

Computer Engineering Majors (CompE)
 Electrical Engineering Majors (EE)
 PR-ENGIN Students planning to be CompE or EE Majors
 Students in other majors planning on switching to CompE or EE

Registration Notes for Spring 2021

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Electrical Engineering Majors (EE)
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Registration Notes for Spring 2021

Summary of Steps to Preregister for Fall 2021 classes (see next page for details)

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- Download a Course Selection Form and Curriculum Worksheet (go to ECE Forms & Documents)
- Schedule an advising appointment (look for email from your advisor with link to calendar)
- Review your ARR and fill out the Course Selection Form and Curriculum Worksheet
- Meet with your advisor (through Friday, April 9)
- Enroll in classes once your Enrollment Appointment begins (Mon, April 5, or later)

Contact Information

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Useful Webpages / Google Forms

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Forms & Documents (ECE): <http://ece.umass.edu/undergraduate-students/forms-documents>

[ECE Override Form](#) (to be added into an ECE course, e.g., if you don't have the prerequisites.)

Academics & Advising (ECE): <https://ece.umass.edu/undergraduate-students/academics-advising>

Engineering Forms & Regulations (CoE):

<https://engineering.umass.edu/current-students/undergraduate-advising/forms-petitions>

[CoE Change of Engineering Track Request](#)

(to change your subplan or major within the college, e.g., from MechE or BME to CompE or EE)

[CoE Change of Major Request](#) (to change your major from outside the college into the college)

RAC Holds

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Everyone has a “service indicator (code-RAC)” on their SPIRE accounts, which prevents enrollment and which can be removed only by meeting with an advisor.

Other Holds

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If you have any other holds on your SPIRE account, e.g., 10- or 12-semester hold, Probation hold, or Academic Warning hold, contact Prof. Leonard. He will need to write an Advising Note and alert the Dean to it. For the 10- or 12-semester hold, you will need to fill out a SAPA form and submit it to the Office of Student Affairs. (A fillable version is located on the ECE website under [Forms & Documents.](#))

Registration Process

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Step 1. March 2021: Getting Started. Go to [Forms & Documents](#) on the ECE website to download your registration paperwork (a fillable Curriculum Worksheet and a fillable Course Selection Form). You also need to sign up for an appointment with your faculty advisor using UMass Apps. Your advisor should either send you a link for scheduling an appointment or provide an alternative format for meeting remotely. If you do not receive an email from your advisor before Monday, March 22, contact Ms. Barbara Hastings for assistance.

Step 2. Getting ready for your Advising Appointment. Review your SPIRE (unofficial) transcript and write each of the grades from your transcript in the appropriate box on your (fillable) EE or CompE Curriculum Worksheet using Adobe Acrobat or PDFescape (see below). Enter a grade of “TR” or “AP” for all transfer or Advanced Placement courses that are listed as being satisfied on your Academic Requirements Report (ARR). For courses you are taking THIS semester, enter your best guess or a range of possible grades, e.g., “B?” or “A-/B+”. Review your ARR online, but please do not print out the report. Fill out the Course Selection Form as well, including a draft of your academic plan for next semester, and “sign” the form by typing your name into the appropriate field.

Step 3. Through April 9, 2021: Meeting with your Advisor. Before your meeting, email both filled-out documents (a Curriculum Worksheet and a Course Selection Form) to your advisor, still as fillable forms. (And choose meaningful filenames, e.g., by including your name and “Sp21”, so that your files are identifiable and unique.) You and your advisor will finalize your academic plan for Fall 2021, and your advisor will electronically sign the Course Selection Form then forward the form to Ms. Barbara Hastings. If you need to change the agreed upon academic plan later (e.g., because you failed to meet a minimum grade requirement in one of your classes this semester), you must first consult with your advisor. Also, if you go to your meeting unprepared, don't be surprised if your advisor asks you to reschedule the appointment.

Step 4. After your SPIRE Access Period Begins. Sign up for Fall 2021 classes beginning on the date and time of your Enrollment Appointment, as shown on your Student Center page on SPIRE.

