Subject: ECE 1111: Engineering Computation I (Fall 2022): HW #4 - Learning Emacs
From: Joseph Picone <picone@temple.edu>
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To: "ECE 1111: Google" <temple_engineering_ece1111@googlegroups.com>

This one is HUGE!

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This is an excellent summer activity that will help you get a jump start on the course and
prepare you for success.
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In this course, I am going to use emacs as my text editor. In the past, we have allowed students
to choose their own text editor. That simply hasn't worked. So this semester we will require you
to learn emacs.

Emacs has a lot of nice features you can exploit, including multiple buffers, user-defined
macros, automated code formatting (for most languages), and built-in compilation and debugging
tools.

To learn about emacs, start here:

https://www.emacswiki.org/emacs/LearningEmacs

Using a text editor effectively is a critical skill in this class. It takes months to become an
advanced user of emacs, so it is good to get an early start. That is why you are receiving this
message. We want you to spend time during the break learning emacs.

∗∗∗ You must become an advanced user of some text editor! ∗∗∗

I cannot stress this enough — it is a major reason students fail this course. They just don't
spend enough time digging into a text editor and learning how it can support your programming
needs. So everything they do takes much longer. Spend the break becoming a power user of emacs —
your life won't be the same after that 🙂

The lectures from last semester are online as videos in case you want to see what we specifically
cover.

Happy emacs'ing...

—Joe