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CPRE 494

Gen Ed Reflection

Throughout my time at Iowa State University, I learned a lot about Computer Engineering. This included everything from Circuit design to Digital Logic. In addition to this the college of engineering required me to utilize some general elective classes. In my 4 years of college, I took Russian Today, Music Theory, Management, and Economics. Surprisingly I took away many things from these general electives that will apply to my Engineering career.

In Russian I learned about pivotal topics around the economics of Russia as well as their shortcomings. I was able to practice my ability of reading and comprehension. I also was able to learn about some of the engineering challenges that faced Russia during the Race to the Moon. This class really gave me some perspective on how engineering changes the economic implications of a country. This class also showed me problems that face society geopolitically and why global supply chain is so vital to a functioning economy.

While taking Music Theory I learned about various types of music styles and their creation. I was very easily able to connect this to my circuit classes for music synthesis. I was able to understand how electrical signals can convert to sound waves and what it means to create them. Transistors and Opamp implications that I never noticed before.

During management I learned a lot about what it takes to be a leader and run different parts of a company. This is going to prove as very useful in my career as a broad understanding of organizations will help me make the right decisions. This class also helped me understand popular toolsets used in organizations and why they may help me solve some of my future engineering problems.

Lastly in my Economics class I learned about supply and demand type problems that apply to a business. I grasped the idea of the US's economic challenges and how they are combatted. This will really help during my career while doing design work as I have to understand the company's product line and how to more efficiently solve my engineering challenges.

In conclusion, while first entering all these classes I had generally thought of them as a waste of time. This has proven to be not true as I have learned some important background knowledge that will apply to my future career and engineering problems.