San José State University  
College of Engineering/Electrical Engineering  
EE297B MSEE Project, Sections 1-n, Spring, 2021

Course and Contact Information

Instructor(s): Project Graduate Coordinator: Morris Jones  
Project Advisers.  
Your EE297A adviser(s) will also be your EE297B adviser(s). In special  
circumstance that you must change your project adviser(s), approvals from  
current project advisers and Graduate Coordinator are required.  
Your EE297A adviser can deny to serve as your EE297B adviser based on  
your performance. (Especially if you got a NC, you would need to repeat  
EE297A) In this special circumstance, you need to discuss with Graduate  
Coordinator to resolve the issue.

Office Location: Morris Jones: E295 – Online

Telephone: Morris Jones: (408) 507-4698 (cell)

Email: Morris Jones: Morris.jones@sjsu.edu

Office Hours: Th 4:30-5:30 By appointment (Fridays by appointment)

Class Days/Time: Meet the Graduate Coordinator on the first Friday of the semester. Other  
meetings will be announced via emails by Graduate Coordinator. All  
meetings with Graduate Coordinator will be on Fridays from 1:30 to 2:00PM  
online. Have regular meetings with your project adviser(s) throughout the  
semester as scheduled by your project adviser(s). Make sure to follow the  
instructions on Canvas.

Classroom: As assigned – Online (depending on COVID19 restrictions)

Prerequisites: Good standing (both overall GPA and GPA on Candidacy form are 3.0 or  
above), EE297A with grade CR, EE295 with grade C or above.

Course Description

EE297B is a course designed to help students complete a culminating experience master project. Students  
complete this course by completing all work required by their project advisor(s) and (on-time) submitting an  
approved project report, similarity report from turn-it-in, and project poster for Student Projects Symposium  
event. The work is under the direction of project advisor(s) and there is no formal EE297B class instruction.  
The EE Graduate Coordinator will coordinate document submission and the Student Project Symposium Chair  
will coordinate the EE297B poster presentations.

Important notes:

⋅ One (1) or two (2) students per project only, more than two (2) students per project is NOT allowed. This  
rule is applied to all submissions also, which means that no more than two (2) student names on any  
submission. Discuss with your advisor to divide large project into small projects  
⋅ Your project advisor must be a full-time EE faculty.
Course Format

Technology Intensive, Hybrid, and Online Courses

The class will be Hybrid with online instruction and lab work until the COVID-19 restrictions lift. The restrictions may not suddenly lift, but may be a progressive change of restrictions. The instructor will make all lectures available online if/when the course returns to campus.

The class will use technology for instruction and lab work. This requires Internet connectivity, a computer, a web cam is a plus for adviser interaction, and presentations. Most laptops have a webcam built-in. Students may be required to perform work in a remote access lab using industrial tools. This will require the SJSU free VPN software. (Search for VPN on the SJSU website), and possibly a RDP client program (Free in MS, MAC, and linux)

Faculty Web Page and MYSJSU Messaging

Course materials such as syllabus, handouts, notes, assignment instructions, etc. can be found on the Canvas learning management system course website. (sjsu.instructure.com) You are responsible for regularly checking with the messaging system through MySJSU/Canvas to learn of any updates.

Check in regularly with your adviser to find out what they expect from you during the semester.

Course Learning Objectives

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

- Strengthen their critical thinking skills
- Develop skills for planning and scheduling a significant project
- Plan and manage their time for a project effectively
- Prepare documents without plagiarism
- Communicate written engineering concepts clearly
- Orally present project concepts effectively
- Work as productive members of an industrial team
- Continue to further PhD studies

Critical thinking has been described as:

A person who thinks critically can ask appropriate questions, gather relevant information, efficiently and creatively sort through this information, reason logically from this information, and come to reliable and trustworthy conclusions about the world that enable one to live and act successfully in it. ... critical thinking mimics the well-known method of scientific investigation: a question is identified, a hypothesis formulated, relevant data sought and gathered, the hypothesis is logically tested and evaluated.

Students who can think critically can:

- Determine what information is required to achieve an objective, find that information, and apply it
- Create designs from limited information
- design tests that can prove that a design meet a specification
- identify design errors, and adjust a design to meet specifications
- Ask meaningful questions after exhausting available resources when seeking help.

