:

- 1) Properly identify and define an engineering problem requiring a significant component of design, analysis and synthesis and to carry it out in a professional manner with minimum supervision.
- 2) Conduct background research on relevant existing and emerging technology.
- 3) Generate multiple possible solutions using disciplinary knowledge
- 4) Effectively evaluate alternatives and select the best one.
- 5) Apply engineering knowledge and tools from different disciplines to perform appropriate analysis.
- 6) Validate engineering designs using mathematical modeling, simulation and prototype testing.
- 7) Schedule and manage a large design project including developing a realistic budget and a suitable Gantt chart for carrying out the tasks associated with the project and to adhere to all required deadlines.
- 8) Recognize and address environmental, legal, ethical and social implications of an engineering design project
- 9) Demonstrate an understanding of the safety hazards by adhering to appropriate safety standards and procedures, and engaging in circuit design and testing procedures that minimizes safety risks.
- 10) Produce professional quality design documentation, including detailed drawings, circuit designs, software designs etc.
- 11) Effectively communicate engineering ideas in written and oral forms.
- 12) Use appropriate computer tools to support all phases of the design process

### Project Topic:

The project topic may be either suggested by the students or selected from a listing of group projects suggested by faculty advisors. The topic must be related to some aspect of Electrical Engineering and contain a significant amount of engineering design, analysis and synthesis

and be approved by the course coordinator. The project goal(s) must be clearly identified and the procedures must include experiments or a test protocol to test the outcome.

Group or individual projects include, but are not limited to, topics in; Wireless Communications (mandatory for wireless option), Power Engineering (mandatory for power option), Digital Signal Processing and Control, Robotics and Real Time Systems, Biomedical Engineering, Applied Electrostatics and Electromagnetics, Digital Systems and Microprocessors, Networking, etc.

Initial project selection may take place in the second term of Year 3 in the ECE program with final selection and approval taking place early in the first term of Year 4 following submission of a formal Project Proposal.

**Evaluation:** Over the course of the year, students will be required to deliver/meet a number of milestones. These will be evaluated on an individual and team basis as follows:

Course Component	Weight
Project Specification	0%
Project Proposal	5%
Progress Report	10%
Design Review	5%
Analysis and Test Plan	5%
Design Demonstration	20%
Design Oral Presentation	15%
Final Report and Reflection	40%

In order to pass the course, the final report grade must be at least 50%. In addition, ***component grades below 50% may result in immediate project termination and failure of the course.*** Team grades may be adjusted by up to 15% for each student based on self and peer evaluation.

Students are expected to keep a project logbook that is available for periodic review by their advisor, and attend and participate in required course lectures as well as regular meetings as scheduled by their faculty advisor. Detailed grading information and due dates are provided on the course web site. Written reports are evaluated both by the faculty advisor and the Course Coordinator. Factors considered in the evaluation of the reports include the level of challenge involved in the project, the manner in which the project is carried out as well as the clarity and accuracy of the reports. In the case of team projects, a clear division of work will be identified as suggested by the team members and approved by the faculty advisor. The group evaluation will include issues such as the degree of teamwork in addition to individual assessment of the work assigned to each member of the team.

Unless other arrangements have been made, students are required to return to the Electronics Shop any components, equipment or documentation provided by the Faculty during the course of the project. Failure to do so may result in the withholding of a grade for ECE4416.

**Late Submission Policy:** Late submission of any report or deliverable will incur a penalty of

10% per day of the component mark. Any deliverables submitted more than 5 days late will not be accepted.

**Assignment Submission Locker:** Locker 208 located on the second floor of TEB.

**Use of English:** In accordance with Senate and Faculty Policy, students may be penalized up to 10% of the marks on all assignments, tests, and examinations for improper use of English. Additionally, poorly written work with the exception of the final examination may be returned without grading. If resubmission of the work is permitted, it may be graded with marks deducted for poor English and/or late submission.

**Attendance:** Attendance is mandatory for scheduled activities, including required course lectures, i.e. Safety Lecture and Library Lecture, design reviews and presentations. Students are required to meet regularly with their faculty advisor as scheduled.

