



School of Engineering
Office of Engineering Outreach
Programs

77 Massachusetts Avenue, Building E17-139
Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139
p. 617-253-8052 | f. 617-395-2713
<http://oeop.mit.edu>



Office of Engineering Outreach Programs

MITES Semester (Formerly MOSTEC) STUDENT EVALUATION

Student: Denny Cao

D.O.B.: 6/8/2005

High School: Julia Reynolds Masterman Laboratory and
Demonstration School, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

October 1, 2022

Denny Cao
2122 Tyson Ave
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
19149

Dear **Denny**:

I hope you are continuing to work hard during your senior year and are making the most of your experience in MITES Semester (formerly MOSTEC) experience. MITES has one-of-a-kind opportunities for you to hone your interests in science and engineering with a group of high achieving peers and accomplished, dedicated mentors from across the country.

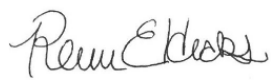
Enclosed is your copy of your Final Evaluations. These evaluations assess your performance in your two courses and describe some of your strengths and areas to improve upon.

Please take time to reflect on these recommendations as you prepare for college. If you received constructive feedback, take a deep breath and think about how you can continue to improve in the areas noted. In doing so, you will be better prepared to perform at the highest levels in college.

We encourage you to share your evaluation with your parents and discuss strategies on how you can continue to grow as you complete high school. You may also choose to share it with your guidance counselors, teachers, and college admissions officers.

We have thoroughly enjoyed working with you in the program and during the Symposium. We trust that you were both challenged and inspired, and that your memories of the experience will be everlasting. Remember to strive for excellence in whatever you do. Also, remember to stay in touch with our office during and after the program ends, and let us know if we can be of any assistance while you plan for college.

Sincerely,



Reimi Hicks
Manager of Programs,
Office of Engineering Outreach Programs
Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Enclosures: MITES Semester (formerly MOSTEC) Evaluations

MITES Semester (Formerly MOSTEC) Course Performance Assessment

Summer 2022

Student Name: Denny Cao

Course: Robotics

Instructor Name: Caela Gomes

Course Description:

Today there are millions of robots in the world performing countless functions. Whether robots are improving sustainable building methods and dangerous working conditions or singing, dancing, and interacting with you, the field of robotics can both aid in solving serious issues we face and provide great amounts of fun! The possibilities are endless. In this course, students will be introduced to the field of robotics and obtain hands-on experience in the entire engineering design process to see how they can use robotics to better the human experience. Students will learn about the design process to understand how to go from ideation to production as well as the manufacturing processes necessary to bring their ideas to life. Then we will focus on the control of autonomous mobile robots, and students will be able to program their robots! This will include the basic electronics necessary to power the robot and will use the Arduino programming language. (No programming experience is necessary for this course.) By the end of the course, students will have the foundation to apply this engineering process to whatever design challenge they wish to explore—and will have built a really cool robot!

Instructor Assessment

Feedback on overall performance:

Denny produced one of the most creative designs for his final project. While working through the assignments, he was very proactive about reaching out for feedback and showed how much effort he put in at every step. His attention to detail in each milestone as well as his final presentation showed a level of dedication that is hard to come by. I believe that any challenge he puts as much care into will be met with great success.

MITES Semester (Formerly MOSTEC) Course Performance Assessment

Summer 2022

Student Name: Denny Cao

Course: Science Writing

Instructor Name: Ifeoluwa Obayan

Course Description:

The Science Writing & Communication course takes an analytical look at science discoveries from a diverse range of perspectives. This course gives students the tools necessary to communicate and connect with scientists and nonscientists in an engaging and approachable way. Through engaging weekly discussions, readings, and assignments, students gain an appreciation for the importance of effective communication to the process and progress of science. Students acquire and hone the basic skills (including metaphor creation, narrative introductions and structure, and interview techniques) necessary to engage readers and translate science into nontechnical language, making concepts more accessible to all. Perhaps most important, this course gives students the opportunity to think critically about the intersections among STEM, society, and social justice, learning not just the technical skills of a science writer but how to approach scientific ideas and new technologies from an ethical and cultural standpoint. Throughout the course, students are evaluated on their ability to apply to their writing what they learn in class: creativity, dexterities in grammar, participation in class discussions, ability and willingness to engage in intellectually challenging exchanges of ideas with their classmates in a respectful and inclusive manner, critical thinking skills, teamwork spirit, diligence, punctuality, initiative, and self-direction.

Instructor Assessment

Feedback on overall performance:

Denny performed solidly in my class throughout the academic phase. He was very receptive to my feedback and earnestly sought to improve upon his writing skills. He was highly self-motivated and approached the writing process with a level of openness that served him well in his development week after week. Ultimately, his effort was rewarded because Denny's final article on robotics was very popular among his classmates. While his participation in class was more strongly felt some days over other ones, he added valuable contributions to class discussions. Even when he did not verbally communicate in front of the whole class, Denny seemed to be absorbing the material and asked thoughtful, clarifying questions in office hours. He practiced excellent communication skills and kept me up to date as needed on his story progress. As Denny continues to grow as a student, he can work on remaining organized in order to meet his deadlines as he juggles multiple responsibilities. Overall, I was impressed with the way Denny handled himself during MITES Semester (formerly MOSTEC) this summer, and by the quality of his final article. I look forward to seeing where the next step in his academic journey takes him and his future success in STEM!