A course goal is students learn to enjoy a master project through a hand-on approach.
Required Texts/Readings

There is no textbook for EE297B

Course Requirements and Assignments

“Success in this course is based on the expectation that students will spend, for each unit of credit, a minimum of 45 hours over the length of the course (normally three hours per unit per week) for instruction, preparation/studying, or course related activities, including but not limited to internships, labs, and clinical practa. Other course structures will have equivalent workload expectations as described in the syllabus.”

Required Texts/Readings

Textbook

There is no Textbook for EE297B

Other Readings

Your adviser may require you to perform research and read papers from literature. Most of this can be found in the SJSU library.

Other technology requirements / equipment / material

The class will use technology for instruction and lab work. This requires Internet connectivity. Students will be required to perform assignments in a remote access lab using industrial tools. They will require the SJSU free VPN software. (Search for VPN on the SJSU website), and a RDP client program (Free in MS, MAC, and linux)

Students are required to have an electronic device (laptop, desktop or tablet) with a camera and built-in microphone. SJSU has a free equipment loan program available for students. Many advisers will not be on campus during the COVID-19 restrictions.

Library Liaison

If you need help with library materials, contact the Engineering Liaison Librarian, Rachel Silverstein rachel.silverstein@sjsu.edu

Course Requirements and Assignments

Responsibilities

EE297B is a project class. The responsibilities are divided between the Graduate Coordinator, Student Project Symposium Chair, the student, and faculty project advisor. The following table lists the responsibilities of each party during EE297B
Required Submissions

Requirements for EE297B submission are listed as below. Due dates for these submissions are listed on the "Tentative Course Schedule" on the last page of the syllabus. Instructions for creating project posters and sample posters are on the class canvas.

Final Examination or Evaluation

There will be a final project report and a final project poster presentation, which will contribute towards final evaluation.

Grading Information

GRADES:
Final project report and poster presentation 100 %

Project will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

- NOVELTY (0-25 points): New facts, ideas, insights, innovative elements
- METHODOLOGY (0-25 points): Justification, sufficiency, validity
- THE RESULTS (0-25 points): Significance, quality, quantity, complexity, necessary details
- REPORT PRESENTATION (layout, figure, tables etc) (0-25 points): Discussion of related work, clarity, English, appearance
Determination of Grades

Grading Percentage Breakdown (tentative):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>90% and above</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A minus</td>
<td>89 to 85%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B plus</td>
<td>84 to 82%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>81 to 79%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B minus</td>
<td>78 to 75%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C plus</td>
<td>74 to 72%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>71 to 69%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C minus</td>
<td>68 to 65%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D plus</td>
<td>64 to 62%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>61 to 59%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D minus</td>
<td>58 to 55%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>below 55%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Students who do not submit a completed and approved set of project documents (project report, turn-it-in summary report, poster, etc…) or fail to submit them on time or do not complete the poster presentation will automatically receive grade F and must repeat the class unless students have a valid and documented reason beyond their control. Incompletes are not commonly given in EE297B without a valid verified documented reason beyond the students control.

A student who completed the submission and poster presentation will have his/her grade assigned by the project advisor based on the above criteria. Team members may receive a different grade if the advisor feels the students have contributed unequally to the results.

Academic Dishonesty:

Students who are suspected of cheating on the project will be referred to the Student Conduct and Ethical Development office and depending on the severity of the conduct, will receive a zero on the assignment (100% of course grade) or a grade of F in the course. Grade Forgiveness does not apply to courses for which the original grade was the result of a finding of academic dishonesty.

“Faculty members are required to have a culminating activity for their courses, which can include a final examination, a final research paper or project, a final creative work or performance, a final portfolio of work, or other appropriate assignment.”

Plagiarism:

You are expected to perform original writing on your proposal. All proposals must be submitted on canvas and will be checked for plagiarism. It is expected students will get a score of 15% or less. If you get more, and your adviser feels it is OK, they can write an exception letter, and send it to the graduate coordinator. The tool counts exact matches, paraphrasing, and phrase usages. You may only submit your document for checking on the 297B course submission area.
The turnitin tool is not interactive. Expect delays of 24 hours after submission for a report on all but your first submission.

Make sure you run drafts of your proposal through the submission before the deadline in case the proposal requires plagiarism revision.

