

## Survey: EEE Student Feedback - Spring 2010/11

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### Programme Summary - Free Text Answers - 4<sup>th</sup> Year

#### Suggestions for any significant changes you would recommend

##### Responses:

- We should have applied modules rather pure science modules. Im referring to the Machine design and Electric and Magnetic field modules.
- 1. No Past Papers
  2. The style of exam questions should be changed
  3. The marks for individual modules should be divided in coursework and final exams. The assignments should give students some insights on practical problem solving.
  4. More opportunities should be provided to hone communication skills.
- Projectors and screens in most rooms need replacing
- It is not a good way to assess a student just totally base on the final 2 hour examination result. It should be some sort like 60% of written test on the final exam, the rest can be made up from the attendance, tutorial, small project or report, etc.
- A more helpful assistant when doing project for 3rd year and final year. A phd student or supervisor should give more help.
- I would like to see a slightly different COM modules introduced to the programme. The majority of COM modules available were ones to do with Java programming. While I found it really enjoyable to learn Java, I would like to see a choice of different modules, for example, courses on other programming languages, or more general system design related modules.
- Changes in degree types, the creation of an Electronic and Electrical Engineering degree. The existing titles differ only slightly 3 compulsory modules different from Electronic to Electrical hardly justifies a different title.
- some group work in third year would be very good (break up the year from being all individual working )
- more Meng projects sponsored by industry
- More practical work throughout all 4 years.
- Restructure teaching of modules. For example, some labs that we did in first and second year we had no understanding of until doing the relevant modules in 3rd and 4th year. Labs should be structured around the modules that are being taught at that time.

- More emphasis on projects, aka practical application of knowledge. Currently final year projects in 4th year MEng are only worth 30 credits.  
It seems out of line with other 4 year courses at university including MSc within the department.  
Most seem to be worth at least 60 credits or more for a final year project.
- Some of the staff have a tendency to not turn up to labs that they have organised. For example systems engineering this semester has had a zero attendance from the supervising lecturers, even when they have been needed (the demonstrators have zero useful knowledge).

**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:**

- Dr Tozer
- Mr Ken Mitchell
- Dr Greg Cook and Dr Lee Ford
- Ken Mitchell
- dr. dave stone
- Dr. Richard Hogg
- Professor Geraint Jewell
- Mr. Ken Mitchell
- Dr Luke Seed, Excellent Lecturer and Excellent when asking for help.
- Dr Gavin Williams
- Ken Mitchell
- Greg Cook
- Charith Abhayaratne

**Please comment on what was good about the programme.**

**Responses:**

- Range of modules
- interesting group project.
- The programme are basically more to practical or in other word are application orientated rather than just theory.
- The module content is good but the exam is quite hard than expected. most of them is new sets of question which is totally different from the past papers.
- I really enjoyed that the programme combined courses from both EEE and DCS departments. I find it really valuable that I learned to look at the material presented from both electronic engineering perspective as well as from the computer science one.
- Enjoyed many of the modules this year having the choice made it more enjoyable.
- There is a lot of choice as in to which area of electronic or electrical engineering you want to go in to.
- Structure of the courses and choice of modules in 4th year is good
- This semesters modules are generally poor. Also very limited access to F137 severely impacted upon the Systems Engineering module.

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

**Responses:**

- Insted of having 5 modules in last semester along with dissertation, it can be reduced to 3.
- The examination style needs to be changed drastically. A 3rd year examination should be about application not a mere test of memory! If you want to analyse this, take a look at the Power Electronics, Machine Design, Electromagnetics and Internet Working. 50% of the exam would be based on derivations from the notes and past papers and the rest of 50% on numerical (which if you don't remember the formula, you can't solve it) So at the end of the day, we are producing a parrot fashion brigade of engineers highly reliant on past papers! A question should be based on analyzing the students ability to apply its engineering skills not reproduction of notes!
- The project takes up too much extra time especially with weak links in the group

- adding extra lecture time per week and tutorial for final year student. Final project is also a distraction for student to focus on study. Maybe the project scope should be narrowed down and the dateline submission of the thesis need to be earlier of second sem instead of somewhere in May which will cause student to focus too much on the project rather than the study for exams.
- As far as I know the programme has been discontinued and I do not know how much the Data Comm MSc differs from the MEng. I found the programme to be to my satisfaction, however if anything would be an improvement it would be an increase in network related modules available.
- Msc Students should have the same compulsory modules as MEng for the same programme.
- If possible more time should be spent on practical builds. Students should be encouraged to design their own projects and should be able to approach academic members of staff for their advice and help on completing them.
- Good lecture courses and material
- Disruption from the building work
- Access to computers in F137 - new booking system introduce, used by some lecturers but not others - so caused problems with lab sessions in the room effectively double booked.
- Also more access to computers connected to the EEE network not CICS - the EEE network computers are much more useful for project work for the programs required and also much quicker than the CICS computers.
- Better taught modules, and more computers suitable computers in rooms that cannot be booked all the time.