



COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING
Ca/VIEW-Virtual Instruction for the Engineering World
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BERKELEY, CALIFORNIA 94720-1702

August 10, 2007

Dear Colleague:

Welcome to EECS 241! My name is Louis Alarcon, and I will be your course consultant for the *Advanced Digital Integrated Circuits* NTU course NEEI 6342 taught by Professor Jan Rabaey. The lecture tapes were recorded in Spring 2006 semester and include the latest material on Advanced Digital IC design.

I am a Ph.D. student in the field of integrated circuits, specializing in implementation of low-energy and low leakage circuits. I work at the UC Berkeley Wireless Research Center under the supervision of Professor Jan Rabaey. My research interests include design of low-energy logic and wireless communication circuits.

EECS 241 is one of the most useful and interesting classes I have taken at Berkeley. It is one of the core classes for the Digital Circuits area and should provide you with an excellent background as well as exposing you to some of the more interesting and critical topics in state-of-the-art Digital IC design.

While working on course assignments, you will need access to SPICE (preferably HSPICE) circuit simulator. No layout package will be required for this course. I will be watching the course tapes each week along with you. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me. My office hours and other critical information are detailed in the course information packet distributed with this letter. If you wish to reach me outside my regular office hours, call the Cal VIEW office at (510) 642-5776, and they will contact me. I will return your call promptly.

Five conference calls will be scheduled for this semester. I will facilitate three of them and the other two will be held by Professor Rabaey. I will have an introductory conference call at the beginning of the semester, followed by two more calls, one mid-semester and the last one before the final exam.

Professor Rabaey will host two conference calls with the students during the run of the course. The engineers enrolled in EECS 241 will undoubtedly have a wide variety of backgrounds and specialties,



Louis Alarcon

and conference calls will provide the opportunity for all of us to benefit and learn from each other's questions and personal expertise.

This course will have 5 homeworks, which will be distributed throughout the semester. Also, there will be a final exam and a term-long project. The tentative due dates are posted in the course syllabus, although they might be adjusted later in the semester. The grading for the course will be weighted as follows:

Final	20%
Term-Long Project	40%
Homeworks	40%

I encourage you to take advantage of the resources available to you this semester. Especially take advantage of my office hours (Tue. & Thurs. 2 - 3 p.m. Pacific Time) and make sure you keep up with the lecture material!

Homeworks must be submitted in their hard copy form (not a FAX). In a case of emergency, when you are not able to have your assignment postmarked by its due date, you may FAX it to us. We will accept it by 5 p.m. (Pacific Time) on the due date. Receiving your work on time will allow a fast turn around time for correcting and grading. Late homeworks will receive only partial credit. All items should be addressed to my attention at the Cal VIEW Office, 205 McLaughlin Hall #1702, College of Engineering, University of California, Berkeley, CA 94720. The phone number is (510) 642-5776 and the Fax number is (510) 643-5877.

Also included in this packet is a sheet of return labels for your convenience when you return your homeworks. If you need additional labels just let the CalVIEW office know, and they will send you more. Also, please make a copy of everything you send me, in case work disappears en route, and **MAKE SURE** to put your name, the course number (NEEI 6342) and the homework number on anything you turn in. The program office staff receives a lot of correspondence from students and it can be difficult for them to process homeworks when there is no name, homework number or class name indicated.

You will notice that I have included a photograph of myself with this letter. I would like to know who you are as well. Be sure to fill out the enclosed Student Background Questionnaire and attach a photograph of yourself if at all possible. The questionnaire is due with your first homework assignment.

I am looking forward to having a rewarding semester working with you.

Sincerely,

Louis Alarcon