**DO NOT SUBMIT YOUR PROJECT PROPOSAL TO ANY OTHER WEBSITE OR LOCATION.** If you do, it will have 100% plagiarism, and your advisor will have to justify every sources. (Most will not take the time to do this)

**Expected student involvement:**

- Students are expected to spend about 1 hours/week in meetings with advisers, invest about 40 hours total in proposal writing, and dedicate about 120 hours to initial project work during the semester.
- In addition, policy S12-3 makes the following statement: “Success in this course is based on the expectation that students will spend, for each unit of credit, a minimum of forty-five hours over the length of the course (normally 3 hours per unit per week with 1 of the hours used for lecture) for instruction or preparation/studying or course related activities including but not limited to internships, labs, clinical practical. Other course structures will have equivalent workload expectations as described in the syllabus.”
- EE297A will exceed this minimum requirement.

**Timely submission**

It is important you submit your work on time. Most students require several revisions of the report, both for grammar as well as technical content revision. Your advisors are very busy at the end of the semester. It may take them several weeks to review and comment on your report. Don't waste your advisors time by submitting a poorly written report with many grammar errors. Many students run out of time, and try to do the report quickly. It is then rejected, and revisions are required. You should have a draft report ready at least 3 weeks before the final submission. Many advisors are very busy during the last 2 weeks of instruction and are hard to find after the last day of instruction (are very busy in grading exams and preparing grades.) There are no office hours after the last day of instruction until the first day of instruction the following semester. Timely submission is your responsibility. Talk to your advisor to determine how much time they will need to review your paper. Think about your past writing, and plan time for revisions so you can be proud to have others see your work. The EE department may publish your report on the web. Use the automated canvas tools to ensure your paper is free of grammar errors, and has no plagiarism problems before submitting to your advisor.

**Time and project management**

Students are expected to develop and practice time management skills. The project is a major work with limited instruction and instructor management. Students are expected to invest approximately 400 hours in their project work. This work cannot be done in a few weeks or at the last minute. Each student is expected to complete the proposed project. Significant time management maturity is required to complete a project during an internship or while working. Students are expected to plan and execute for success. Last minute project scope changes may result in significant problems. Students are responsible to manage their project to success.

**Advice on Report format**

The guidelines for M.S. Project report and proposal are on the EE department website at [http://ee.sjsu.edu/content/projectthesis-guidelines](http://ee.sjsu.edu/content/projectthesis-guidelines). For project report, follow the format described in the "Guideline for Writing M.S. Project Report" at [https://ee.sjsu.edu/files/public/MSEE/master_project_report_guidelines_1_-_1.pdf](https://ee.sjsu.edu/files/public/MSEE/master_project_report_guidelines_1_-_1.pdf).
Reports typically have about 50-100 pages of written text. This does not include tables of content, code listings, figures, drawings, schematics, simulation plots, etc. Many students fall into a trap of just placing a number of figures at the end of the document, and hope no one reads the report. Every figure should have at least ½ the figure height of text explaining the figure. If you have nothing to say beyond the title for the figure/table, then you should discuss why the figure needs to be in the report, and not in an appendix. These reports will be published, and you and your advisor should be proud of your work and willing to show the world what you have done.

Advice on paraphrasing/plagiarism

Some students plagiarize unintentionally because they do not use proper paraphrasing. You CANNOT copy anything directly from another source, even something as small as a part of sentence. Also, changing a word or two in a sentence is NOT proper paraphrasing. You need to take a concept and completely re-write it in your own words and style, and reference the location of the source of the concept. To improve your paraphrasing, when you read a paper or website, take detailed notes and write everything down in your own words. Then when you write your paper, use only your notes, not the original sources.

Classroom Protocol

Zoom Classroom Etiquette

- Mute Your Microphone:
  - To help keep background noise to a minimum, make sure you mute your microphone when you are not speaking.
- Be Mindful of Background Noise and Distractions:
  - Find a quiet place to “attend” class, to the greatest extent possible.
  - Avoid video setups where people may be walking behind you, people talking/making noise, etc.
  - Avoid activities that could create additional noise, such as shuffling papers, listening to music in the background, etc.
- Position Your Camera Properly:
  - Be sure your webcam is in a stable position and focused at eye level.
- Limit Your Distractions/Avoid Multitasking:
  - You can make it easier to focus on the meeting by turning off notifications, closing or minimizing running apps, and putting your smartphone away (unless you are using it to access Zoom).
- Use Appropriate Virtual Backgrounds:
  - If using a virtual background, it should be appropriate and professional and should NOT suggest or include content that is objectively offensive or demeaning.

