

Through my general education courses, I have gained valuable perspectives that extend far beyond technical calculations and design. These classes have shaped how I evaluate engineering problems in terms of ethics, communication, cost, and societal impact, helping me become a more well-rounded problem solver.

In CL ST 372 – Greek and Roman Tragedy and Comedy, I learned that ethics are not static; what was once seen as acceptable in society may later be viewed as harmful. This lesson translates directly to engineering, where resource usage and technology adoption can have unforeseen consequences. For example, the rise of AI and cloud computing has raised environmental concerns and altered how people learn, highlighting the need for engineers to continually reassess the broader impacts of innovation.

FRNCH 3780 – French Cinema taught me the importance of storytelling and audience perspective. Just as directors use cinematography to communicate ideas and emotions, engineers must design documentation that communicates clearly to stakeholders. Writing instructions, proposals, or reports is not only about facts, but about conveying them in a way that is engaging, understandable, and effective.

In HD FS 283 – Personal and Family Finance, I developed a stronger sense of financial responsibility and risk management. Managing a personal budget requires balancing needs, wants, and long-term goals—skills that translate directly to engineering projects where costs, risks, and tradeoffs must be evaluated. Understanding how financial decisions impact stability has made me more aware of the need for engineering solutions to be both economically viable and sustainable.

Finally, ENGL 3140 – Technical Communication gave me essential tools for professional communication. This course strengthened my ability to adapt writing for different audiences, whether technical teams, management, or the general public. By practicing clear structure and

concise explanations, I learned to present complex ideas in accessible ways—a skill that is crucial when engineering solutions must be shared, defended, and implemented across diverse groups.

Altogether, these courses prepared me to look beyond equations and code when solving engineering problems. They challenged me to think about ethics, communication, cost, and culture, all of which influence whether a solution truly serves society. As I move forward, I will carry these lessons into my work as an engineer, recognizing that the best solutions balance technical excellence, ethical responsibility, economic feasibility, and clear communication.