



Rensselaer

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ECSE Town Hall

The ECSE approach to fall 2020

ECSE Community | 8/13/20

**This meeting will be recorded and may be shared
with other students and faculty**

Objective

- Provide information about ECSE education delivery in Fall 2020

Background

- ECSE faculty have been sharing experience, lessons learned, best practice regarding remote education via WebEx and Slack since March (and throughout summer).
- Prof. Shayla Sawyer has compiled an ECSE best practice guide for online teaching during COVID and shared with the entire campus.
- We want to continue to engage our students to best achieve the education objectives in these trying times.

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Agenda

- ECSE Courses in Fall
- Feedback Process
- Policies for Graduate Student Assistants
- Health and Safety
- ECSE Community
 - ECSE WebEx Team: ECSE Study Hall
 - Industry Advisor Program
 - UG/GR Mentor Program
 - ECSE Alumni Engagement
- First Town Hall Questions
- Q/A

Town Hall Rules

- Mute microphones until you have a comment or question
- Please comment in the chat and ask questions there, we will read your question or comment in the flow of conversation
- Raise your hand by typing in the chat “I have a comment/question” if you’d prefer to speak to the group

ECSE Courses in Fall

- Description of format of delivery (Hybrid or Online for lecture/lab)
- Lecture accessibility for all students (pre-recorded or recorded)
- Scheduled times for interactive discussion (e.g., office hour, TA office hour)
- Online spaces for students to get help or collaborate (e.g., Piazza, LMS, WebEx, etc.)
- Process to provide feedback to instructor throughout the semester
- Assessment methods (homework, quiz, exam, project, etc.)
- Academic integrity expectation
- Disability accommodation

Specific details for each ECSE course will be in the course syllabus

Lab Courses

- Multiple formats (depending on course)
 - Hybrid lab sessions
 - Personal instrumentation
 - Software emulation
 - Hybrid or online lectures

Providing Feedback

- Contact course instructor with issues **early**
- Department will conduct a survey early in the semester – please respond
- Persistent issues:
 - Reach out to Student Coordinators for advice and facilitation
 - Undergraduate: Rama Hamarneh harmarr@rpi.edu
 - Graduate: Kelley Kritzk kritzk@rpi.edu
 - Reach out to Department Head: John Wen wenj@rpi.edu

Seeking Help

- Course Professors, Teaching Assistants, and Undergrad Student Assistant
- Online course spaces
- ECSE community
- Class Dean
- Advising and Learning Assistance Center (ALAC)
- Counseling Center
- Disability Service for Students

Health and Safety

- Follow published RPI protocol <https://covid19.rpi.edu/students>
- Contact Student Life with questions (Rama Hamarneh and Kelley Kritz can facilitate)

Policies for Graduate Student Assistants

- Graduate students need to specify by Friday 8/14 whether they are Remote (100% off-campus), Intermittent (infrequent), or Essential (100% on-campus)
https://rpi.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_3Eh4m0pvipvZR53
- TAs and RAs need to check with their instructors/advisors and the department regarding what status they need to be in in the Fall
- Most, if not all, TA duties will require intermittent status. If you need remote status for health or other personal reasons, please inform the department, and you will be asked to submit required documentation to OGE/HR
- RA status should be determined in consultation with research advisor(s)
- Graduate students cannot have a TA or RA assistantship if they are not in the United States for the Fall 2020 semester. If you are impacted by this, please speak to us ASAP

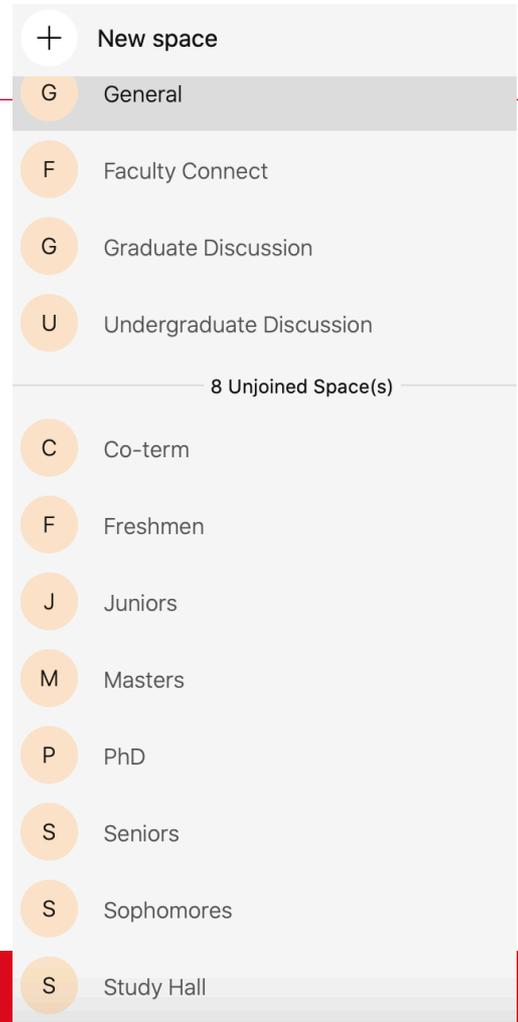
Join ECSE WebEx Teams:

https://eurl.io/#IYXNq_8eq

Place for ECSE Students, Faculty and Staff to connect virtually!