Students will turn their cell phones off or put them on vibrate mode while in class. They will not answer their phones in class. Students whose phones disrupt the course and do not stop when requested by the instructor will be referred to the Judicial Affairs Officer of the University.

Students will mute microphones on Zoom unless speaking, or asking a question. This reduces audio feedback loops from systems using speakers.

Students will keep all conversations on the Chat box positive and professional. Students who violate this will be referred to the Judicial Affairs Officer of the University, and may be blocked from future class zoom meetings.
Students are required to follow the University COVID-19 policy whenever they come to campus. Check the SJSU website often for the latest information as requirements from several layers of government change frequently.

This course or portions of this course (i.e., lectures, discussions, student presentations) will be recorded for instructional or educational purposes. The recordings will only be shared with students enrolled in the class through Canvas. The recordings will be deleted at the end of the semester. If, however, you would prefer to remain anonymous during these recordings, then please speak with the instructor about possible accommodations (e.g., temporarily turning off identifying information from the Zoom session, including student name and picture, prior to recording).

**Students are not allowed to record without instructor permission**

Students are prohibited from recording class activities (including class lectures, office hours, advising sessions, etc.), distributing class recordings, or posting class recordings. Materials created by the instructor for the course (syllabi, lectures and lecture notes, presentations, etc.) are copyrighted by the instructor. This university policy (S12-7) is in place to protect the privacy of students in the course, as well as to maintain academic integrity through reducing the instances of cheating. Students who record, distribute, or post these materials will be referred to the Student Conduct and Ethical Development office. Unauthorized recording may violate university and state law. It is the responsibility of students that require special accommodations or assistive technology due to a disability to notify the instructor.

**Before Coming to Campus (COVID-19 rules/restrictions)**

Some advisors may be on campus depending on the level of COVID-19 restrictions. The following are guidelines to consider before you come to campus to meet with an advisor. At the current time, faculty cannot meet a student in their office (Requires a minimum of 200 square feet per person)

*(These change often, please consult the SJSU website for current restrictions and guidelines)*

**Symptom Monitoring**

Students, faculty, and staff who have been instructed or permitted to return to campus must conduct symptom monitoring every day before traveling to (or, for on-campus residents, moving through) campus. You must be free of ‘**ANY**’ symptoms potentially related to COVID-19.

At this time, these symptoms include one or more of the following:

- Cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Fever
- Chills
- Repeated shaking with chills
- Runny nose or new sinus congestion
- Muscle pain or body aches
- Headache
- Sore throat
- Fatigue
- Nausea
- Vomiting
- Diarrhea
• New GI symptoms
• New loss of taste or smell

You may not return to campus if you have:
Traveled to/from a country that has been flagged by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) travel advisory within the last 14 days,
Been in close contact with someone who has traveled to/from one of the countries on the CDC’s travel advisory within the last 14 days,
Tested positive for COVID-19. The local Public Health Department will be notified by the testing agency when an individual tests positive for COVID-19. Even if you aren’t exhibiting symptoms, SJSU requests that you complete a “Reporting a Case of COVID-19” online form. A report case manager will contact you shortly after the initial survey. They will offer support resources and inquire about recent on-site activity and university related contacts that could require notification.

Contact Tracing
If you test positive for COVID-19 in Santa Clara County, someone from the County of Santa Clara’s contact tracing team will contact you. This procedure is used to help inform you of care and resource options, as well as help identify other people you might have come in contact with, in order to properly take precautions to prevent the spread of the virus. You will be interviewed on the following topics:

• Symptom monitoring and care access:
  • How are you feeling;
  • Do you have access to a primary care provider? If not, you will be provided resources on how to be connected to one;
  • How to monitor your symptoms;
  • How to properly isolate and quarantine yourselves in their residence;
  • If you cannot safely isolate and quarantine yourself in their residence (e.g., no private space to do so), you will be referred to housing resources and services.

• You are considered a close contact of a COVID-19 positive person if you were within 6 feet for 15 minutes or more, regardless of whether either person was wearing a face covering, during the period the COVID-19 positive person is considered contagious.

Contact tracers will then follow-up with the individuals identified by you in order to notify them, encourage them to quarantine themselves, educate them on self-monitoring, and provide resources as needed. They will also be interviewed for potential individuals they were in contact with within a certain time period and contact tracing protocols will be repeated with those individuals.

