

Wish I Knew Things I wish I knew when I was a Freshman

Homework:

Do **ALL** OF YOUR HOMEWORK !!! Don't procrastinate - it only snowballs from there. If you get behind in homework, you will have a difficult time getting caught up and your grades will suffer. The work is not like it was in High School. You need to study 2 - 3 hours outside of class for every credit hour in class.

Just Getting By

EERC 123: Excellent Coaching Services

If you memorize all your notes, that's not enough. Do the problems multiple times until you have mastered them. Don't try to get by with just memorizing and doing the minimum to pass an exam. It's not worth it, and puts you in danger of failing a future class. This messes up your graduation plans. Learn the processes, learn what you came here to learn, learn how to solve problems and learn the why's. See the instructor if you don't understand how to do a problem. You got this far - it's all worth doing well.

Missing class

Go to all of your classes. You will not do well on quizzes and tests if you miss classes. Really hurts your GPA.

GPA

GPA is very important when it comes time to co-op, study abroad, job-hunt or apply to grad school. Once your GPA goes down, it is very hard to get it back up. It's up to you. Get yourself into a good routine of studying and make sure you learn the material. Set your priorities in order to be successful, there will be time to relax and have fun too.

8:00 A.M. Class ?

It's only 14 weeks, with breaks, so just deal with it. Read 'Missing class' above.

Elective Courses

Start looking at advanced classes early on. Some of the coolest classes require planning of prerequisites several semesters in advance. Make sure you get the pre-requisites done on time to take the electives you want. Co-op and study abroad can limit your choices of electives. Plan ahead. Talk with faculty about 'focus areas'. Meet with the advisor and attend advising meetings for help with planning.

Instructors

Get to know your instructors. They're awesome people!! They enjoy teaching the topics they are experts in. Instructors are a great resource for you - they can give references and award nominations if they know you.

Friends

Find EE / CpE friends and take classes with them. When you move off campus having your housemates as study partners is incredibly convenient. Keep tabs on your personal priorities.

Rumors

Do not listen to advice from friends or that you 'heard from somewhere' when it comes to degree requirements. Consult handbook, catalog, degree requirements, or See/ e-mail the advisor if you have a question.