I. INTRODUCTION

On 08 September 2004, the ECE faculty approved the new ECE Minimum Grade Requirement (ECE MGR). The purpose of one portion of the ECE MGR is to ensure that all students taking 300-level ECE courses have demonstrated proficiency in the curriculum’s 200-level material.

II. IMPLEMENTATION SCHEDULE

This document pertains to students planning to take certain courses in the 2006-2007 academic year and beyond. Specifically, it applies to CSE and EE undergraduate students desiring to take one or more 300-level ECE courses beginning in the 2006-2007 academic year. (e.g., Fall 2006: ECE 313, ECE 323, ECE 344, ECE 353, ECE 373; Spring 2007: ECE 303, ECE 314, ECE 324, ECE 333, ECE 354, ECE 374)

III. ACCESS TO 300-LEVEL ECE COURSES

To be eligible to take any of the 300-level ECE courses, one must be an Electrical Engineering (EE) or Computer Systems Engineering (CSE) student and must...

have received a grade of C or better in each of the courses: ECE 211, ECE 212, ECE 232 and ECE 242.

or

have a Grade Point Average of 3.100 or better in the set of courses: ECE 211, ECE 212, ECE 232, and ECE 242. For example, a student with the grades A, A-, B+, C- (Grade Point Average$^1 = 3.175$) would gain access to the 300-level courses, but a student with grades A, A-, B+, D+ (Quality Point Average = 3.075) would have to retake the course with the D+ before taking any 300-level ECE course. In the "A, A-, B+, C-" scenario, the student would not be required to repeat the course in which he or she received a C-.

Please note that the department plans to offer ECE 211 each fall and spring. A student who earns a C or better in ECE 211 in a spring offering would then need to earn a C or better in an approved summer ECE 212 equivalent in another ABET-accredited BSEE/BSCSE engineering program.

IV. COURSE REGISTRATION VERSUS PERMISSION TO TAKE A COURSE

There is a difference between being registered in a course and having permission to take that course. SPIRE allows a student to register for a course based on the presumption that she or he has satisfied, or
will satisfy the requisites for that course. However, if the requisites are not satisfied then it is the student’s responsibility to drop the course.

V. Appeal Process

If, due to the ECE Minimum Grade Requirement (MGR), a student does not qualify to take one or more ECE courses, she or he may submit a written appeal. A complete appeal packet will consist of a completed ECE MGR Appeal form, a printed SPIRE transcript, and an EE or CSE Curriculum Worksheet with all grades filled-in (mark “T” for transferred courses). Appeal packets are to be mailed in for departmental review via the ECE Academic Programs Office (APO):

Academic Programs Assistant
Academic Programs Office, 210 Marcus Hall
Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering
University of Massachusetts
Amherst, Massachusetts 01003-9292

For more information, please call the ECE Academic Programs Office at 413-545-2441.

Notes on how to calculate the GPA may be found at http://www.umass.edu/registrar/gen_info/grading_system.htm. The letter grades have the following weights: A = 4.000, A- = 3.700, B+ = 3.300, B = 3.000, B- = 2.700, C+ = 2.300, C = 2.000, C- = 1.700, D+ = 1.300, D = 1.000, F = 0.000, INC = 0.000, ____ = 0.000 (blank grade calculates as an F for students without graduate standing).

URL: http://www.ecs.umass.edu/ece/dept/undergrad/current_students/