Western University  
Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering  

ECE 3374A - Electronics for Mechanical Engineers  
COURSE OUTLINE – 2019-2020

CALENDAR DESCRIPTION: This course deals with the study of electrical, electronic, and electromechanical devices and systems, including the theory of operation, and analysis of behavior through modelling of components and systems.

COURSE INFORMATION:  
Instructor: Dr. J.E. Makaran, P.Eng.  
Email: jmakaran@uwo.ca

Lectures: Tu 7:00 pm – 10:00 pm NS-7  
Labs: M 6:30 pm – 9:30 pm SEB 3107  
Th 7:00 pm – 10:00 pm SEB 3107

PREREQUISITES: ECE 2274A/B or ECE 2238A/B.

ANTIREQUISITES: ECE 2277A/B, ECE 3332A/B, ECE 3333A/B, ECE 3375A/B.  

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.

CONSULTATION HOURS: By advance notice via email.

ACCREDITATION UNITS: Engineering Science = 60%, Engineering Design = 40%

TOPICS:

1. Passive Component Behaviour and Circuit Analysis  

Students will review voltage, current, and power relationships in discrete components such as resistors, capacitors, and inductors under DC and AC conditions. Students will use analytical techniques to understand the operation of simple circuits using passive components. Theoretical principles will be reinforced through simulation, construction, and operation of simple circuits. Electrical analogs for mechanical parameters such as torque, velocity, and inertia shall be presented.

2. Signal Conditioning  

Students will be introduced to filter and amplifier circuits (such as those incorporating op-amps) that are used in signal conditioning applications. Theoretical principles will be reinforced through simulation, construction, and operation of simple circuits. Applications to sensors that are used to measure physical parameters such as temperature, pressure, force and displacement will be briefly discussed.

3. Power Electronic Devices used in Energy Conversion  

The principle of operation, physical construction, and system level application considerations of the following devices shall be studied:
• Diodes
• Power MOSFETs
• IGBTs
• Electrolytic Capacitors

Special attention shall be given to loss generation and modeling of static and transient thermal behaviour using information specified in data sheets as a criterion for device application.

4. Electric Motors

The following electric machines shall be studied:
• DC brush motors
• Synchronous (permanent magnet) electronically commutated motors
• Single phase and three phase asynchronous motors
• Reluctance (stepper motors)

The construction and speed / torque behavior of each machine shall be presented. Attention shall be given to factors affecting efficiency. Speed control means shall be presented. The function of the motor as part of an overall system, such as in systems used in linear actuation, or in systems incorporating pumps and fans shall be modelled through the use of electromechanical analogs for transient and steady-state operation.

The study of electric machines shall continue with a discussion of application specific selection of appropriate machines from data sheets and catalogs that are reinforced through simulation and design exercises.

5. Electronic Packaging and Manufacturing

A review of electronic packaging and assembly processes shall be presented. Thermal management and environmental protection means shall be reviewed, along with an overview of typical quality issues and various means to perform root cause failure analysis of systems incorporating electronics.

6. Validation of Systems Incorporating Electronics

An overview of the manner in which mechatronics systems are validated at the system level shall be presented. Test plans according to a client Design Validation Plan (DVP) shall be presented, along with specific test modalities, such as thermal testing, mechanical testing, electrical testing, and environmental testing. Validating critical component interfaces and testing to failure to understand product shortcomings shall be discussed.

**LEARNING OUTCOMES:**

Upon successful completion of this course, students will:
• Understand voltage, current, and power relationships in passive components
• Understand electrical analogs for mechanical components.
• Simulate and analyze simple circuits used to condition physical signals
• Understand the theory of operation of power electronic devices used in energy conversion.
• Understand system level considerations in the application of systems incorporating power electronic devices.
• Perform static and transient thermal modelling on assemblies containing power electronic devices.
• Understand component derating and its importance on electronic device application.
• Understand the system level influences on electronic device reliability.
• Understand device failure modes and their system level implications.
• Understand the theory of operation and construction of electric motors typically used in industry, including factors affecting efficiency.
• Model mechanical systems incorporating electric motors.
• Select the appropriate type and size of motor for a given application.
• Verify, compare and interpret differences between the results obtained through system level simulation and experimentation.
• Understand the processes used to manufacture electronics, along with typical quality issues that are associated with electronic manufacturing and packaging means.
• Create test plans for products from application specific information.

CONTACT HOURS: 3 lecture hours, 3 lab hours, half course


EVALUATION: The final course grade will be determined according to the following weighting scheme:
Mid-term exam (closed book) Wednesday, October 23rd, 30%
Laboratory sessions 20%
Final examination (closed book) 50%

COURSE POLICIES The following course-specific policies will be enforced throughout the course:

Laboratory sessions
• Failure to pass the laboratory component of the course will attract automatic course failure.
• Passing of the laboratory component is equivalent with obtaining more than 50% on the laboratory component of the course.
• A maximum of one make-up session will be offered to students who have missed a laboratory session with academic consideration.
• Missing of a laboratory session without academic consideration will translate into a zero mark for that laboratory session.