Filling out PDFs / Link to PDFescape

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Download the fillable versions of the Curriculum Worksheet and Course Selection Form. If possible, use Adobe Acrobat to fill them out, so that you can send the files to your advisor still as fillable forms. If you do not have access to Adobe Acrobat, use PDFescape, which will allow you to fill and save your documents:

<https://www.pdfescape.com>

Academic Requirements Report (ARR)

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This report is used to help with graduation clearance. You should check your Academic Requirements Report (ARR) on SPIRE and contact Prof. Leonard if there are any errors or omissions, particularly regarding transfer credits, AP credits, elective courses, and GenEd courses. (You do NOT need to print your ARR.)

Admission to the Major

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To be admitted to the CompE or EE major, a student must complete, with a grade of C or better, the following seven courses: MATH 131 and MATH 132; ECE 122; ENGIN 100 or 110 or 111 or 112 or 113 or 114 or 197E; ENGLWRIT 112; and PHYSICS 151 and PHYSICS 152. Further, good standing is required, and your term GPA for the last “regular” term (fall or spring) must be 2.00 or above. NOTE: A grade of C– or below is not sufficient, and the course should be retaken. (Contact Prof. Leonard to discuss any exceptions to these requirements, for instance, if you have taken COMPSCI 121 instead of ECE 122. Contact Prof. Leonard also if you are not sure exactly when you should repeat a course. See exceptions below for classes completed in Spring 2020, Fall 2020, and Spring 2021.)

Curriculum Planning

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Advisors offer assistance, but they do not plan the student’s course of study. The Curriculum Worksheets are only guides as not all required courses are offered every semester. *Please inform Prof. Leonard now about any problems that arise from anticipated course offerings.* Electronic copies of the Curriculum Worksheets are on the ECE website under [Forms & Documents](#).

Pass/Fail Option

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The deadline for choosing the Pass/Fail option is midnight on Tuesday, May 4. Use SPIRE to select Pass/Fail, but do NOT wait until the deadline, just in case. If you cannot get this to work in SPIRE, then you may use an electronic form, Course Change Request, available on the ECE Forms & Documents page.

If you fail the course, an “F” will appear on your transcript, and the grade WILL affect your GPA. However, if you pass with at least a D, and if the letter grade would lower your overall GPA, then “P” will appear on your transcript, and the grade will NOT be used to compute your GPA.

You may revoke the Pass/Fail option at any time before your transcript is finalized, usually about 3-6 months after graduation.

PASS/FAIL in SPRING 2020, FALL 2020, and SPRING 2021

For courses taken this semester ONLY...

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- ... you may elect the Pass/Fail option for up to three courses;
- ... for most people, it is recommended to choose Pass/Fail for three courses; and
- ... wait until mid to late April to make a final decision about which three courses to make P/F.
- ... any course with a “P” may be used to fulfill ALL graduation requirements; however,
- ... the underlying grade will be used to determine admission to a major in ECE, even if you choose P/F.
- ... you must earn C– or better in required courses to be admitted into BS-CSENG or BS-EE.
- ... CS will be using the underlying grade also to determine eligibility for certain courses, e.g., C– or better in MATH 132 as a prerequisite to take CS 250.

For courses taken in Fall 2020 and Spring 2020...

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- ... any course with a “P” may be used to fulfill ALL graduation requirements;
- ... any course with a “P” may be used to fulfill prerequisite requirements, e.g., C or better in MATH 132 and ECE 241 to be admitted into COMPSCI 250; and
- ... you may use “P” to fulfill any and all entrance requirements into PR-ENGIN, CompE, or EE.

When to revoke the Pass/Fail Option

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For most people, once grades are official, it is recommended to revoke the Pass/Fail option if the letter grade is only slightly below your GPA. For instance, if a B+ student (3.3 GPA) earns a B or even a B– in a course that is Pass/Fail, then the letter grade will likely look better on their transcript than a P, especially to prospective employers, even though it lowers their GPA slightly.

