

**Policy for Elective Focus Areas (EFAs) in the
Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, University of Iowa
10/1/03**

- (1) The EFA courses must be part of an overall coherent plan of study formulated by the student. The EFA courses may not be an unorganized potpourri of courses.
- (2) The 21 semester hours of EFA courses and plan of study must be approved by the student's academic advisor and Department Chair. An approved list of EFA courses and plan of study must be on file prior to the student registering for EFA courses as an ECE student.
- (3) At least two EFA courses must be 100-level ECE courses and one of these courses must have a junior or senior-level ECE course as prerequisite.
- (4) A minimum of 15 sh of EFA courses must be technical. Technical courses are defined as courses with a significant quantity and level of math, science, engineering, and/or computer science content.
- (5) A student may substitute up to 6 sh of the 15 sh of technical courses with business courses provided that the student obtains a Technical Entrepreneurship Certificate, Business minor, or a B.S. in Engineering and M.B.A. dual degree.
- (6) No course that is a prerequisite (or has equivalent content to a prerequisite) to a required ECE program course may be used as an EFA course. No course with similar topical content to an ECE course but taught at a lower level may be used as an EFA course.
- (7) Each undergraduate student must demonstrate that they have the ability to function on a multidisciplinary team. To satisfy this requirement, a student must take a course from an approved list of multidisciplinary team courses as part of the EFA. A student will not have to take a multidisciplinary team course if they participate in cooperative education and internship work experiences, special design sequences such as PEDE, extracurricular design team activities, and/or an interdisciplinary research team.