

14:440:107 Methods of Inquiry for Engineers (Spring 2005)

http://www.osd.rutgers.edu/MoI/spring_moi.htm

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Office Hours: MW 1:10 – 2:30 & By Appointment
Engineering Building Room B-110

Text: Handouts will be provided as necessary.

Class Time & Location: MW 2:50 – 4:10pm ARC-206

Content: Methods of Inquiry (MoI) provides students with the opportunity to explore various studying, test taking, problem solving and time management techniques. Students will be exposed to various research initiatives that document learning and understanding in technical fields of study. Overall, students will develop a system of thinking strategies and critical analytical problem solving skills that are applicable across the engineering curriculum.

Requirements & Grading:

10% Homework will be assigned in the form of readings, written assignments, and various open ended technical questions. Homework will be assigned during lecture periods and may or may not be collected the following class.

10% Quizzes will be given at random throughout the semester. You will be quizzed on the topics covered in class, as well as work that you are completing in your other courses.

10% Class Participation is required. Many class periods will require in-class group work. You must be present and active in each class. Four absences will reduce your grade by one letter. (Three late of ten or more minutes = one absence.)

25% Assignment I involves creating and maintaining an Excel spreadsheet that will keep track of all your grades for each academic class. A template will be sent to you via your eden email. You must update the file and email it back to the professor by January 31th. For the remainder of the semester, you are to email an updated version on Fridays.

25% Assignment II is completing an Academic Vision. (See worksheets.) The Academic Vision must be discussed with the Undergraduate Advisor and/or Department Head. A good source is the Departmental Undergraduate Handbook. Assignment II is due on March 7nd.

25% Assignment III is an exploration of an engineering discipline as it exists at Rutgers University. You may choose your discipline or any of the other engineering programs

that are offered at the School. You are required to write a 3 – 5 page paper on the research opportunities that are available in the chosen discipline. You should provide a description of several research projects that are being conducted by the professors in your department. Also include a general description of the major and any “options” or “tracks” that are available. Your sources may include, but are not limited to: Undergraduate Catalog, professor interviews, dean interviews, and graduate student interviews. You will be required to present on your findings to the entire class on either April 11th or 13th.

Academic Integrity: Cheating is **NOT** acceptable. If you are caught cheating on homework, quizzes or tests you will receive an F for the course.

Tentative Weekly Schedule:

Date	Topic
1/24	Introductions, Explanation of Assignment I
1/26	Time Management Part I
1/31	Time Management Part II, Assignment I Due
2/2	Note Taking
2/7	Mock Classroom Preparation, Explanation of Assignment II
2/9	Mock Classroom Presentations
2/14	Learning Styles
2/16	Test Taking Part I
2/21	Test Taking Part II
2/23	Test Taking Part III
2/28	Exam Prep Part I
3/2	Exam Prep Part II
3/7	GPA Reality Check, Assignment II Due in Class
3/9	Master Student, Explanation of Assignment III
3/21	The Art of Procrastination
3/23	Get Motivated
3/28	Stay Motivated
3/30	Value Assessment
4/4	Memory
4/6	Short, Mid, & Long-Term Goals
4/11-13	Assignment III Due with Presentations
4/18	Web Site Development
4/20	Ethics Part I
4/25	Ethics Part II
4/27	Wrap-Up