Possible Pitfalls of the Pass/Fail Option

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It can be difficult for some people to maintain the same level of attentiveness and hard work after they have switched a course to Pass/Fail. This can potentially have a negative effect, especially in engineering where so many courses build on prerequisite material. In other words, even though you have “passed” a course this semester, you will likely need to know and understand the material in order to apply it to future coursework, so you might not be as prepared as you could be or should be for classes next semester and beyond.

Therefore, it is recommended that you continue to do your best in every course, even if you are taking it Pass/Fail, learning as much as you can and getting yourself as prepared as possible for future courses. Alternatively, there will likely be some “review” courses you can take this summer (~\$450 each).

Withdrawing from a Class

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You may withdraw from a class for any reason before midnight on Monday, March 29. In other words, you do NOT need anyone’s permission to withdraw from a class. However, make sure that you will still have 12 credits after withdrawing. A “W” will appear on your transcript, but it will not affect your GPA, and it does not count as having been enrolled. (You are allowed two enrollments; a third requires special permission.)

Use SPIRE to withdraw from a class. Note that the procedure is slightly different after the Add/Drop period. That is, in SPIRE, go to *Enrollment >> Drop Classes - W/DR Grade*. If you cannot get this to work on SPIRE, then you may use fillable form, Course Change Request, available on the [Forms & Documents](#) page.

If you need 1 or 2 credits to reach full-time status (12 credits), contact Prof. Leonard as soon as possible.

If you withdraw from a class, you might need to take it again as soon as possible, e.g., during the summer.

Academic Discipline

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If you are on Academic Probation, or if you have ever been on the Suspension list or the Dismissal list, then withdrawing from a class might be necessary to avoid further Academic Discipline. Specifically, even if you choose Pass/Fail for a class, an F will affect your GPA. Contact Prof. Leonard for advice as soon as possible.

Repeating Classes with a P

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If you choose the Pass/Fail option in Spring 2021, and if you also earn below C, then you do NOT need to repeat the class or revoke the Pass/Fail option in order to fulfill any graduation requirements. (This is true for Spring 2020 and Fall 2020 classes as well.) However, you may choose to repeat the class in order to learn the material better and get yourself better prepared for future classes. NOTE: You are NOT allowed to retake a class in which you have earned C or above, even if it appears as “P” on your transcript.

Repeating Classes with a D, D+, or C–

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Likewise, you may choose to retake any class that you passed but earned below C. You will learn the material better, be better prepared for future classes, and also earn a grade replacement in your GPA calculation.

Summer classes (May – Aug 2021)

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There are two 6-week sessions this summer, so you might be interested in taking some classes. You are allowed to take up to 16 credits over the summer. This is extremely useful for staying on track, e.g., if you are a little behind, if you fail or withdraw from a class this spring, or if you are trying to manage a minor or second major. You may also retake classes for which you earn C– or below, in order to improve your preparation for future courses. Here is a partial list of course offerings this summer. Check SPIRE for up-to-date listings.

ECE 122, Intro. Programming for ECE	ECE 671, Computer Networks
ECE 124, Intro. Digital & Computer Systems	
ECE 201, Analytical Tools for ECE	ENGIN 351, Writing in Engineering
ECE 202, Computational Tools for ECE	
ECE 210, Circuits & Electronics I	COMPSCI 250, Intro. to Computation
ECE 214, Probability & Statistics	
ECE 241, Advanced Programming	MATH 131, Calculus I
ECE 331, Hardware Org. & Digital Design	MATH 132, Calculus II
ECE 332, Embedded Systems Lab	MATH 233, Multivariate Calculus
ECE 547/647, Security Engineering	MATH 235, Linear Algebra
ECE 556/656, Intro. Cryptography	MATH 331, Differential Equations
ECE 568, Computer Architecture	MATH 532H, Nonlinear Dynamics
ECE 597/697AM, Applied Machine Learning for IoT	MATH 545, Linear Algebra for Applied Math
ECE 597MS, Math Tools for Data Science	MATH 551, Intro. to Scientific Computing
ECE 603, Probability & Random Processes	
ECE 636, Reconfigurable Computing	PHYSICS 151, General Physics I – Mechanics
ECE 665, Algorithms	PHYSICS 152, General Physics II – E&M

Summer courses cost extra, \$482/credit for UG courses (1xx-4xx) and \$569/credit for graduate courses (500+).

