ECE Iris Video Transcript

This is a short introduction to ECE's new curriculum visualization tool, ECE Iris, launched in November of 2021. The tool was developed by ECE to better explain the connections between courses within our flexible curriculum while also introducing the new application areas. The primary users of this tool are our ECE students but we hope that it will also be used by prospective students in high-school and other stakeholders such as alumni and industry partners.

Here is the main landing page. On the left you have the legend and if you hover over the focus areas you can see the full title. Kernel courses are marked with a star. We have two styles of dashed lines to indicate if one course is a pre-requisite of another course, or in the case of some year 1 and year 2 courses we indicate simply certain courses are related using a different dash pattern. We find this is especially useful for students transferring from other departments or universities.

In the center we have our Year 1 and 2 core or mandatory courses and around that we have the 6 focus areas within our flexible curriculum. To the right we have Science and math elective courses and required upper year courses.

If I click on any of the circles they get expanded. For the core course you can see the 4 semesters of year 1 and 2 starting with Year 1 Fall and going clockwise in time. Clicking on any course brings it in focus at the centre and the box on the right shows the official course description and the pre-requisites. In this way you can see the linkages to other courses.

You can either close the circle with the 'x' or leave it open and open up another area, for example Area 2, Energy Systems and Electromagnetics. You can see the linkage from second year courses through the pre-requisites. Technically you can open up all of the areas and see our courses in one page.

Note that many courses as assigned to multiple Focus Areas and thus have multiple colours.

Now let's go back to the legend and click on the application areas. The application areas were created to better showcase how our courses relate to applications in the ECE field that you may hear about in the media, in industry, PEY, etc. but may

not see directly referenced in the course descriptions. We have 12 application areas, let's go ahead and pick one for example electric/autonomous and connected vehicles.

You can see how the legend changes and now we see 3 colours that reflect how some courses in our curriculum relate to this application area. In red are the most relevant courses that where that application is explicitly mentioned/covered. In green are courses that provide important background coverage and in yellow are courses that are indirectly beneficial or complimentary for this application area. The courses are sorted by colours and then by course code. In the future we intend to provide more details about how they relate to the application area.

Finally at the bottom of the legend you can either choose another application area OR return to the classical view of curriculum map.

We hope you like the tool. Please check back regularly since the tool will be updated every semester. Please also provide feedback in the link

https://tinyurl.com/5n7av24e