**Absence Due to Illness or Other Circumstances:** Students should immediately consult with the instructor or department Chair if they have any problems that could affect their performance in the course. Where appropriate, the problems should be documented (see the attached “Instructions for Students Unable to Write Tests or Examinations or Submit Assignments as Scheduled”). The student should seek advice from the instructor or department Chair regarding how best to deal with the problem. Failure to notify the instructor or department Chair immediately (or as soon as possible thereafter) will have a negative effect on any appeal.

For more information concerning medical accommodations, see the relevant section of the Academic Handbook:

[http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\\_policies/appeals/accommodation\\_medical.pdf](http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/accommodation_medical.pdf)

For more information concerning accommodations for religious holidays, see the relevant section of the Academic Handbook:

[http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\\_policies/appeals/accommodation\\_religious.pdf](http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/accommodation_religious.pdf)

**Cheating and Plagiarism:** Students must write their essays and assignments in their own words. Whenever students take an idea or a passage from another author, they must acknowledge their debt both by using quotation marks where appropriate and by proper referencing such as footnotes or citations. University policy states that cheating, including plagiarism, is a scholastic offence. The commission of a scholastic offence is attended by academic penalties, which might include expulsion from the program. If you are caught cheating, there will be no second warning.

All required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to commercial plagiarism-detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. All papers submitted will be included as source documents on the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to the licensing agreement, currently between the University of Western Ontario and Turnitin.com (<http://www.turnitin.com>).

Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate

policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, in the relevant section of the Academic Handbook:

[http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\\_policies/appeals/scholastic\\_discipline\\_undergrad.pdf](http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf)

**Policy on Repeating All Components of a Course:** Students who are required to repeat an Engineering course must repeat all components of the course. No special permissions will be granted enabling a student to retain laboratory, assignment, or test marks from previous years. Previously completed assignments and laboratories cannot be resubmitted by the student for grading in subsequent years.

**Internet and Electronic Mail:** Students are responsible for regularly checking their Western e-mail and the course web site (<https://owl.uwo.ca/portal/>) and making themselves aware of any information that is posted about the course.

**Accessibility:** Please contact the course instructor if you require material in an alternate format or if any other arrangements can make this course more accessible to you. You may also wish to contact Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD) at 519-661-2111 ext. 82147 for any specific question regarding an accommodation.

**Support Services:** Office of the Registrar, <http://www.registrar.uwo.ca/>  
Student Development Centre, <http://www.sdc.uwo.ca/>  
Engineering Undergraduate Services, <http://www.eng.uwo.ca/undergraduate/>  
USC Student Support Services, <http://westernusc.ca/services/>

Students who are in emotional/mental distress should refer to Mental Health @ Western, [http://www.health.uwo.ca/mental\\_health/](http://www.health.uwo.ca/mental_health/), for a complete list of options about how to obtain help.

**INSTRUCTIONS FOR STUDENTS UNABLE TO WRITE TESTS OR EXAMINATIONS OR SUBMIT ASSIGNMENTS AS SCHEDULED**

IF, ON MEDICAL OR COMPASSIONATE GROUNDS, YOU ARE UNABLE TO WRITE TERM TESTS OR FINAL EXAMINATIONS OR COMPLETE COURSE WORK BY THE DUE DATE, YOU SHOULD FOLLOW THE INSTRUCTIONS LISTED BELOW. YOU SHOULD UNDERSTAND THAT ACADEMIC RELIEF WILL NOT BE GRANTED AUTOMATICALLY ON REQUEST. YOU MUST DEMONSTRATE TO YOUR DEPARTMENT (OR THE UNDERGRADUATE SERVICES OFFICE) THAT THERE ARE COMPELLING MEDICAL OR COMPASSIONATE GROUNDS THAT CAN BE DOCUMENTED BEFORE ACADEMIC RELIEF WILL BE CONSIDERED. DIFFERENT REGULATIONS APPLY TO TERM TESTS, FINAL EXAMINATIONS AND LATE ASSIGNMENTS. PLEASE READ THE INSTRUCTIONS CAREFULLY. (SEE THE 2017 UWO ACADEMIC CALENDAR).