PR-ENGIN majors: Check your Subplan!

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If you have not officially entered a major (BS-CSENG or BS-EE), then you are still PR-ENGIN. This summer, the Office of Student Affairs will review every PR-ENGIN student and determine if they are ready to enter a major. Therefore, now is a great time to check your Academic Requirements and make sure that you have the right subplan. On SPIRE, go to *Main Menu >> Academics >> Academic Requirements*, and scroll down near the bottom. You should see a heading entitled “PR-Engineering”. If it is closed, click on the small, green “right arrow” (▶) on the left. In this section, you should see your subplan, e.g., Pre-CSE or Pre-EE. If you do not have a subplan, or if your subplan is wrong, go to [Change of Engineering Track Request](#). (Do NOT use this link to change your major into engineering. For that, go to [Change of Major Request](#).)

CompE/EE Freshmen: Failing MATH 132, PHYSICS 151, and/or PHYSICS 152 (prerequisites for ECE 201, 202, and 210)

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You need to pass MATH 132, PHYSICS 151, and PHYSICS 152 in order to take three courses next fall: ECE 201 (Analytical Tools), ECE 202 (Computational Tools), and ECE 210 (Circuits & Electronics I). Further, these three fall classes are needed to stay on track on both Electrical and Computer Engineering. Therefore, if you have not completed all of these by the end of the spring semester, then the best time to complete them is over the summer. In other words, postponing one or more might delay your graduation or might require even more winter/summer courses later. If taking summer classes is not possible, contact Prof. Leonard about creating a new academic plan, e.g., by adding a year and adding a minor in something like Economics. For information about summer courses, either at UMass Amherst or elsewhere, go to pages 10 and 11.

CompE/EE Freshmen: ECE 201 vs. MATH 235 and MATH 331

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You are not required to take MATH 235 (Linear Algebra) or MATH 331 (Differential Equations). However, if you have already completed one or both of these Math courses, or if you are interested in pursuing a Math minor or a second major in Math, then you might prefer not to take ECE 201, which covers Linear Algebra, Differential Equations, and Complex Numbers, including how to apply certain mathematical principles and techniques from these areas to solve engineering problems. If you choose to skip ECE 201 and complete both MATH 235 and MATH 331 instead, then you will need to also complete a 1-credit independent study covering Complex Numbers, namely ECE 296C. ECE 296C is offered every term (summer, fall, winter, and spring). You will need to complete all three courses before you take ECE 213 and ECE 214 in Spring 2022. Contact Prof. Leonard for more information.

CompE/EE Freshmen: Failing ECE 124

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If you fail ECE 124 (Intro Digital Systems) this spring, then this summer is the best time to retake the course. Contact Prof. Leonard for other options. You will need to take something, either this summer (2021) or next winter (2022) in order to be able to take ECE 231 next spring (2022). For more information about ECE 124 this summer or next winter, contact the instructor, [Prof. Maciej Ciesielski](#). For general information about summer (and winter) courses, go to pages 10 and 11.

CompE Freshmen: Failing ECE 122

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If you fail ECE 122 (Intro Programming for ECE) this spring, then you need to retake it this summer, so that you may stay in ECE 241 this fall and stay on track in Computer Engineering. (This is different for EE majors.) For more information about ECE 122 this summer, contact the instructor, [Prof. Russ Tessier](#). For general information about summer courses, go to pages 10 and 11.

CompE Freshmen: Below C– in MATH 132

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If you earn below C in MATH 132 this spring, even if you choose the Pass/Fail option, then you will need to retake MATH 132 and earn C or above in order to enroll in CS 250 next spring (2022). The best time to repeat MATH 132 is this summer. Alternatively, you can take an approved Discrete Math class, e.g., in Summer 2022, to fulfill your CS 250 requirement. Note that the class you take will not actually be equivalent to CS 250, so you would not be able to enroll later in any CS class that requires CS 250. (Check SPIRE to see which CS classes require CS 250.)

