Senior Capstone Design - Project Guidelines

Projects are defined to meet the learning objectives of Senior Capstone Design, as a team-based, design-oriented, interdisciplinary, capstone course. The following criteria are considered in offering projects and assigning them to teams:

**Technical**

1. Does the project require appropriate technical skills at a senior capstone level?
2. Does the project require substantial ECE design (both hardware and software)?

**Resources**

3. Does the project require special facilities, instrumentation, or resources?
4. Is a customer interested and available during the project?

**Team Dynamics**

5. Are there enough distinct technical responsibilities for a team-based approach?
6. Does the project have sufficient scope for a two-semester, 5 person effort?

**Problem Statements**

We post standardized, one-page, project descriptions during the second week of September. Students review the descriptions and identify three preferred projects. Course faculty members use these preferences and other considerations to assign projects. Each description has:

1. Short project title
2. List of required technical expertise areas of expertise
3. Description of the technical problem (about 1/2 page)
4. Expected deliverables
5. Contact information for the customer
6. Items or budget to be supplied by customer (if any)

A sample page description from last year is attached. It is not necessary to use this format.

Customers can participate as much or as little as they prefer during the year. Each team will contact their customer in September to elaborate the problem and develop their engineering requirements. Customers should expect to provide more details and background at that stage. Customers should expect occasional questions during the year. All customers are invited to attend ECE Day (TBD – typically the first Monday in May).

All teams prepare interim and final documentation, including engineering drawings as appropriate. This documentation and the project prototype are given to the customer for his internal use.

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