

# Senior Design: Faculty-Sponsored Projects

ECE 4335: CAPSTONE DESIGN I

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Dear Faculty,

If you are interested in sponsoring a project for Senior Design, please review the guidelines below.

## Overview

- Senior design teams comprise typically four students working two long semesters on a project. While there are no formal requirements, we expect that projects will be sufficiently challenging to engage four seniors for two semesters, and that the teams will work on hardware and/or software deliverables. Typically the project results in a “proof-of-concept” prototype.
- If you have an idea that you think will keep students challenged for two semesters, please contact Len Trombetta [Ltrombetta@uh.edu](mailto:Ltrombetta@uh.edu).

## Specifics

- The department has limited funding for parts and supplies, so we encourage faculty to absorb as much of these expenses as possible.
- The department has a limited amount of space in which to conduct projects. If you can allow students to work in your lab, that will help us out.
- We like to have students work on hardware as well as software, but we recognize that some projects may be heavily focused on one or the other.

## Student Commitment

- Work ~10 hrs. per week on the project.
- Report progress to faculty sponsor every 1-2 weeks or as requested by the faculty sponsor.
- Complete, to the best of their ability, all deliverables requested by the project sponsor. Deliverables will be due at the end of each long semester.
- Provide a final report each semester to the project sponsor.

## Sponsor and Faculty Commitment

- Please keep in mind that this is a **design course**, and the Senior Design instructors will be coaching students in engineering design and project management. To that end, the project should have **specific engineering deliverables**, as opposed to research objectives. We ask that you help your team develop **engineering specifications** that can be **tested** as to whether they have been met.
- Sponsors should meet with their team on a regular basis. What constitutes “regular” is something that should be arrived at between the team and the sponsor, but our experience is that when teams

do not meet with their sponsors for extended periods of time, they tend to drift off track and end up producing something other than what the sponsor has asked for.

- We will not ask you to grade student reports, but we will welcome any guidance you can give us when we assign grades.