CompE Freshmen: COMPSCI 187 vs. ECE 241

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If you have completed COMPSCI 187 (Data Structures), then you do NOT need to take ECE 241 in the fall. However, in order to fulfill the graduation requirement for ECE 241, you will need to take a 1-credit independent study, namely ECE 296B, Beyond Data Structures.

CompE Freshmen: Prerequisites for ECE 241

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The prerequisite for ECE 241 (Advanced Programming I) is ECE 122. If you have taken COMPSCI 121 instead (or if you are taking it now), then you need to earn at least a grade of B in order to be prepared for ECE 241. If you earn below B in COMPSCI 121, then you will need to take ECE 122 over the summer in order to stay on track for May 2024 graduation.

Further, ECE 122 and ECE 241 are taught using Python, so if you are using COMPSCI 121 to fulfill your ECE 241 prerequisite, then you might need to learn some Python on your own, e.g., using online resources over the summer.

EE Freshmen: Failing ECE 122

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If you fail ECE 122 this spring, then you may take COMPSCI 121 in the fall. (This is different for CompE majors.) Note that COMPSCI 121 is taught in Java, and you will need to earn B or better for it to count as fulfilling your ECE 122 requirement. However, Python is recommended for EE majors, so it is actually best for EE majors to retake ECE 122 over the summer. For more information about ECE 122 this summer, contact the instructor, [Prof. Russ Tessier](#). For general information about summer courses, go to pages 10 and 11.

CompE/EE Sophomores: Departmental Honors

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The program requirements for departmental honors are:

1. Honors Junior Writing: ENGIN 351H, preferably in the spring;
2. One Honors Colloquium: ECE 371H or ECE 315H (with accompanying ECE 371 or ECE 315); and
3. Honors Thesis or Project: ECE 499Y (Honors Research) in the fall, with ECE 499T (Thesis) or ECE 499P (Project) in the spring.

Note that CompE majors should swap their Life Sciences elective and ENGIN 351 in order to take ENGIN 351H in the spring. Note also that ECE 499Y **and** ECE 499T or ECE 499P satisfy the requirement for **two** CompE or EE Electives.

There are also admission requirements. For more information, contact [Prof. Neal Anderson](#).

CompE Sophomores: Passing but below C in ECE 241 last fall

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If you passed ECE 241 last fall, but earned below C, then you are likely not taking COMPSCI 250 this spring. COMPSCI 250 is a prerequisite for ECE 371, Intro. to Security Engineering, which means you cannot enroll in ECE 371 this fall unless you do something this summer. There are two main options for you:

1. Take a Discrete Math or Discrete Structures class outside UMass Amherst this summer. This will fulfill your COMPSCI 250 prerequisite for ECE 371 and also fulfill your graduation requirement, but it will NOT serve as credit for COMPSCI 250. (Only the CS department can review and approve a course as being equivalent to COMPSCI 250.) With this option, you WILL be able to take ECE 371 this fall, but you would NOT be able to take any CS course that requires COMPSCI 250 as a prerequisite. Contact Prof. Leonard for a list of courses that might qualify as a suitable Discrete Math course. (You will need to get the course approved. See pages 10 and 11 for more information.)

2. Retake ECE 241 in the fall and postpone ECE 371. You will earn a grade replacement in your GPA, and you can take COMPSCI 250 wherever it fits in your schedule. You will likely need to take something over the summer or winter, though you will have some flexibility in deciding which course it is and when you would take it. You would be allowed to take any CS course that requires COMPSCI 250 as a prerequisite, though you are not guaranteed enrollment. You would NOT be able to take ECE 371 this fall.

CompE Sophomores: F in ECE 241 last fall

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If you failed ECE 241 last fall, and you are not currently taking CS 187, then you likely need to retake ECE 241 this summer in order to take junior level ECE classes this fall. Further, in order to take ECE 371 (Intro. Security Engineering) this fall, you will need to also take an approved Discrete Math or Discrete Structures class this summer. Contact Prof. Leonard for a list of possible classes. See pages 10 and 11 for more information about summer classes.

