

In the Long Run

"In the long run, we shape our lives, and we shape ourselves. The process never ends until we die. And the choices we make are ultimately our own responsibility. -Eleanor Roosevelt

Lectures, Questions, and Homework Problems:

1. This is a **problem solving course**. Since you have a text for the course and a well defined reading schedule (see course syllabus) you are expected to read the material thoroughly and take notes on what you read before each class. If you do not understand a particular point or are confused in any way, you are expected to ask questions during class. If you have a question and are afraid to ask, there are probably several other students with the same question. Remember no question is too simple or too foolish to ask.
2. Lectures **will not duplicate** word for word what is in the text. You will be expected to do the assigned problems and have these problems completed before the beginning of class.
3. You may stop in and see me during my **office hours which are posted on my website** (listed at the top of this page)..
4. **Homework problems** will be randomly collected throughout the term. Homework must be done on engineering graph paper (light green in color). Your name must be printed on the upper right corner. The date you completed the homework must be printed below your name. The course number 'ME211' must be printed on the upper left corner. The problem number must be underlined or circled, and on the left margin. Each problem should begin on a new page unless the problem is overly simplistic. Problems must be done in pencil. Homework problems of course must be neat and readable. No credit will be given for problems that do not follow the above format and are not readable.
5. Homework will be **collected at random intervals** approximately 10 - 15 times during the semester at the beginning of the lecture. Keep all of your problems together preferably in a 3-ring binder as the homework that is collected on a particular day may have been assigned on an earlier day. Late homework will not be accepted. If you plan to be absent from class you must hand in your homework the lecture before you are absent from class. Homework comprises 20 percent of the final grade. It is not difficult to figure out how important homework is in this class, both for comprehension of subject matter and final grade.
6. Students often ask (probably a result of a nice grade school teacher) what they can do to earn '**extra credit**'. To this end, a student can 'volunteer' to place a homework problem and solution on the board before the beginning of the hour thus saving me class time to do the same. There is no need to check with me first. Arrive to class a little early and do the good deed. Don't forget to number the problem and write your name someplace on the board for credit. This participation (and similar contributions such as enthusiasm, interest, and dedication) is included in the subjective portion of 'class participation' of your final grade.