Survey: EEE Student Feedback - Spring 2010/11

Programme Summary – Free Text Answers – 1st Year

Suggestions for any significant changes you would recommend

Responses:

- Management / Economics modules with EEE.
- Try and line up the practical lab work with the theoretical knowledge gain from lectures better, there were labs early on in the semester where i was completely unsure of what i was doing and then had it lectured a few weeks later.
- Demonstrators should help more during the tutorial session
- When a student does not submit his\her assignment in time, he should be called in by his\her tutor, and there should be discussion about the assignment. All problems in the assignment should be disscussed. UNLIKE the current prevailing response.
- N/A
- Lectures are all taught using projectors and computers in darkened rooms. This makes note-taking difficult and also sometimes causes drowsiness particularly when a student hasn't slept well the previous night and it is not very inspiring. Out of lectures interaction with the professors has been great but in lectures it does not feel like we are interacting with the professor and it is not a very good thing. It almost makes me feel like it would be better to study the material yourself and ask the professor later on for doubts. I understand that University is mostly about self learning but I feel in first year it is important to to interact during lectures and also not all students are used to the way studies are done in University especially international students like me.
- More practicles
- The math is a bit of boring,I hope the teacher could change a style to teach.
- most of the lab works were done before we were taught this chapter on lectures, I don't like that point, in my mind firstly we should do it in lectures then experiment in labs
- Yes, the university should run a policy not to vote Lib Dems.
- none
- Arrange the timing of the EEE115 Matlab Assignment to the start of the semester opposed to very near to exams

- Stop increasing tuition fees.

- The systems design engineering was interesting, however i feel it could be replaced to give the course more substance.

- My personal opinion would be to run Matlab & Circuit simulation software lessons in the current 'C'-Programming slot. Then i would run the 'C' programming as its own module in place of EEE115 which would teach 'C' and give applications to hardware problems.

- Maybe in this day and age it would be good to see microcontroller systems, and perhaps a high level programming language versed for desktop applications such as C# taught from the very start as well as C? I think they do something akin to that at Southampton?

- Timing of labs vs lecture content. Many labs take place without being given any prior knowledge of principles

- I would very much like to (and benefit from) study material from other engineering departments e.g. mechanical, aerospace engineering. Despite having optional modules in the first year, these conflicted heavily with our timetable meaning my choice was based in large part on finding one that I could attend.

- I think being able to study other engineering modules, or even half modules, would allow us to understand EEE in a wider context. We would, for example, understand more about cars/aircraft that EEE is often applied to.

- If the timetable was therefore altered, we would perhaps have more opportunity for engineering cross-departmental learning.

- None

- None

- Id say 102 and 103 could be made to be more challenging, however I do have an advantage over others with doing an electronics A level.

- The labs need to be better organised in relation to the course - subject material that is to be relied upon for a lab write-up should be taught before the lab is undertaken!

- Better flow of information from academic staff to students

- less spam email from university

Please nominate a member of staff who you feel has been particularly helpful for your learning this semester for a learning and teaching award. This could be a lecturer, a lab technician or any member of staff.

Responses:

- Mr Peter Judd
- Peter Judd
- Richard Tozer
- I nominate Mr. Peter Judd for his lecturing of programming in C. I feel that he has an extremely clear and logical style to his lectures and the notes he provides. Mr. Judd also provides some very useful animated audio lectures online and I appreciate the extra effort that he has put in to do this. I had never been exposed to programming before, yet I was able to achieve an average of about 90% over all C assessments, due in part to Mr. Judd's excellent teaching.
- Mr Ken Mitchell
- Peter Judd, Dr Richard Tozer
- james
- Richard Tozer
- Dr Martin Foster
- Mr Peter Judd
- Dr Richard Tozer
- Miss Samia Amaniana.
- Dr Tozer
- Richard Tozer
- Dr Richard Tozer was one of the most helpul professors.
- Peter Judd
- Dr. Tozer
- James Green. Fantastic!
- Mr Green and prof Peter Judd
- Dr Tozer
- Dr. Richard Tozer.
- He has been our EEE103 tutor this semester.

