

## **GENERAL COURSE INFORMATION**

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## 1. General Course Introduction

Welcome to EE100 (or EECS 100 or EECS 42/43) for Fall 2008! **This document contains very important information pertaining to course logistics. Please read this document thoroughly! Note: The current online version of these course notes has the final say on any course policy:** <http://inst.eecs.berkeley.edu/~ee100/handouts> Email corrections in this document to [mbharat@cory.eecs.berkeley.edu](mailto:mbharat@cory.eecs.berkeley.edu)

Ever since Summer 05 we are offering both EE100 and EE42/43 as one class. This is because of an overlap in the conceptual material (refer to the Online Course Catalog for a detailed description of EE100, EE42 and EE43). Please note that EE100 has both the lab and theory in one course. EE42 is the course, EE43 is the lab. We will refer to the course as ``EE100" from now on.

The course website is: <http://inst.eecs.berkeley.edu/~ee100>

**Please check the website at least once a day.**

There is a bspace site: <http://bspace.berkeley.edu>

You should already be able to access the site, become familiar with it. **Please check the bspace site at least once a day.**

## 2. Course Materials

- Book: James W. Nilsson and Susan A. Riedel, "Electric Circuits", 8th Ed. (buy the edition without the PSPICE supplement). **Do not use any other edition**<sup>1</sup>.
- Online supplementary lecture notes (to be posted as needed) from:
  - L. Chua, "Introduction to Nonlinear Network Theory"
  - L.O. Chua, C. A. Desoer, "Linear and Nonlinear Circuits"
- Other handouts: You can find these on the EE100 homepage: <http://inst.eecs.berkeley.edu/~ee100> under handouts.
- Prelabs, lab guides and lab reports: You can find these on the EE100 homepage under Labs.

## 3. Enrollment – Class, Laboratory and Discussion Sections

- **Lecture attendance is compulsory.** If you are waitlisted for the lecture, please wait till the end of the second week of class to see you if get in. We will try and let everyone into the class. If you don't get in by the end of the second week, sorry, we cannot make any guarantee that you will get in. You can wait it out to see if students drop, but you are taking a risk.
- **Lab section attendance is compulsory, you can switch if you have unavoidable circumstances (ex: class conflict because of graduation is ok, World of Warcraft raid is not). Please email the lab head TA a petition describing in detail why you want to switch before lab sessions start. We will make a decision on a case-by-case basis. Please include in your petition the**

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<sup>1</sup> Note: If you already have an older edition of the book, use it at your own risk! Although the concepts covered may be pretty similar, the end-of-chapter problems will be different. Therefore on homework you will have to get the problems from the 8<sup>th</sup> edition.

**lab section that you are currently enrolled in and the section you want to attend (please include section # and day/time). Once you are informed of the decision, you can go to your new section. You don't have to make the lab section switch on Telebears.**

Make sure you are in groups of two. If there are an odd number of students, the TA may form group(s) of three. Please refrain from asking HW questions in lab, this is what the discussion sections and office hours are for.

- Discussion sections are optional, but we highly encourage attending them since you may need all the help you can get.

#### 4. Homework Information

- For detailed homework assignments and other information, please check the EE100 homepage (under Homework).
- Homework refers to end of the chapter problems and other supplementary problems posted on the homework website. **Homework should be readable by the reader(s). If they are not, we will not grade them.**
- **Homework is due on Friday @ 2:00 PM (PST, not Berkeley time) in the homework boxes (labeled EECS 100) in the Cory lounge (240 Cory). No late homework will be accepted, do not cry or complain!**
- **Graded homework will be returned during the lab section. Be sure to write your name and lab section number in each homework (on the front page, clearly visible). If you do not or enter incorrect information, you will lose 10 points/HW.**
- Homework solutions will be posted on bspace.

#### 5. Lab Information

- For detailed lab assignments (prelabs, guides, reports and project) and lab information, please check the EE100 homepage (under Lab).
- The lab is in 140 Cory Hall. **A TA must be present in 140 for you to access the lab.**
- If you cannot make your scheduled lab session because of a valid reason (sickness, family emergency, etc), it is imperative that you let your TA know before the lab starts. You can make up your missed lab only within 2 weeks of your scheduled lab session date. You can come in to other lab sessions during the week to make up your missed lab. If you are making-up a lab, please let the TA of that lab know that you will be coming to make up a lab before you come to the lab.
- Before coming to the lab, please print and read the lab experiment. Prelab will be collected 10 minutes after the scheduled lab start time, no late submission will be accepted. Please come on time!
- After the lab, please answer all questions pertaining to the experiment. Turn off all instruments on your bench and return components to appropriate locations. Clean up your bench and work area! Submit lab report before you leave – there is not take home report.