Final examination
• Only non-programmable calculators will be allowed during the final examination.
If a minimum of 50% is not obtained on the final examination, the student cannot receive a final mark greater than 48%.

Submissions

- Lab reports will be due at the end of the lab session in which data was collected
- Late submission of the SW tutorials will be penalized with 20% per day
- Late submission of the project will be penalized with 20% per day
- Final exam will be three hours long and will be submitted at the end of the allotted time

UNITS: Metric and US customary.

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 the improper use of English. Additionally, poorly written work with the exception of final examinations 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.

CLASSROOM DEMEANOR: The instructor is committed to providing a respectful learning environment for all students involved in this course. This is a collective responsibility of the instructor and students, and therefore students partaking in this course agree to abide by this criterion. This includes arriving at lectures on time, and acting in a professional manner during class.

ATTENDANCE: Any student who, in the opinion of the instructor, is absent too frequently from class or laboratory periods in any course, will be reported to the Dean (after due warning has been given). On the recommendation of the Department concerned, and with the permission of the Dean, the student will be debarred from taking the regular examination in the course.

CHEATING: University policy states that cheating, including plagiarism, is a scholastic offense. 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 (see Scholastic Offence Policy in the Western Calendar).

SSD: 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 661-2111 x 82147 for any specific question regarding an accommodation.

NOTE: Students who have failed an Engineering course (i.e. < 50%) 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 for grading by the student in subsequent years.
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.

NEW: Requests for Academic Consideration using the Self-Reported Absence Form

If you experience an unexpected illness or injury or an extenuating circumstance (48 hours or less) that is sufficiently severe to temporarily render you unable to meet academic requirements (e.g., attending lectures or labs, writing tests or midterm exams, completing and submitting assignments, participating in presentations) you should self-declare using the online Self-Reported Absence portal. This option should be used in situations where you expect to resume academic responsibilities within 48 hours or less.

Each student will be allowed a maximum of two self-reported absences between September and April and one self-reported absence between May and August. Self-reporting may not be used for final exams or assessments (e.g. midterm exams, tests, reports, presentations, or essays) worth more than 30% of any given course.

For full instructions about the Self-Reporting System refer to the Academic Calendar link here.

A. GENERAL REGULATIONS & PROCEDURES (other than self-reported absences)

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 examination that is worth LESS THAN 10% of your mark, you should report to your department office to request relief. If your course work is worth MORE THAN 10% of your final grade, you will report to the Undergraduate Services Office, SEB 2097.

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/MIDTERM TESTS (other than self-reported absences)

1. If you are in first year and you are unable to write a midterm/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 midterm/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 LESS THAN 10% of your mark, you should report to your department office to request relief. 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.

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 midterm/term tests.
C. **FINAL EXAMINATIONS (cannot be self-reported)**

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, headache, 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.

   **PLEASE NOTE:** 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 Assistant Dean, First Year Studies, 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, Undergraduate Studies. 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, Undergraduate Studies.

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 are strongly encouraged to seek advice from your Academic Counsellor in the Undergraduate Services Office.

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 2019 Western Academic Calendar available at [www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca](http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca).

- **Self-Reporting Absences**
- **Absences Due to Illness**
- **Academic Accommodations for Students with Disabilities**
- **Academic Accommodations for Religious or Holy Days**
- **Course Withdrawals**
- **Examinations**
- **Scheduling of Term Assignments**
- **Scholastic Offences**
- **Student Medical Certificate**
- **Engineering Academic Regulations**

**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.

**Add Deadlines:**
- First term half course (i.e. “A” or “F”)  
  September 13, 2019
- Full courses and full-year half course (i.e. “E”, “Y” or no suffix)  
  September 13, 2019
- Second term half course (i.e. “B” or “G”)  
  January 14, 2020

**Drop Deadlines:**
- First term half course (i.e. “A” or “F”)  
  November 12, 2019
- Full courses and full-year half courses (i.e. “E”, “Y” or no suffix)  
  November 30, 2019
- Second term half or second term full course (i.e. “B” or “G”)  
  March 7, 2020

**Contact Information:**

- Undergraduate Services Office  
  SEB 2097  
  Phone: 519-661-2130  
  E-mail: engugrad@uwo.ca
- Chemical & Green Process Engineering  
  TEB 477  
  Phone: 519-661-2131  
  E-mail: cbeugrad@uwo.ca
- Civil Engineering:  
  SEB 3005  
  Phone: 519-661-2139  
  E-mail: civil@uwo.ca
- Computer, Electrical, Mechatronic Systems & Software Engineering  
  TEB 279  
  Phone: 519-661-3758  
  E-mail: eceugrad@uwo.ca
- Integrated Engineering  
  ACEB 2410  
  Phone: 519-661-6725  
  E-mail: engineci@uwo.ca
- Mechanical Engineering  
  SEB 3002  
  Phone: 519-661-4122  
  E-mail: mmeundergraduate@uwo.ca

Revised 08/01/19