San José State University  
College of Engineering/Electrical Engineering Department  
EE 297B, MSEE Project, Spring 2020

Course and Contact Information

Instructor: Your Project Advisors /Graduate Coordinator
Your EE297B advisor(s) must also be your EE297A advisor(s). In special circumstance that you must change your project advisor(s), approvals from project advisors and Graduate Coordinator are required. Your EE297A advisor can deny to serve as your EE297B advisor based on your performance. In this special circumstance, you need to discuss with Graduate Coordinator to resolve the issue.

Office Location: Birsen Sirkeci: ENGR 359
Telephone: Birsen Sirkeci: (408) 924-3913
Email: Birsen Sirkeci: birsen.sirkeci@sjsu.edu
Office Hours: TBD
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 1:00 to 1:30 in E345
Classroom: TBD
Prerequisites: Good standing (both overall GPA and GPA on Candidacy form are 3.0 or above), EE297A or EE299A with grade CR, EE295 with grade C or above or satisfaction of GWAR.

Course Format

Faculty Web Page and MYSJSU Messaging
Copies of the course materials such as the syllabus, assignments, handouts, etc. may be found on the course web page hosted by SJSU Canvas, accessible through your account on http://www.sjsu.edu/at/ec/canvas/. Only officially registered students can access the website. You are responsible for regularly checking with the messaging system through MySJSU or SJSU Canvas.

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 Learning Outcomes (CLO)

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 practica. Other course structures will have equivalent workload expectations as described in the syllabus."

- Office of Graduate and Undergraduate Programs’ Syllabus Information web page at http://www.sjsu.edu/gup/syllabusinfo/

- Meet with project advisor as required and/or scheduled by the project advisor
· Continue to study/implement the project proposed in EE297A. The implementation or study process needs to be regularly checked and evaluated as satisfaction by the project advisors
· Complete and submit on time all required documents (see the "Required Submissions" and "Tentative Course Schedule" sections) approved by project advisors
· Attend and present the project at the Student Project Symposium

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>What</th>
<th>Graduate Coordinator</th>
<th>Proj. Symp. Chair</th>
<th>Proj. Advisor</th>
<th>Student</th>
<th>Comment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Time management</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>A</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>Must be strictly on time</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project completion</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>A</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>Advisor can be a good resource</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project submission</td>
<td>F</td>
<td></td>
<td>A</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>Student completes, advisor approves, student submits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grammar check</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>A</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>Use grammar checker(s)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plagiarism check</td>
<td>F</td>
<td></td>
<td>A</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>Submit to canvas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Presentation schedule</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>F</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poster</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>F</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>R</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project grade</td>
<td>R</td>
<td></td>
<td>R</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>Project Advisor must ensure grade to be submitted to Graduate Coordinator on time</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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** (0-25 points): Discussion of related work, clarity, English, appearance (layout, figure, tables etc)

**Determination of Grades**

Students who did not submit completed set of project documents (project report, turn-it-in summary report, poster, etc…) or failed to submit them on time or did not complete the poster presentation will automatically receive grade F and must repeat the class unless students have a valid and documented excuse.

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.

**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>

More guidelines on grading information and class attendance can be found from the following two university policies:

- [University Syllabus Policy S16-9](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S16-9.pdf)
- [University Attendance and Participation Policy F15-12](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/F15-12.pdf)

**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 in a rush.
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 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.

**University Policies**

Per [University Policy S16-9](http://www.sjsu.edu/ senate/docs/S16-9.pdf), relevant information to all courses, such as academic integrity, accommodations, dropping and adding, consent for recording of class, etc. is available on Office of Graduate and Undergraduate Programs’ [Syllabus Information web page](http://www.sjsu.edu/gup/syllabusinfo/) at [http://www.sjsu.edu/gup/syllabusinfo/”](http://www.sjsu.edu/gup/syllabusinfo/”).
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:

- Take an exam in place of someone else, or have someone take an exam in my place
- Give information or receive information from another person during an exam
- Use more reference material during an exam than is allowed by the instructor
- Obtain a copy of an exam prior to the time it is given
- Alter an exam after it has been graded and then return it to the instructor for re-grading
- 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.
## EE 297B / MSEE Project, Spring 2020, Course Schedule

*Dates can be changed with notices by emails from Graduate Coordinator*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Due Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| **Tuesday, February 11** | Last day to add courses  
Enroll into EE297B by requesting for an addcode from the EE department office. Proof of passing EE297A/EE299A is required (show your unofficial transcript to EE office staff) |
| **Friday, February 14** | Submit project info on Canvas                                    |
| **April 30**          | **(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.** |
| **May 1**             | 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.** |
| **May 15, Student Center-Ballroom** | *Attend Student Project Symposium and present your work (attendance will be taken by graduate coordinator).*  
**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:**  
Business formal or business casual is recommended. |
| **May 17**            | 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.** |