Fall 2020 Undergraduate Newsletter - 2\textsuperscript{nd} Year ECE Students

Important Dates/Deadlines
A complete list of dates & deadlines are found in the Sessional Dates section of the 2020-2021 Academic Calendar.

<table>
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<th>November 2020</th>
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<td>November 9</td>
<td>Last day for students to transfer to part-time studies</td>
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<td>Last day for students to withdraw from the Fall Session without academic penalty</td>
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CR/NCR

- Although the Faculty of Arts & Science allows CR/NCR for their students, the Faculty of Engineering does not allow this.

- Engineering students cannot mark any courses as CR/NCR (this includes any Arts & Science or Engineering courses they are taking).

- If you are considering dropping a course without academic penalty, please do so by November 9, 2020.

Late Withdrawal (LWD)
There will be expansion of the Late Withdrawal (LWD) deadline as an academic COVID-19 relief measure. Please watch for a forthcoming email from the Registrar’s Office for the details.

Part-Time vs. Full-Time Studies:
Dropping one course is not permissible in 2\textsuperscript{nd} year. Second year students can either be full time with 5 courses OR transfer to part time with a maximum of 3 courses per session. If transferring to part time:

- You must finish your 2\textsuperscript{nd} year studies on a part-time basis before advancing to your next academic year. This means that you cannot take any upper year technical courses until all your core 2\textsuperscript{nd} year courses have been completed.

- You can enrol in a maximum of three half-credit courses per year. It will take two calendar years to complete a respective year.

- If thinking of transferring to part-time, contact the ECE Undergraduate Office to discuss and see if there are any implications. Transferring to part-time will then need to be requested via the Registrar’s Office.
**Magellan Information Session:**
November 24, 2020 (as part of ECE201)

**Magellan Pre-Registration Deadline:**
January 26, 2021

Main profiles will then be locked until July 2021 for pre-registration planning. Students with valid “Main” Magellan profiles will have their ECE courses uploaded to ACORN timetables.

For more details about profile validity and how to plan your profile, please visit the Magellan page: [https://www.ece.utoronto.ca/undergraduates/programs/magellan/](https://www.ece.utoronto.ca/undergraduates/programs/magellan/)

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**Academic Success:**
The Academic Success Centre’s team helps you to develop the skills, strategies and competencies that you need to succeed. Students are encouraged to use their space and services.

- Visit their [website](https://www.ece.utoronto.ca/undergraduates/programs/magellan/) for useful info on exam preparation, coping with stress & exam anxiety, time management skills, etc.
- U of T Engineering Learning Strategist: [https://undergrad.engineering.utoronto.ca/advising-and-wellness/learning-skills-strategist/](https://undergrad.engineering.utoronto.ca/advising-and-wellness/learning-skills-strategist/)

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**Practical Experience Requirement (600 hours form)**
While the ECE Undergraduate Office staff are not on campus, we are still accepting your completed 600 hours forms. The form still requires a wet signature and business card. Please ask your supervisor to sign the form and scan it back to you for their wet signature. Then, you will also need to sign the form and scan it, and email it to us at [askece@utoronto.ca](mailto:askece@utoronto.ca).

For more details about the Practical Experience Requirement, please visit: [https://www.ece.utoronto.ca/undergraduates/programs/practical-experience-requirement-600-hours-and-professional-experience-year-pey/](https://www.ece.utoronto.ca/undergraduates/programs/practical-experience-requirement-600-hours-and-professional-experience-year-pey/)

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**Strategies for Online Learning**
The Engineering Registrar’s Office has created a page of resources that could be helpful to students. These are all worth reading, but we wanted to specifically point your attention to the Strategies for Online Learning module, found under the Online Learning heading: [https://undergrad.engineering.utoronto.ca/undergrad-resources/resources-for-u-of-t-engineering-students/](https://undergrad.engineering.utoronto.ca/undergrad-resources/resources-for-u-of-t-engineering-students/)
ECE Live Chat
Do you miss dropping by the ECE Undergraduate Office to have your general program questions answered?

Try the live chat available for current ECE students, accessible through the Advising Portal.

Weekly live chat times are:
- Tuesdays 8am-11am (EST)
- Wednesdays 12pm-2pm (EST)
- Thursdays 8am-11am (EST)

ECE Town Halls
You are invited to participate ongoing town halls with your fellow students and the ECE Undergraduate Office. This is a great opportunity to ask about any questions or address any concerns you may have.

Information about upcoming town halls and previous town hall recordings can be found here: https://www.ece.utoronto.ca/undergraduates/announcements/

NEW: ECE Undergraduate Office Quercus Page
- Purpose: to inform students about extracurricular activities and events, mental health & student success supports (announcements page) and relevant job postings (discussions page)
- If you don’t want to receive emails each time something is posted, please disable notifications
- If you haven’t received your invitation and would like us to add you to the page, please email askece@utoronto.ca and provide your uTORid

Need to Talk to Someone?
U of T My Student Support Program (U of T My SSP) provides students with real-time and/or appointment-based confidential, 24-hour support for any school, health, or general life concern at no cost to you. You can call or chat with a counsellor directly from your phone whenever, wherever you are.

Ongoing support is available over the phone in 146 languages. Immediate support is available over the phone in 35 languages and over chat in simplified Chinese, English, French and Spanish. For more information, please visit: https://studentlife.utoronto.ca/service/myssp/

Personal Care:
Develop good habits while you are in school including personal care! While working away, it might be the last thing on your mind, but taking care of your body and mind is important to your health and can affect the people around you. Follow these tips:
- Get a good night’s sleep. Without good sleep, it is difficult to do well
- Try to eat well and keep a good study schedule
- You are learning from home, but that doesn’t mean living your life in pyjamas. Shower and get dressed each day. Keep things fresh (wear antiperspirant/deodorant, brush your teeth)
- Especially this term, as we are all working and learning online, it is important to employ different strategies for managing stress. Try learning to meditate or take a mindfulness moment, take up
yoga, go for a walk, write down 3 positive things about your day, or talk to a friend. Take the time to exercise, unwind and decrease your stress levels.

- Looking to make a positive change in your life? Maybe you want to manage your stress, get a better night’s sleep, or find ways to cope with difficult personal challenges. Whatever your situation, join a supportive workshop and connect with other students with similar intentions - you’ll be glad you did. Here’s a link to health and wellness who offers a number of workshops: http://www.studentlife.utoronto.ca/hwc/workshops

Face Masks

- Non-medical masks or face coverings must now be worn indoors in all common-use spaces on University property.
- U of T is distributing non-medical, reusable cloth face masks to students. For more information on where students can pick them up, please visit: https://www.utoronto.ca/utogether2020/where-to-pick-up-face-mask

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Your ECE Undergraduate Office Team

Hours: Mon – Fri 8:45am – 4:30 pm
Sandford Fleming Bldg, Basement Rm 600  Email: askece@utoronto.ca
ECE UG Website / ECE UG Facebook Page / Newsletters

Please note: While we our physical office remains closed, you can still call or email us during the hours listed above.