- Apart from the main course content Dr. Tozer also makes it a point to explain its practical applications. He is always available and ready to provide students with help and support and this is not limited only to the students he teaches in his specific module but also from from other modules.
- Dr. Richard Tozer
- Richard Tozer
- Dr. Tozer, Peter Judd, Dr Luke Seed
- richard tozer
- richard tozer
- P.Judd
- Mr Peter Judd
- James Green
- Dr Jonathan Rigelsford
- Dr D A Stone
- Dr Tonzer
- Dr Richard Tozer: His teaching methods are very good, mainly due to the fact that he takes time to demonstrate the problems himself and so it is much easier to pick-up the methods and common mistakes alot quicker than just seeing them on a slide-show.
- Richard Tozer - Clearly is very experienced in getting 1st years to grasp new concepts.
- Personal tutor
- Peter Judd
- Lab technician with wooly jumper
- Peter Judd
- Dr Richard Tozer, he helped me get this year kick started and his lectures are always enjoyable.
- Richard Tozer
- Dr Tozer
- James Green
- Dr Richard Tozer
- Dick Savage, it was very usefull being able to have pcbs produced on demand.
- Richard Tozer

Please comment on what was good about the programme.

Responses:

- It was very precise and knowledge-filled.
- Module difficulty seemed more manageable.
- Well presented lectures that are easy to follow.
- Always extra help available.
- Good teaching,particularly for electronic module
- I felt that the first year was a good introduction to a broad range elecrtronic/electrical subjects, some digital, analogue, programming and also some deeper physics in semiconductor devices. Having a wide range of subjects gives people like me, who have yet to decide on a specilisation, more of an idea of what to consider when they choose their degree stream in the 2nd year.
- the experiments of EEE160 is good.
- Quality of teaching, specifically lectures.
- teaching clearly
- good experiment
- interesting FYGER
- good lecture
- extra module option. it was extremely good.
- Tutorial sessions, especially with personal turorial.
- Teaching is of a high standard, Lab work is enjoyable without being excessively challenging, and the required workload forces one to learn some new skills to survive which is always a plus.
- Overall the teaching was good. The best part of the entire first year experience was the lab work and everything was very interesting. The teaching in particular was ordinary but the professors are very helpful if you need extra help.
- I like the fact that i can get help whenever i need to on any module and i also enjoy the range of things we get to study in our first year as it is helping me make sure that i picked the right course and get to see what i could with my course. I also enjoy the fact that i can have the opportunity to extend other skills through my course for instance being the course rep helps improve my communication skills
- The tutorial.
- Lectures were properly conducted

- The modules were organised and taught properly and the tutors were very helpful with questions and doubts.
- everything was really good. actually the individual project.
- Helped to develope report writing skills. Specially through the Systems Engineering mosule.
- The course was very interesting, and gave me an understanding of how certain aspects of electrical and electronic engineering that i had seen.
- Many labs which can improve my practical skills.
- interesting modules
- most of the courses handouts were really good and useful.
- most of the laboratories were interesting.
- I was helped every time I asked for
- Teaching has been creast, much credit to members of staff like Peter.Judd
- The teachers are very professional and kind. The sessions of tutorial give us a chance to practice and ask questions.
- learnt a lot of basics on electrical engineering and for next year.
- The availability of the lecturers and their friendliness and willingness to help
- The notes for the course was very good.
- in my opinion, the time table for every week is rich and arrangeable,which is really good.
- Good for building skills.
- A wide range of topics covered. At the end of the first-year it becomes apparent how the different modules are linked, and a good knowledge of basic circuits which can be used for applications required.
- Power Networks was very interesting. Lecturers were generally teaching to a high standard. The course is generally stretching, definitely seems a hard but worthwhile degree.
- Course , teaching, material, support
- lecture is good, and tutor is very nice
- The breadth and depth of module content.
- I enjoy the lectures, they are relaxed but not informal, and i like all the lecturers.
- Interesting subject matter

- The modules are generally well taught and in some cases very well taught
- The practical labs we had
- Lecturers are very good, the content is interesting and the balance of pratical work and theory is fair.
- A few things came together with the material that was taught last year, such as the use of diodes and transistors
- Only did EEE102 and MAS146 this semester
- The comments we made last year seam to be taken on.
- better pase of the cause

Please give a suggestion on how the programme could be improved.

Responses:

- For first years, extra classes should be given to help those not on the same level get on their foot.
- Less lab reports/labs. Some lab exercises seemed unnecessary.
- There was much disruption in lectures due to he construction outside mappin.
- I thought that the coursework load was rather heavy in the 1st semester, wheras the 2nd semester was rather light. Perhaps restructuring the coursework programme so that not all the 1500-2000 word reports are mostly in one semester would help?
- Also, I was one of the students who did the BJT lab on the first two days of the spring semester and this was a very tough lab to carry out without having taken the lectures yet. Although I assume that its probably not possible to re-organise the lab timetable any better anyway, so some will just have to be unlucky and get a tough lab like BJT earlier than preferable (well, this is only the 1st year anyway so maximising marks isn't so critical...)
- EEE105 is difficult to understand.
- Problem classes - Helpers need to more fairly allocate time between students attending the problem classes. The helpers have a tendency to stick with a small group for the majority of the class.
- Suggestion: Identify common issues at the beginning of a class, and offer a demonstration an area of the room to all in attendance .
- more tutorial classes needed

- eee105 lots of theory
- eee115 not many lecture related to MATLAB

- c-programming should be optional. i do not like c-prog.

