

SYLLABUS
SYST 489 - Senior Seminar
Fall 2015

Professor: Dr. Peggy Brouse

Assignment Submission: Blackboard usage is required in the class; instructions are below. *Students must use their MasonLive email account to receive important University information, including messages related to this class. See <http://masonlive.gmu.edu> for more information.*

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Office: GMU: Engineering Building - Room 2215

Office Hours: Monday 2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. and by appointment

Course Description: This course is designed to introduce the students to several important topics in systems engineering, provide additional experience to the students in writing and giving presentations, and obtain feedback on the curriculum for the B.S. in Systems Engineering. Several lectures will be devoted to ethics in systems engineering. Writing and making presentations for systems engineering will also be covered early in the semester. Lecture series presenters will present material that is not part of the required course load to expand the horizons of the students. Each student will write a short paper on each of these presentations. In addition, students will work in teams to critique and redesign the curriculum in Systems Engineering. Each group will deliver a written product and provide at least one briefing to the class. The best critique and redesign will be presented to the faculty.

Course Hours: Monday and Wednesday 1:30 pm – 2:45 pm in Engineering 1103

- Text:**
1. Engineering Communication (2014), Charles Knisley & Karen Knisley. CENGAGE Learning ISBN 978-1-133-11470-3
 2. Engineering Ethics: An Industrial Perspective (2006), Gail Baura. Academic Press ISBN 978-0-12-088531-2

Grades:

Topic	Deliverables	Grade %
Technical Writing	Individual: Long paper on bleeding edge technology (10 pages) in IEEE format	20%
	Group: Curriculum Review Draft and Final Paper	10%
Giving Presentations	Individual: Bleeding Edge Annotated Outline and Final Presentation	20%
	Group: Ethics Case Presentation	20%
	Group: Curriculum Review Draft and Final Presentation	10%
Technology Review	Individual: Short paper on lecture attended (3 pages)	10%
Professionalism	Individual: Evaluated by instructor	10%

Grades are assigned as follows: A= 92 – 100 B = 84 – 91.9 C= 76 – 83.9 D= 68 – 75.9 F= 0 – 67.9

Academic Integrity

GMU is an Honor Code university; please see the Office for Academic Integrity for a full description of the code and the honor committee process. The principle of academic integrity is taken very seriously and violations are treated gravely. What does academic integrity mean in this course? Essentially this: when you are responsible for a task, you will perform that task. When you rely on someone else's work in an aspect of the performance of that task, you will give full credit in the proper, accepted form. Another aspect of academic integrity is the free play of ideas. Vigorous discussion and debate are encouraged in this course, with the firm expectation that all aspects of the class will be conducted with civility and respect for differing ideas, perspectives, and traditions. When in doubt (of any kind) please ask for guidance and clarification.

Writing Intensive Statement

This course fulfills all/in part the Writing-Intensive requirement in the Systems Engineering undergraduate major. It does so through the ethics cases, bleeding edge paper outline, bleeding edge draft paper, bleeding edge final paper and the seminar review paper. The bleeding edge paper will be completed through a draft/feedback/revision process. The due date for each is below; I will provide comments on each.

Disabilities Statement

If you have a documented learning disability or other condition that may affect academic performance you should: 1) make sure this documentation is on file with Office of Disability Services (SUB I, Rm. 4205; 993-2474; <http://ods.gmu.edu>) to determine the accommodations you need; and 2) talk with me to discuss your accommodation needs.

Mason Diversity Statement

George Mason University promotes a living and learning environment for outstanding growth and productivity among its students, faculty and staff. Through its curriculum, programs, policies, procedures, services and resources, Mason strives to maintain a quality environment for work, study and personal growth.

An emphasis upon diversity and inclusion throughout the campus community is essential to achieve these goals. Diversity is broadly defined to include such characteristics as, but not limited to, race, ethnicity, gender, religion, age, disability, and sexual orientation. Diversity also entails different viewpoints, philosophies, and perspectives. Attention to these aspects of diversity will help promote a culture of inclusion and belonging, and an environment where diverse opinions, backgrounds and practices have the opportunity to be voiced, heard and respected.

The reflection of Mason's commitment to diversity and inclusion goes beyond policies and procedures to focus on behavior at the individual, group and organizational level. The implementation of this commitment to diversity and inclusion is found in all settings, including individual work units and groups, student organizations and groups, and classroom settings; it is also found with the delivery of services and activities, including, but not limited to, curriculum, teaching, events, advising, research, service, and community outreach.