CompE Sophomores: COMPSCI 187 vs. ECE 241

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If you have completed COMPSCI 187 (Data Structures), then you will need to take a 1-credit independent study, namely ECE 296B, Beyond Data Structures, in order to fulfill your ECE 241 requirement. Contact Prof. Leonard for more information.

CompE Sophomores: Doing poorly in COMPSCI 250

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If you are currently enrolled in COMPSCI 250 and doing poorly, then you should definitely choose the Pass/Fail option. If you pass, the grade will not lower your GPA, and you may use the grade to fulfill your graduation requirement.

CompE Sophomores: Risking an F in COMPSCI 250

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If you are at risk of failing COMPSCI 250, and if you have 16 or more credits, then you may safely withdraw from the course. (If you need 1 or 2 credits to reach full-time status, contact Prof. Leonard.) This will avoid the need to repeat the class at a later time for a grade replacement. (CS does not always offer COMPSCI 250 over the summer.) Note that you will need to take an approved Discrete Math or Discrete Structures class this summer in order to take ECE 371 (Intro. Security Engineering) this fall. (See above.) Note also that you will NOT be able to enroll in any COMPSCI class that requires COMPSCI 250, because any course you take this summer will not actually be equivalent to COMPSCI 250. It will, however, fulfill your graduation requirement for COMPSCI 250 and it will serve as an appropriate prerequisite for ECE 371. You should withdraw through SPIRE before Monday, March 29. If SPIRE does not allow you to withdraw, contact Prof. Leonard.

EE Sophomores: F in ECE 210 last fall or this spring

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If you failed ECE 210 (Circuits & Electronics I) last fall or if you fail it this spring, then you will need to take it again this summer in order to stay on track and take ECE 310 (Circuits & Electronics II) in Fall 2021. For more information about summer classes, see pages 10 and 11. Contact Prof. Leonard if you did not take ECE 213 (Continuous-Time Signals & Systems) this spring.

CompE/EE Juniors: Elective Courses

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For planning purposes, the following ECE electives will be offered during the next academic year (Summer 2021, Fall 2021, Winter 2022, and Spring 2022) but they are NOT listed on the back of your Curriculum Worksheet.

Summer 2021 (these cost extra)

ECE 547: Security Engineering *
ECE 556: Intro to Cryptography
ECE 568: Introduction to Computer Architecture *
ECE 597AM, Applied Machine Learning for the Internet of Things
ECE 597MS: Math Tools for Data Science

Fall 2021

ECE 597AA: Artificial Intelligence Based Wireless Network Design
ECE 597IP: Image Processing
ECE 597LS: Hardware Design for Machine Learning Systems
ECE 597NE: Nanoelectronics
ECE 597NM: Neuromorphic Engineering
ECE 597SD: Embedded System Design
ECE 597SV: Synthesis and Verification of Digital Systems
ECE 597TL: Machine Learning & Systems

Winter 2022 (these cost extra)

ECE 547: Security Engineering *
ECE 597MS: Math Tools for Data Science

Spring 2022 (these can change)

ECE 597AP: Antennas & Propagation
ECE 597BE: Bio-Electronics
ECE 597DE: Data-Enabled Electricity Networks
ECE 597LP: Design Principles for Low-Power Embedded Computer Systems
ECE 597MB: Modeling and Verification of Embedded Systems
ECE 597ML: Machine Learning for Engineers

* ECE 547 and ECE 568 are listed on the Curriculum Worksheets as being offered in the Fall or Spring semester. These summer offerings are extra.

CompE/EE Seniors: Check SPIRE

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Graduating seniors should check their SPIRE Graduation Date and Academic Requirements Report (ARR) to verify that the Expected Graduation is correct and that all degree requirements will be satisfied at the end of the semester. Contact Prof. Leonard with any questions or concerns that you might have. Note that a few classes will not automatically fulfill your requirements for Senior Electives on SPIRE, e.g., ECE 499Y, ECE 499P, and ECE 499T. Once grades are official in mid May, your ARR will be updated appropriately. In other words, every student's course history will be reviewed on SPIRE and updates to their ARR will be made as needed.