Study Hall, Spaces to chat for various groups

Want a space added? Message Rama on WebEx or email (hamarr@rpi.edu)



Industry Advisor Program

- Industry Advisor Program is for Sophomores to connect with an adviser in industry as they prepare to look for an away experience their junior year
- Sign Up Link: https://rpi.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_dhbKWEzDkLqLK1T
- Deadline to sign-up is August 31, 2020
- Questions? Email Rama Hamarneh, hamarr@rpi.edu

UG/GR Mentor Program

- Grad students should apply and send the application to Kelley Kritz (kritzk@rpi.edu) by August 15th
 - Applications have been emailed
 - Applications can also be found on the website in the Forms and Information tab
- Undergrad students interested in having a mentor should complete the survey by August 21st
 - Details were sent via email and on the Newsletter
 - Reach out to Rama Hamarneh (hamarr@rpi.edu) with questions

Alumni Engagement

- ECSE alumni are signing up to engage with our students
 - One-on-one meeting with interested students to advise on job and career
 - Group mentoring for a small group of students
 - Availability for students to reach out
 - Speaking in a class or on a panel

- There will be regularly scheduled (online) ECSE seminars throughout the semester



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Past Lectures

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[Launching an Automation Start-Up](#)

ECSE Topical Seminar

Bill Fosnight, Alert Innovation

Wednesday, April 15, 2020 at 4:00 pm

Meeting number (access code) 477 605 149 Meeting password: ECSE

News
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Grainger Scholars
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[Trustworthy Data Analytics for Safety-Critical Systems](#)

Ming Jin, University of California, Berkeley

Monday, February 24, 2020 at 11:00 am

CBIS Auditorium



[Multi-Agent Networked Systems](#)

Mercer Distinguished Lecture Series

Tamer Başar, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign

Wednesday, February 19, 2020 at 4:00 pm

Darrin Communications Center 318, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute



[Towards a Responsible Data Economy: Fairness, Privacy, and Security](#)

ECSE Topical Seminar

Ruoxi Jia, UC Berkeley

Tuesday, February 18, 2020 at 11:00 am

CBIS Auditorium



[Constrained Learning for Dynamical Systems](#)

ECSE Topical Seminar

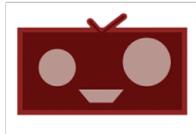
Dr. Santiago Paternain, University of Pennsylvania

Friday, February 14, 2020 at 11:00 am

CBIS Auditorium

ECSE Related Clubs

- Clubs will continue to operate via online or safe on-campus meetings – contact them for further information.



HKN

Eta Kappa Nu (HKN), the international honor society for electrical and computer engineers, is home to some of the best and brightest students in the field. Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute's Beta Nu chapter of Eta Kappa Nu is among over 200 other chapters across the United States, Europe, and Asia.

IEEE

The RPI Student Branch of the IEEE is an organization dedicated to connecting students, researchers, and industry professionals in order to support the engineering community.

Rensselaer Formula Hybrid

Through participation in the annual SAE Formula Hybrid competition, members build invaluable skills in product-design, team collaboration, and project management, helping to properly prepare them for professional careers in the world of engineering and management.

Embedded Hardware Club

We are a group of students at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute who share a passion for microcontrollers, electronics, tinkering and programming. As a club, we organize workshops and hands-on projects for both RPI students and EHC members. Whether you're an experienced pro, an amateur electronics enthusiast or just starting out, the Embedded Hardware Club serves as an avenue for electronics development and project collaboration.

W2SZ: the Amateur Radio Club

Since 1911, W2SZ has been a place where students enjoy the challenges and satisfaction of Amateur Radio. Whether you would like to build radios, climb towers, send data over the air, bounce signals off the moon, send Morse code overseas, participate in contests, hike up mountains and look for radio signals, or just "hang out" on the repeater in the evenings, this is the club for you.

Questions from Last Town Hall

1. Remote Labs: For juniors who don't feel safe coming back on campus, would we be allowed to stay back home and continue coursework regularly with accommodations made to enable us to do labs remotely

Please discuss some details on the remote labs of LITEC, Circuits, and Intro to Electronics

Each lab course has a specific method of performing online labs. There are webinars available online that describe each ECSE lab course.

2. Do all ECSE classes provide online content? Yes.

If so, will it both provide real time live and recording videos?

