

Subject: ECE 1111 & ENGR 2011: managing expectations

From: Joseph Picone <picone@temple.edu>

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To: ECE 1111 <temple_engineering_ece1111@googlegroups.com>, ENGR 2011 <temple_engineering_engr2011@googlegroups.com>

Because we are seeing a large number of entry-level students who don't quite seem to understand our expectations of you as engineering students, we are now requiring all incoming students to take a freshman-level seminar course that addresses these issues.

Though you are not required to take this course, I want to make sure you understand that you are responsible for its material. A syllabus of the course is attached. Please review it.

The ECE 1111 students are somewhat familiar with the unique nature of my courses. After all, they have been working all summer preparing for ECE 1111 in Fall 2022 (in theory at least 😊). I want to make sure we are all on the same page about these expectations.

We will move very fast in this course. College is much different than high school. Lectures are meant to be a small fraction of the total time you devote to the course. We will have three exams plus a final, weekly quizzes, and weekly homework. Late submissions or unexcused absences will not be tolerated.

Grading will be strict but fair. I expect you to meet our high standards for professionalism (e.g., well-written homework solutions). I will expect you to show up to lectures and participate in classroom discussions. I expect you to work on this class outside of normal classroom hours, including weekends and evenings.

I would think these kinds of expectations don't even need to be discussed. However, we have had large numbers of students in recent years miss class, exams, etc., and somehow still expect to pass the course. These students seem unprepared for college life, and they really struggle. Often, it is a direct result of working too many hours outside of school.

So I want to make sure we are all on the same page this semester. I will do my best to make this class interesting, rewarding and challenging. But you also have to be prepared to do the work it takes to become a great engineer.

Finally, I hope you will interact with me outside of class so I get to know you and get a much better understanding of how I can help you learn. I find the students I talk with frequently tend to get much more out of my classes.

-Joe

- Attachments: _____

ENGR1001 - Engineering First Year Seminar - Tuesday.pdf

265 KB