Enrollment Issues / Override Form (ECE)

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Register as soon as your SPIRE Enrollment Appointment begins, especially if you need a specific class or section. If you cannot enroll in an ECE class for some reason, you should fill out an Override Form, which is now online [here](#). In other words, we are not using the fillable PDF form any longer.

Enrolling in COMPSCI classes

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It is not possible to self-enroll in any COMPSCI classes, including COMPSCI 250, unless you are double majoring in BS-CS. Instead, you should fill out an online form. The form changes every semester, but the link/button can be found [here](#). Note that the form will not become available until early May.

Full-time Student Status / Consequences of being Part Time

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Undergraduate students must take a minimum of 12 credits per semester to retain full-time student status. If you fall below this minimum, you are not eligible for campus employment or campus housing, you will risk any financial aid you have been awarded, and you might lose your UMass health coverage; see the appropriate campus office if you have any questions.

Credit Overloads (CoE)

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Undergraduate students may enroll in up to 19 credits without special permission. If you have an overall GPA of 3.00 or above, then you may apply for a Credit Overload. For more information, visit the [Engineering Forms & Regulations](#) page, under Academics & Advising for Current Students (CoE website).

Alternative Electives (ECE)

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To find out if you can use a different course as an elective, e.g., your CompE or EE elective, use the Alternative Elective Request form. A fillable version is on the (ECE) [Forms & Documents](#) page.

Transfer Credit

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If you have any problems with transfer credit from another institution, email your name, student ID, and course information (course description and syllabus preferred) to Prof. Dan Holcomb at holcomb@engin.umass.edu.

Degree Enhancements

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In addition to Departmental Honors, as outlined earlier, there are other degree enhancements that you might be interested in, such as the [Five-Year B.S./M.S. Program](#) and the [Engineering Management Minor](#). Go to [Degree Enhancements](#) for more information.

Summer Classes at UMass (Amherst)

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If you are interested in taking classes at UMass Amherst this summer (or next winter), request an Enrollment Appointment through SPIRE (navigate to *Enrollment > Summer/Wtr/Non-deg Enroll Appt*). Relevant classes offered through University Without Walls (UWW, formerly Continuing and Professional Education, CPE) are listed on page 5. There is also a wide variety of Gen Ed courses offered over the summer, and all are completely online, so you don't need to be in Amherst to take them.

Note that many courses require permission to enroll, so contact the instructor directly, if needed, and they can contact UWW. (Please do not contact UWW unless you are having problems.) For ECE classes, you may also contact Prof. Leonard to get permission.

[continued]

Summer Classes at UMass (Amherst), continued

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Note also that you will need to pay extra for summer courses. You will be billed through the Bursar's Office. Financial Aid is sometimes available.

Summer Classes Outside of UMass Amherst

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If you are interested in taking a class at any other campus, you must request prior approval from the Registrar's Office for General Education courses and from Prof. Leonard for technical courses (math, science, or engineering). A fillable version of the Prior Approval form is on the ECE web site under [Forms & Documents](#). DO NOT enroll in a course until it is approved. The grade(s) you earn elsewhere will NOT affect your UMass Amherst GPA, and you must earn a grade of "C-" or above to earn transfer credit. (In other words, only the credits transfer.)

Send the completed form, still as a fillable form, to Prof. Leonard. You might need to send a PDF or link for the description of the course, so that it can be reviewed. (You will need Adobe Acrobat or [PDFescape](#) to fill out the form and return it.)

NOTE: If you are repeating a course outside of UMass Amherst that you have failed at UMass Amherst, you will NOT earn a grade replacement, and the F you have earned will remain averaged into your GPA forever. Thus, it is sometimes better to retake the class at UMass Amherst, even if it is more expensive, in order to earn a grade replacement.

Note also that you are required to fulfill your Gen Ed requirements with 4-credit courses, so 3-credit courses offered elsewhere generally will NOT be approved. Therefore, it's usually best to fulfill Gen Ed requirements using courses taken at UMass Amherst over the summer (or winter).

To check for the LATEST version of this document...

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... go to *Registration Notes* on the [Academics & Advising](#) page of the ECE website.