

**EEC 200 – Navigating Graduate School
1 unit – Fall Quarter 2021**

Objective: The overarching goal of this seminar-style course is to orient the first-year ECEGP graduate students in: (i) finding a major advisor, constructing a degree plan, and strategy to prepare for the preliminary and qualifying exams; (ii) developing effective time-management and study skills while maintaining a good work-life balance; and (iii) learning the essentials of research integrity/ethics, intellectual property and technology transfer, as well as literature search and scientific communication.

Class Times/Location: Friday 11:00AM-11:50PM; Young Hall, Room 194

Prerequisite: First-year ECEGP graduate student, ECEGP transfer student, or instructor approval

Instructor: Prof. Erkin Şeker (eseker@ucdavis.edu)

Graduate Program Chair: Prof. Jeremy Munday (jnmunday@ucdavis.edu)

MS Program Director: Prof. Sebastian Gomez-Diaz (jsgomez@ucdavis.edu); Advising appointments available via <https://appointments.ucdavis.edu/>

Graduate Program Advisor: Prof. Omeed Momeni (omomeni@ucdavis.edu); Advising appointments available via <https://appointments.ucdavis.edu/>

Graduate Program Coordinator: Sacksith Ekkaphanh (sekkaphanh@ucdavis.edu); Advising appointments available via <https://appointments.ucdavis.edu/>

Grading: The course will be graded on a Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory (S/U) basis. The grading will be based on attendance in lectures and timely submission of assignments.

Assignments: There will be several assignments designed to assist the students in relating the content to themselves and custom goals/needs. All assignment-related transactions (e.g., assignment submission, grading) will be conducted via Canvas.

Attendance & Late Submission Policy: Absence from a maximum of two classes will be permitted with prior notification to the course instructor via email. One late assignment (up to 48 hours after deadline) will be allowed. Any assignment later than 48 hours will receive an unsatisfactory grade. More than two unsatisfactory grades will lead to an unsatisfactory overall course grade.

Textbooks: Recommended material and exercises will be provided by the instructor.

COVID-Related: Please follow all campus requirements (i.e., vaccination, daily symptom survey, face coverage indoors) for all students and instructor's safety. <https://campusready.ucdavis.edu/students-and-families>

Academic Integrity: Cheating and plagiarism will not be tolerated. Professional integrity is an important aspect of all engineering disciplines and understanding the material in these courses is integral to becoming a proficient and productive engineer. As such, it is imperative that you spend the time and effort to fully understand the material. Please read the UC Davis "[Code of Academic Conduct](#)" at participate.ucdavis.edu .

Frequently Asked Questions - Student Resources: <https://ebeler.faculty.ucdavis.edu/resources/faq-student-resources/>

Course Content:

Week 1 (9/24)

Introduction, how to find a major professor, mentorship tips, courses, (Prof. Erkin Şeker)

Week 2 (10/1)

Career development, internships, etc. (Elizabeth Storer and Andrea Hanson, Internship and Career Center)

Week 3 (10/8)

Time management, study skills, work-life balance (Dr. Tori White, Office of Educational Opportunity and Enrichment Services)

Week 4 (10/15)

Short faculty talks moderated by Prof. Erkin Şeker
Profs. Neville Luhmann, Josh Hihath, Samson Cheung, Sebastian Gomez-Diaz, Erkin Şeker

Week 5 (10/22)

Short faculty talks moderated by Prof. Erkin Şeker
Profs. Weijian Yang, Stavros Vougioukas, Marina Radulaski, Charles Hunt

Week 6 (10/29)

Scientific communication (Dr. Kathie Gossett, Graduate Writing Across the Curriculum)

Week 7 (11/5)

Research integrity & ethics (Dr. David Blancha, GradPathways Institute for Professional Development)

Week 8 (11/12)

MS Program Workshop [All MS students in the program] (Prof. Sebastian Gomez-Diaz)

Week 9 (11/19)

Intellectual property & technology transfer (Eugene Sisman, InnovationAccess, Office of Research)

Week 10 (12/3)

Open discussion on lessons learned from the first quarter and plan for next quarter and beyond (Prof. Erkin Şeker)