This is course specific. Contact the professor directly. Will the time for quiz, test and homework deadlines also accommodate to different time zone? Contact the professor about accommodating your time zone early in the semester.

Questions from Last Town Hall

3. I would like to know if there's a list showing that which classes will be online or not, so as an international students I can make plan to secure my visa status. The information on each course's mode of teaching has recently been added to the class schedule. However, notice that for the Fall, continuing international students are no longer required to have to sign up to in-person classes for the purpose of maintaining visa status. If a student has any concerns about their specific situation, please inquire with ISSS office.
4. Is it possible to deliver the same level of instruction and still get students to understand a concept while reducing the workload a little bit? Or can the pace of instruction be adjusted to take into account that we just don't have the same amount of time to get the same grades, achieve the same understanding, etc while at home? Professors intend to teach the necessary course content to ensure you are ready for future courses and your future career. Our student learning objectives for each course remain the same and are a part of every syllabus. If you are struggling, reach out to the Professor, TA, and ECSE resources as early as possible. All adjustments to workload or assessment method are course specific. Please read the syllabus and contact the instructors early if you have any questions or concerns.

Questions from Last Town Hall

5. Will there be research opportunities with professors?

Research is going strong with several recently awarded new research grants to ECSE faculty, please approach individual faculty or talk to the GPD/GPA to assist you with finding an advisor in your field.

There are some URP opportunities available, however undergraduates can only do research remotely for the Fall semester. If you are interested in research, contact faculty you are interested in working with, or Rama (hamarr@rpi.edu) with questions.

6. Is there any career/job opportunities for the Fall from the ECSE department?

Look for the ECSE newsletter which is sent out via email every Monday by Rama Hamarneh <https://ecse.rpi.edu/news/newsletters>

7. How will Capstone and group-based design projects operate? What facilities will be open for lab work? Each team will have a meeting space. EDN is the required asynchronous communication mechanism to share technical information. Regular recording of meetings for any relevant aspect of the course such as presentations. Accessibility will be discussed.

Questions from Last Town Hall

8. What will be the structure for office hours and TA hours?

TA office hours will be conducted online, similar to what we have done for Summer semester. The structure will be determined by the course instructors. In-person lab hours, if any, will also be determined by the instructors.

Additional Questions?

All answers will be added to the FAQ page on the ECSE website

ECSE 1010: Introduction to ECSE - Gateway to ECSE

Every new ECSE student will receive an ADALM1000 data acquisition board!

<https://www.analog.com/en/design-center/evaluation-hardware-and-software/evaluation-boards-kits/adalm1000.html#eb-overview>

- Basic tools and concepts in Electrical, Computer, and Systems Engineering: components, circuits, systems, programming, measurements, data analysis
- Guest lectures on the breadth and range of ECSE research



https://github.com/hehonglu123/M1K_RR_Service
[hub.com/hehonglu123/m1k_rr_web](https://github.com/hehonglu123/m1k_rr_web)

Firefox Browser

The screenshot shows a Firefox browser window with two tabs. The active tab is titled "hehonglu123.github.io/m1k_rr_web/". The page content is titled "Robot Raconteur M1K Web Interface". At the top, there is an "IP Address:" field containing "localhost". Below this are four buttons: "Channel A", "Channel B", "Waveform A", and "Waveform B". The "Waveform B" button is highlighted in red and has a red "OFF" label next to it. Below the buttons are several input fields: "Min Value:" (0), "Max Value:" (5), "Frequency:" (100), "Delay frac_Period:" (0.25), "Duty Cycle, (Square only):" (0.5), and "Time Axis (ms):" with a slider. The main part of the page is a graph with "Voltage (V)" on the y-axis and time on the x-axis (0 to 10 ms). A red line represents "channel_A" and a blue line represents "channel_B". The red line starts at approximately 3.5V, peaks at 5V at 2ms, and then gradually decreases to 0V at 6ms. The blue line starts at approximately 4.5V and gradually decreases to 0V at 8ms. At 8.5ms, the blue line spikes to 5V and then returns to 0V. A legend on the right side of the graph identifies the lines as "channel_A" (red) and "channel_B" (blue). At the bottom left of the page, the text "Running!" is displayed.

The screenshot shows a mobile browser interface. At the top, the time is 11:17. The address bar shows the URL "https://hehonglu123.github.io/m1k_rr_web/". Below the address bar, the page title "Robot Raconteur M1K Web Interface" is visible. The interface includes an "IP Address:" field with "192.168.1.233". Below this are three buttons: "Channel A", "Channel B", and "Waveform A". The "Waveform B" button is highlighted in red and has a red "OFF" label next to it. Below the buttons are input fields for "Min Value:" (0), "Max Value:" (5), "Frequency:" (100), "Delay frac_Period:" (0.25), "Duty Cycle, (Square only):" (0.5), and "Time Axis (ms):" with a slider.