**A. GENERAL REGULATIONS & PROCEDURES**

1. All first year students will report to the Undergraduate Services Office, SEB 2097, for all instances.
2. If you are an upper year student and you are missing a test/assignment/lab or exam that is worth MORE THAN 10% of your final grade, you will report to the Undergraduate Services Office, SEB 2097. Otherwise, you will report to your department office to request relief.
3. Check the course outline to see if the instructor has a policy for missed tests, examinations, late assignments or attendance.
4. Documentation must be provided as soon as possible. If no one is available in your Department office or the Undergraduate Services Office, leave a message clearly stating your name & student number and reason for your call. The department telephone numbers are given at the end of these instructions.
5. If you decide to write a test or an examination you should be prepared to accept the mark you earn. Rewriting tests or examinations or having the value of a test or examination reweighted on a retroactive basis is not permitted.

**B. TERM TESTS**

1. If you are in first year and you are unable to write a term test, contact the Undergraduate Services Office, SEB 2097 PRIOR to the scheduled date of the test.
2. If you are an upper year student and you are unable to write a term test, inform your instructor PRIOR to the scheduled date of the test. If the instructor is not available, leave a message for him/her at the department office. If the test is worth MORE THAN 10% of your final grade you will report to the Undergraduate Services Office, SEB 2097 to request relief. Otherwise, you will report to your department office to request relief.
3. Be prepared to provide supporting documentation to the Department Chair and/or the Undergraduate Services Office (see next page for information on documentation).
4. Discuss with the instructor if and when the test can be rescheduled. **N.B.** The approval of the Chair or the Undergraduate Services Office is required when rescheduling term tests.

**C. FINAL EXAMINATIONS**

1. If you are unable to write a final examination, contact the Undergraduate Services Office PRIOR TO THE SCHEDULED EXAMINATION TIME to request permission to write a Special Final Examination. If no one is available in the Undergraduate Services Office, leave a message clearly stating your name & student number.
2. Be prepared to provide the Undergraduate Services Office with supporting documentation (see next page for information on documentation) the next day, or as soon as possible (in cases where students are hospitalized). The following circumstances are not considered grounds for missing a final examination or requesting special examinations: common cold, sleeping in, misreading timetable and travel arrangements.
3. In order to receive permission to write a Special Examination, you must obtain the approval of the Chair of the Department **and** the Associate Dean and in order to apply you must sign a "Recommendation for a Special Examination Form" available in the Undergraduate Services Office. The Undergraduate Services Office will then notify the course instructor(s) and reschedule the examination on your behalf.

**N.B. It is the student's responsibility to check the date, time and location of the Special Examination.**

**D. LATE ASSIGNMENTS**

1. Advise the instructor if you are having problems completing the assignment on time (**prior** to the due date of the assignment).
2. Be prepared to provide documentation if requested by the instructor (see reverse side for information on documentation).
3. If you are granted an extension, establish a due date. The approval of the Chair of your Department (or the Associate Dean if you are in first year) is not required if assignments will be completed prior to the last day of classes.
4.
  - i) Extensions beyond the end of classes must have the consent of the instructor, the department Chair and the Associate Dean. Documentation is mandatory.
  - ii) A Recommendation of Incomplete Form must be filled out indicating the work to be completed and the date by which it is due. This form must be signed by the student, the instructor, the department Chair and the Associate Dean.

## E. SHORT ABSENCES

If you miss a class due to a minor illness or other problem, check your course outlines for information regarding attendance requirements and make sure you are not missing a test, laboratory or assignment. Cover any readings and arrange to borrow notes from a classmate.

## F. EXTENDED ABSENCES

If you are absent more than one week or if you get too far behind to catch up, you should consider reducing your workload by dropping one or more courses. (Note drop deadlines listed below). You may want to seek advice from the academic counsellor in your Department or Ms. Karen Murray in the Undergraduate Services Office, if you are in first year.

