**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 Wellman Hall 226

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

**Instructor (Graduate Program Chair):** Prof. Erkin Şeker (eseker@ucdavis.edu); Office: 3177 Kemper Hall

**Graduate Program Coordinator:** Sacksith Ekkaphanh (sekkaphanh@ucdavis.edu); Office: 2064 Kemper Hall; Advising appointments available via [https://appointments.ucdavis.edu/](https://appointments.ucdavis.edu/)

**Graduate Program Advisor:** Prof. Omeed Momeni (omomeni@ucdavis.edu) Office: 3167 Kemper Hall; Advising appointments available via [https://appointments.ucdavis.edu/](https://appointments.ucdavis.edu/)

**Reader:** TBD

**Grading:** The course will be graded on a Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory (S/U) basis. Note that the EEC 298 – Group Study is a variable unit and grading option course. It is each student’s responsibility to register for 1 unit and S/U option. The grading will be based on class attendance 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.

**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](http://participate.ucdavis.edu).
Course Content:

Week 1 (9/27)
Introduction, how to find a major professor, mentorship tips, courses (Prof. Erkin Şeker)

Week 2 (10/4)
Career development, internships, etc. (Reina Gonzalez, Internship and Career Center)

Week 3 (10/11)
Short faculty talks moderated by Prof. Erkin Şeker
Profs. Stavros Vougioukas, Jason Lowe-Power, Bevan Bass, Raj Amirtharajah, Josh Hihath, Saif Islam

Week 4 (10/18)
Short faculty talks moderated by Graduate Program Coordinator
Profs. Marina Radulaski, John Owens, Sebastian Gomez Diaz, Neville Luhmann, Billy Putnam, Leo Liu, Charles Hunt

Week 5 (10/25)
Scientific communication with an emphasis on writing (Dr. Aditi Risbud Bartl, College of Engineering)

Week 6 (11/1)
Time management, study skills, work-life balance (Dr. Annalisa Teixeira, Student Academic Success Center)

Week 7 (11/8)
Research integrity & ethics (Dr. David Blancha, GradPathways Institute for Professional Development)

Week 8 (11/15)
Intellectual property & technology transfer (Dr. Nancy Rashid)

Week 9 (11/22)
Scientific communication with an emphasis on presenting (Dr. Aditi Risbud Bartl, College of Engineering)

Week 10 (12/6)
Open discussion on lessons learned from the first quarter and plan for next quarter and beyond (Prof. Erkin Şeker)