**ESC application Rohan Raval (rsr3ve)**

1. I will be working very closely with my faculty advisor, Prof Nicola Bezzo in the ECE/Systems Dept. Prof Bezzo is a researcher in robotics, and I am working with him for my capstone research project as well. I am also taking Prof Bezzo’s graduate course on autonomous mobile robotics, and so we are very compatible and comfortable working together on this course. He will be aiding me in creating content and presentations, which I will draft beforehand and gain feedback from him to improve. He will also approve and recommend any homework assignments and will provide critical input since he has taught many courses related to robotics, and knows well how to create meaningful assignments. All in all, Prof Bezzo’s direction and guidance will be a key facet of my approach to this course.
2. I’m very passionate about robotics, and want to make this field accessible and available to the UVA engineering community at large. I’ve been researching in the field of robotics for the past two semesters, and I’ve also interned in Uber’s robotics lab, where I worked on mapping for autonomous vehicles. I’ve taken a few of the advanced courses on robotics at UVa, but through this I’ve noticed that UVa really lacks introductory coursework that can really engage and excite students about this subject early on. Most of the existing coursework on this topic is graduate-level and extremely math-heavy, which discourages students coming in to seriously consider this field early on. I hope that through this course, I can create an environment where incoming students can collaborate and learn introductory concepts through hands-on activities, so they can get interested in the field and potentially pursue it in the future!