- There should be more collective or group works\ projects.

- Put everything on MOLE, or scrap MOLE, so that all online material is in one well structured place, rather than some modules using certain parts of MOLE, others not etc.

- Timing with regard to material learned AFTER the relevant Lab session has passed.

- Rather than one mid-term test per semester I think it would be much better if there is a test taken every month or every 5 lectures or so. This way we will spend more time studying and which will of course make our task much more easier when the final exams come since we would already have been prepared well.

- I think that more should be done to help people that didn't do an elctronics alevel or haven't done much with circuits due to the physics syllabus we where made to do at alevel. Being one step behind a lot of people has made labs and trying to understand some parts of the course very difficult. People who have struggled with maths get extra classes and tutorials so i think it should be a consideration for any one that hasn't done elctronics or circuits during alevel.

- Maybe more time for tutorial.

- Give lab reports after the work been done for example BJT or transformers it would be good to finish the lectures and to do the assignments afterwards

- It would be helpful if we were taught some concepts before being asked to perform experiments involving these concepts.

- maybe more practical things can be done.

- I didn't like the way that the unrestricted modules fit into everything, i feel that it would have been better if the eee department ran some modules to choose as they would have an appreciation for our timetable.

- I'm not satisfied with the EEE115, because I don't know what can I do when I learned these. Maybe the teacher should give us more chances to practice.

- laboratory should be available any time

- more complex feedback on the reports.
- studying the theory before having the laboratory on a certain subject

- All notes should be typed up, I struggle to engage to hand written notes.

- The locations of lectures could be around the Mapping Building.

- some modules need to be improved such as systems engineering. We are taught on something completely different than what we have do an assignment on. Did not make a seance what so ever.

- Relate the practical labs to the course studied more

- Not having the 900am tutorial as no one is in the right frame of mind.

- during the lectures, I wish the teacher do not just go through the handout, because handout is for us to read it by ourself and to understand it. it is better to focus the hardest point instead of going through all the points.

- It can be more interesting.

- Some of the EEE Labs where a little dull. I felt like a robot just following the lab instructions at times and not fully understanding the purpose of the experiments; this was mainly due to the fact that the theory was often not covered in lectures until after. (Although this may be due to my timetable)

- I believe it would be good to setup a microcontroller project where the 'C'-programming can be linked to hardware. (Programming input and outputs of a PIC microcontroller etc...)

- EEE105 was pretty tricky for those who hadn't done A level chemistry. There were many small lab sessions, a few which seemed a bit pointless, such as LED or spectrum analyser. Maybe instead put the emphasis on having less, but bigger, more significant tasks spread over multiple sessions?

- there could be more practice in class/tutorial

- I would find it helpful to have more information on what to do to improve my CV. I know this help is available from the Careers Service, but I feel tailored, engineering-specific advice would be helpful.

- The only suggestion that i can make is one that suits me and maybe not others, but i prefer to work at home than do tutorials which i find annoying that they are compulsory. I'd rather have system where i have contact details of someone who i can organise a meeting with when i need to or they might be able to answer my question just by email, or making tutorials not compulsory so that i can pop along when i have questions.

- I also struggle with the early starts, after failing last year, it was due to personal issues but even still I have made a conscious effort to increase my lecture attendance but sometimes I miss them because they are on so early and i have ended up socialising a lot less due to being afraid of not being able to get up and missing lectures, as most student nights are during the week, and my army unit socialise on a Wednesday which i often end up missing out on quite a lot, and as a result feel less bonded to my unit.

- None

- The feedback on lab reports is very poor and often nonexistant. Feedback would help greatly in knowing how to improve writing techniques for future reports and highlight any key points missed by the writer.

- Not enough hands on electronics

- I felt this semester has been very slow and covered very little, however saying that I do know people on the same course at other universities who cover even less, so I guess I shouldnt complain too much.

- Yet again the labs were out of sync with the module teaching - BJT was done at the start of the semester yet 103 covered transistors at the end! A lot of the material in the lectures would have been really helpful towards the write-up.

- More warning when lectures are canceled, i.e day before

- better/diffrent exspenation in printed notes to one given in lecture