- If you miss a lab for a valid reason (illness, family emergency etc.), you have two weeks to make up the lab in any other lab section. Same goes to labs that cannot be held due to holidays (thanksgiving etc).
- If a lab section is cancelled completely at the start of the semester, it is your responsibility to get into another lab section. If you can't get into any lab section because of valid reasons, talk to Mervin

## 6. Exam information and grade breakdown

- For detailed exam information, please check the EE100 homepage (under Exams).
- **If you miss the midterm, there will be NO makeup midterm. Your final exam will then count for 65% of your score (EECS 100) or 75% of your score (EECS 42). If you miss the final you get an F in the course.**
- **The midterm exam will be held on Tuesday, October 14<sup>th</sup> 2008 from 8:00 AM – 9:30 AM. The final exam will be held on Wednesday, December 17<sup>th</sup> 2008, from 12:30 – 3:30 pm, location: TBA (To Be Announced).**
- **Grading:**

	EE100	EE42	EE43
Homework	20%	25%	
Midterm	30%	35%	
Final Exam	35%	40%	
Lab Reports+Project	15%		P/NP

## 7. Grade Corrections

- **You have one week from the time you get assignments back in lab to have your grade corrected.** If it is a lab or a midterm grade, talk to your lab TA. If you have questions about the grading on a particular homework, write down your concern neatly, staple it to the front of your homework, and put it in the homework box. The reader will review your concern and return it to your TA.

By university policy, final exams may not be regraded. Unless we did a complete blunder like missing a question altogether or got the wrong total. If you do have to submit a final regrade, you have to wait till Spring 2009 starts.

- Checking your grade: You can check your grades via bspace: <http://bspace.berkeley.edu>

## 8. Resources

- Your fellow students are the most important resource. Get to know people from your class, they will be invaluable for study groups etc. The TAs are available for any kind of questions you may have
- On a side note, we don't discriminate based on grade. That is, don't think the EE100 staff won't talk to you because you are getting bad grades on homeworks or you didn't do well on the exams. We are always happy and willing to talk to anyone, if you are polite. It is quite normal to feel uncomfortable telling others

- that you don't understand something. But overcome this feeling and ask questions!
- The class website is packed with information: <http://inst.eecs.berkeley.edu/~ee100> You should make it a point to check the website at least once a day.
  - There is an electronic bulletin board system in bSpace that you can use to communicate with other EE100 students and staff: <http://bspace.berkeley.edu> Learn how to login and use bspace ASAP, preferably before the first week of classes end. Please post questions to the newsgroup instead of sending emails to the staff. This will benefit not only you but also your fellow students.
  - There is tutoring available via HKN, the EE honors society. Please check their website for more information: <http://hkn.eecs.berkeley.edu>
  - There is a website for the course textbook. <http://cwx.prenhall.com/bookbind/pubbooks/nilsson2/> However you don't have to go through this site inside-out. It just serves as extra reference material.
  - **Please do not send individual emails to the instructor or the TAs regarding a specific homework problem. Please post it on bspace.**

## 9. Policy on Cheating<sup>2</sup>

The vast majority of people reading this will not be cheating. We apologize for dragging you through this because of the very few who do.

We encourage collaboration. It is the best way to learn and keep up with the wealth of material you are expected to cover. At the same time cheating is not permitted. Sometimes the line between collaboration and cheating doesn't seem so easy to articulate, so we've tried to come up with very clear and enforceable rules so you know what is expected and what isn't.

- Unlike the degree of collaboration allowed and expected on homework, tests in this course must be your own, individual work. Of course we hope you will work cooperatively with your friends **before** the test to help each other prepare by learning the ideas and skills in this course. But during the test you're on your own.
- For the labs, you will do it in groups of two. Of course you can talk to your neighbors. But don't copy what they are going.
- For homework it usually not clear what is allowed and what isn't. But as grown-ups, you *know* if you are cheating or not. For instance if you tell your HW partner that you do the odd numbered problems and they do the even, are you cheating? Well ask this question: are you learning *all* of the material? Not really since you are skipping problems. Of course we may never catch this but you will get penalized on the exams and later on in the course because you didn't learn the material. The idea behind collaboration is this: you and your study group sit down to *discuss* problems.

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<sup>2</sup>CS61A Course Handout and Kris Pister's Course Policy for CS150 etc.

In our experience, most students cheat because they fall behind gradually and then panic at the last minute. Some students get into this situation because they are afraid of an unpleasant conversation with an instructor if they admit to not understanding something. However, we would rather deal with your misunderstanding *early* than deal with its consequence later. Even if the problem is you spent the entire week stoned out instead of doing the homework, overcome the feeling of guilt and ask for help as soon as you can.