Please note, that contact tracers will never ask for financial information, social security numbers, or for immigration status/citizenship.

Populations at Higher Risk for COVID-19 Infection
According to the CDC, individuals with certain conditions may have a higher risk for COVID-19 infection. Those conditions may include:

• Older adults (aged 65 years and older)
• People with HIV
• Asthma (moderate-to-severe)
• Chronic lung disease
• Diabetes
- Serious heart conditions
- Chronic kidney disease being treated with dialysis
- Severe obesity
- Being immunocompromised

University Policies

Per [University Policy S16-9](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S16-9.pdf), relevant university policy concerning all courses, such as student responsibilities, academic integrity, accommodations, dropping and adding, consent for recording of class, etc. and available student services (e.g. learning assistance, counseling, and other resources) are listed on [Syllabus Information web page](http://www.sjsu.edu/gup/syllabusinfo), which is hosted by the Office of Undergraduate Education. Make sure to visit this page to review and be aware of these university policies and resources.

Academic Dishonesty:

Students who are suspected of cheating during an exam or on an assignment will be referred to the Student Conduct and Ethical Development office and depending on the severity of the conduct, will receive a zero on the assignment or a grade of F in the course. Grade Forgiveness does not apply to courses for which the original grade was the result of a finding of academic dishonesty.

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**San Jose State University**  
**Electrical Engineering Department**  
**EE Department Honor Code**

The Electrical Engineering Department will enforce the following Honor Code that must be read and accepted by all students.

"I have read the Honor Code and agree with its provisions. My continued enrollment in this course constitutes full acceptance of this code. I will NOT:

1. Take an exam in place of someone else, or have someone take an exam in my place
2. Give information or receive information from another person during an exam
3. Use more reference material during an exam than is allowed by the instructor
4. Obtain a copy of an exam prior to the time it is given
5. Alter an exam after it has been graded and then return it to the instructor for re-grading
6. Leave the exam room without returning the exam to the instructor."

Measures Dealing with Occurrences of Cheating

- Department policy mandates that the student or students involved in cheating will receive an "F" on that evaluation instrument (paper, exam, project, homework, etc.) and will be reported to the Department and the University.

A student's second offense in any course will result in a Department recommendation of suspension from the University.
# EE297B/MSEE Project, Spring’2021, Course Schedule

*Dates and assignments can change with class/Canvas notice. Please check on Canvas for each assignment.*

## Course Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Assignments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>01/29/21</td>
<td>Meet with advisor. Ensure you are registered in the course</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>02/18/21</td>
<td>Submit Project information on Canvas. Meet with advisor</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| 04/23/21   | (CANVAS submissions):  
- Last day to submit initial project report and obtain turn-it-in report  
- Last day to submit your initial poster for the symposium  
  **ONE SUBMISSION PER GROUP.**                                              |
| 04/30/21   | Last day to submit initial project report, turn-it-in report, and poster through the **provided DocuSign link** (this submission will send emails to your project partner (if exists), to your advisor, to your co-advisor (if exists), and to the graduate coordinator, and ask for their approval.)  
  **ONE SUBMISSION PER GROUP.**                                              |
| 05/04/21   | Submit the project report, turn-it-in report, and poster **with signatures** (one PDF file) on CANVAS. This is the PDF file attached to the DocuSign email you receive when your project report is approved by you, your partner (if exists), your advisor, your co-advisor (if exists), and the graduate coordinator.  
  **ONE SUBMISSION PER STUDENT.**                                             |
| 05/18/21   | Attend Student Project Symposium and present your work *(attendance will be taken by graduate coordinator).*  
  *The symposium will likely be online due to COVID-19. Only the Attire section is required in that case.*  
  **Printing:**  
  You will print their own poster to the size of 36” x 48”. Any major printing center can print posters of that size.  
  **Poster mounting:**  
  Students will mount printed poster on tri fold boards before arriving for the event. You need to buy a 36" x48" tri fold board.  
  **Table space:**  
  You will be given 3FT x 2.5FT of table space along with outlet access. The space is for project demo and poster display.  
  **Attire:** |

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MSEE Project, EE 297B, Spring 2021
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Assignments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Business formal or business casual is recommended.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Project submission and seminar are the final exam.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>