## G. DOCUMENTATION

If you consulted an off-campus doctor or Student Health Services regarding your illness or personal problem, **you must provide the doctor with a Student Medical Certificate** to complete at the time of your visit and then bring it to the Department (or the Undergraduate Services Office). **This note must contain the following information: severity of illness, effect on academic studies and duration of absence. Regular doctor's notes will not be accepted; only the Student Medical Certificate will be accepted.**

**In Case of Serious Illness of a Family Member:** Provide a Student Medical Certificate to your family member's physician to complete and bring it to the Department (or the Undergraduate Services Office if you are in first year).

**In Case of a Death:** Obtain a copy of the death certificate or the notice provided by the funeral director's office. You must include your relationship to the deceased and bring it to the Department (or the Undergraduate Services Office if you are in first year).

**For Other Extenuating Circumstances:** If you are not sure what documentation to provide, ask the Departmental Office (or the Undergraduate Services Office if you are in first year) for direction.

**Note:** Forged notes and certificates will be dealt with severely. To submit a forged document is a scholastic offence (see below).

## H. ACADEMIC CONCERNS

1. You need to know if your instructors have a policy on late penalties, missed tests, etc. This information may be included on the course outlines. If not, ask your instructor(s).
2. **You should also be aware of attendance requirements in some courses. You can be debarred from writing the final examination if your attendance is not satisfactory.**
3. If you are in academic difficulty, check out the minimum requirements for progression in the calendar. If in doubt, see your academic counsellor.

**Calendar References:** Check these regulations in your 2017 Western Academic Calendar available at [www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca](http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca).

Absences Due to Illness: <http://westerncalendar.uwo.ca/2017/pg117.html>

Academic Accommodations for Students with Disabilities: <http://westerncalendar.uwo.ca/2017/pg118.html>

Academic Accommodations for Religious or Holy Days: <http://westerncalendar.uwo.ca/2017/pg119.html>

Course Withdrawals: <http://westerncalendar.uwo.ca/2017/pg157.html>

Examinations: <http://westerncalendar.uwo.ca/2017/pg129.html>

Scheduling of Term Assignments: <http://westerncalendar.uwo.ca/2017/pg135.html>

Scholastic Offences: <http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/2017/pg111.html>

Student Medical Certificate: [http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\\_policies/appeals/medicalform.pdf](http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/medicalform.pdf)

Engineering Academic Regulations: <http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/2017/pg1442.html>

**Note:** These instructions apply to all students registered in the Faculty of Engineering regardless of whether the courses are offered by the Faculty of Engineering or other faculties in the University.

### **Drop Deadlines:**

First term half course (i.e. "A" or "F"):	November 5, 2017
Full courses and full-year half courses (i.e. "E", "Y" or no suffix):	November 30, 2017
Second term half or second term full course (i.e. "B" or "G"):	March 7, 2017

### **Contact Information:**

Undergraduate Services Office:	SEB 2097	Telephone: (519) 661-2130	E-mail: <a href="mailto:engugrad@uwo.ca">engugrad@uwo.ca</a>
Dept. of Chemical and Biochemical Engineering & Green Process Engineering:	TEB 477	Telephone: (519) 661-2131	E-mail: <a href="mailto:cbeugrad@uwo.ca">cbeugrad@uwo.ca</a>
Dept. of Civil and Environmental Engineering:	SEB 3005	Telephone: (519) 661-2139	E-mail: <a href="mailto:civil@uwo.ca">civil@uwo.ca</a>
Dept. of Electrical and Computer Engineering, Software Engineering & Mechatronics Engineering:	TEB 279	Telephone: (519) 661-3758	E-mail: <a href="mailto:eceugrad@uwo.ca">eceugrad@uwo.ca</a>
Dept. of Mechanical and Materials Engineering:	SEB 3002	Telephone: (519) 661-4122	E-mail: <a href="mailto:mmeundergraduate@uwo.ca">mmeundergraduate@uwo.ca</a>