In spite of all this advice, some students still cheat. Some faculty are willing to work with a student who has cheated, to try to find an accommodation etc. **That is not true for this course! Here is our policy on cheating: If we catch you cheating in any form, we will give you an F in the course. We will also do our best to throw you out of the university.**

## 10. FAQs

### a. How strictly will you enforce the prerequisites (Math 1B and Physics 7B)?

We won't enforce any prerequisites. You really don't need to know anything from Physics 7B and Math 1B to understand the material. Knowledge of basic differentiation and integration is sufficient for the class. You may have to put in more effort depending on your skill level, but you don't have to think about dropping the class just because you don't meet the prerequisites.

### b. How much work is this class?

This question is really difficult to answer because it depends on your skill level. If you are an average student, expect to put about 15 hours/week on this class.

### c. Is this course really necessary for my major?

Another very difficult question to answer. To be honest, you probably will not use "an Enhancement type NMOS FET" directly in your major. However, the mathematical concepts you learn (like nonlinear analysis) will be very applicable to your major since the subject underlying any field of study is mathematics.

### d. What is your advice on how to aim for an A- or above in this course?

Three things: **Do not cheat, do not leave the homework until the day before the due date** and **ask for help as soon as you don't understand something.**

### e. I am disabled and need special facilities or arrangements to do the course work. What should I do about it?

The Disabled Students Program (DSP, ext. 2-0518) certifies students as having special needs. DSP students are entitled to the necessary accommodations in course arrangements. The DSP office will give you a letter to bring to us. Please take the

initiative about letting us know what you need (example: if you are qualified to take tests separately or need more time on the test) **1 week** in advance. If English is not your native language and you have trouble understanding the course materials or lectures, please talk to us about it as well.

**f. Its 1 second past the regrade deadline, can I still submit a regrade request?**

NO.

**g. Its 1 second past the homework submission deadline, can I still submit the HW?**

NO.

**h. Can we do/turn in homeworks in groups?**

You can do homeworks in groups of two or three (NOT MORE). But you have to turn in individual copies and identify your homework partners in your copy.

**i. When and where do we turn in the homeworks?**

Homeworks should be turned in by 2:00 PM on Friday (starting the second week of classes) in the homework box labeled ``EECS 100" on the 2nd floor of Cory hall in room 240 (aka Cory lounge). You cannot turn in homework anywhere else (lecture or lab). You cannot turn in late homeworks, no exceptions!

**j. How do we get homeworks back?**

You get them back in lab, usually starting eight days from the time you turned it in. **Please put your name, parnter(s) names, your student ID and your lab section number on your homework. If you don't do this or enter incorrect information, you will loose 10 points on the homework.**

**k. Can our homework partner be in a different lab section?**

Yes.

**l. I turned in my homework, but I can't find my grade online. I can't find my homework in lab. What should I do?**

Well, there is nothing you or we can do. **We are not responsible for lost homeworks.**

**m. I don't like (or have a conflict with) my discussion section/lab section. Can I switch?**

You **can** switch lab sections if you have unavoidable circumstances; submit a petition via email to the lab head TA before lab sessions start. We will make decisions on a case-by-

case basis. Please include in your petition the lab section that you are currently enrolled in and the section you want to attend (please include section # and day/time). Once you are informed of the decision, you can go to your new section. You don't have to make the lab section switch on Telebears. You may switch discussion sections (these sections are optional anyway), depending on space. First, ask the TA of the discussion section to see if they have any room, then go ahead with the switch. You don't have to make the discussion section switch on Telebears.

**n. Can I have a lab partner from another section?**

NO.

**o. Is there a separate course reader that I have to buy?**

NO, we will post all lab guides and other notes online.

**p. My lab/homework partner never does any work, what should I do about it?**

First, talk to your partner. Maybe they have some personal difficulty that is hampering them. Try to sort it out within your group. If that does not work, approach your TA and explain the problem. The TA will go about resolving the matter. If no solution is reached in a week, remind the TA and/or talk to the course supervisor.

**q. I am having trouble understanding course material, what should I do about it?**

This is pretty normal. You are all probably excellent students in your major. This is outside your major so you will have initial difficulties thinking ``like an electrical engineer''. But, if you wait a week before asking questions then you will fall behind.

**Please ask for help as soon as possible.**

**9. References**

- a. Prof. pister's policy on cheating. <http://www-bsac.eecs.berkeley.edu/~pister/etc/Cheating.htm>.  
Last accessed: June 11th 2005.
- b. Brian Harvey. Cs61a course handout. <http://inst.eecs.berkeley.edu/~cs61a/sp05/handout0.pdf>.  
Last accessed: June 11th 2005.