Acknowledging that the attainment of diversity and inclusion are dynamic and continuous processes, and that the larger societal setting has an evolving socio-cultural understanding of diversity and inclusion, Mason seeks to continuously improve its environment. To this end, the University promotes continuous monitoring and self-assessment regarding diversity. The aim is to incorporate diversity and inclusion within the philosophies and actions of the individual, group and organization, and to make improvements as needed.

Student Support Resources on Campus

Resources that you may find helpful may be found at: <http://ctfe.gmu.edu/teaching/student-support-resources-on-campus/>

CLASS SCHEDULE

Week 1>	31 August 2 September	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Background; Syllabus Review; Honor Code and Information Sheet ◆ Review Research Paper Info sheet <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ SEOR Goals for Written Communication ○ WAC Review Rubric ◆ Seminar Review Paper info sheet ◆ Introduction Assignment ◆ Group assignments ◆ Due: IN - Information Sheet ◆ Due: IN – Honor Code
Week 2>	7 September 9 September	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Labor Day – NO CLASS ◆ Librarian presentation – Therese Calgano ◆ Review past curriculum review subjects
Week 3>	14/16 September	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Lecture Knisely ◆ Lecture: EVMS ◆ Ethics Assignment sheet
Week 4>	21 September 23 September	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Group work day ◆ Group: 8 min presentation of curriculum review subject ◆ Due: G- Curriculum Review Subject - Presentation ◆ G - Curriculum Review Subject - Annotated Outline
Week 5>	28 September 30 September	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lecture Knisely • Due: G – Ethics – Case Choice of Groups Due • Group work day
Week 6>	5/7 October	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Lecture Knisely
Week 7>	13/14 October	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ NO CLASS ON MONDAY; MONDAY CLASSES MEET ON TUESDAY ◆ Individual: 5 min presentations on bleeding edge paper (annotated outline)
Week 8>	19/21 October	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Individual: 5 min presentations on bleeding edge paper (annotated outline) ◆ Due: IN - Bleeding Edge Topic - Annotated Outline - Presentation ◆ IN - Bleeding Edge Topic - Annotated Outline - Paper ◆ Review ABET Objectives and Outcomes
Week 9>	26 October 28 October	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Lecture: Ethics ◆ Lecture: Information Security
Week 10>	2 November 4 November	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Group Presentation: Ethics Case 1 – Team 5 and 7; Time Keeper: Team 4 ◆ Due: G - Ethics Case Group Materials ◆ Group Presentation: Ethics Case 2 – Team 1 and 3; Time Keeper: Team 8 ◆ Due - G - Ethics Case Group 2 Materials ◆ IN - Bleeding Edge Paper Draft - Paper
Week 11>	9 November 11 November	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Group Presentation: Ethics Case 3 – Team 6 and 8; Time Keeper: Team 5 ◆ Due - G - Ethics Case Group Materials ◆ Group Presentation: Ethics Case 4 – Team 2 and 4; Time Keeper: Team 1 ◆ Due - G - Ethics Case Group Materials
Week 12>	16 November/ 18 November	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Groups (some Monday, some Wednesday): presentation of curriculum review draft ◆ Due: G - Curriculum Review Draft – Presentation ◆ G - Curriculum Review Draft - Paper

Week 13>	23/25 November	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Group work day • THANKSGIVING – NO CLASS
Week 14>	30 November 2 December	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Group: Presentation to faculty on curriculum review (everyone attends)> will be coordinated with SYST490 presentations to faculty ◆ Due: G - Curriculum Review Final - Presentation ◆ G - Curriculum Review Final – Paper ◆ Individual: Presentations of bleeding edge paper
Week 15>	7/9 December	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Individual (some Monday, some Wednesday): Presentations of bleeding edge paper ◆ Due: IN - Individual Evaluation of Team Members ◆ IN - Individual Seminar Review Paper ◆ IN - Bleeding Edge Final - Presentation ◆ IN - Bleeding Edge Final - Paper

How to Access Blackboard?

- Go to <https://mymasonportal.gmu.edu>
- Login to myMason
 - ◆ Enter ID and password

Students need a Mason ID and password to login. Their Mason ID is their Mason mail user name (e.g. the Blackboard ID for jdoe@gmu.edu would be jdoe)

If you do not know your Mason mail user name, go to <http://masonlive.gmu.edu/> and click on “Account Set-up Checklist” icon, follow the steps.

- Click on the Course tab
- Choose this course from the Course List
- All assignments have due dates and submissions after the due date/time will not be possible, since Blackboard will automatically block “submit my homework” option.
- From time to time, Blackboard works too slowly. Especially from a dial-up internet connection, Blackboard access may not be so efficient all the time; students are encouraged to submit their work earlier than the deadline.
- If you experience any problem while accessing/using Blackboard, please. send an e-mail to Dr. Brouse, pbrouse@gmu.edu