

CLASSES

Q: How easy is it to talk to my professors?

The department really focuses on having a good teacher to student ratio so that students can directly interact with their professors during and after lecture. All professors have easy access for communication in office hours as well.

Q: How much time do you dedicate towards schoolwork?

On average, each credit hour corresponds to 3 hours of work outside of class per week. People usually average 15 credit hours or 4 classes a semester. As an upperclassman, there are usually classes that require a lot more lab and programming work outside of class or work with teammates.

Q: What are the class sizes?

Lower-division courses tend to have bigger class sizes, up to 200. One you get into the 300 or 400 level technical electives, class sizes tend to go down to around 30-50.

Q: How can I get help for classes?

There are office hours, HKN tutoring /review sessions and CARE tutoring, to name a few.

Q: Average textbook cost/how many classes need textbooks/where to get textbooks?

There are free, searchable pdf's online for almost all textbooks you'll need in ECE courses. Most classes don't require textbooks anyways. The only textbooks you will have to buy are things for your GenEds or Physics.

MORE RESOURCES

Q: How can I get students' perspectives on ECE?

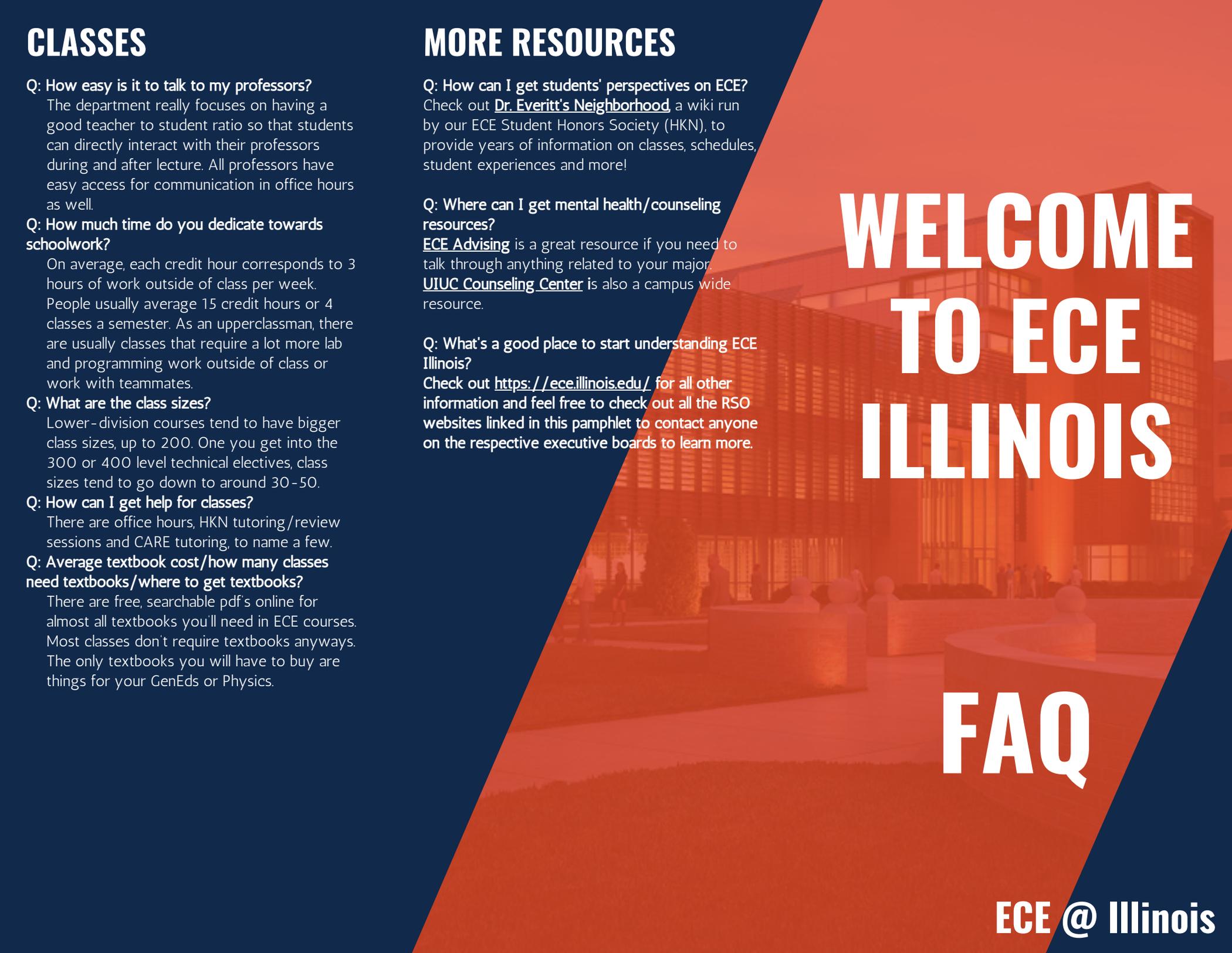
Check out [Dr. Everitt's Neighborhood](#), a wiki run by our ECE Student Honors Society (HKN), to provide years of information on classes, schedules, student experiences and more!

Q: Where can I get mental health/counseling resources?

[ECE Advising](#) is a great resource if you need to talk through anything related to your major. [UIUC Counseling Center](#) is also a campus wide resource.

Q: What's a good place to start understanding ECE Illinois?

Check out <https://ece.illinois.edu/> for all other information and feel free to check out all the RSO websites linked in this pamphlet to contact anyone on the respective executive boards to learn more.



WELCOME TO ECE ILLINOIS

FAQ

CURRICULUM

Q: Can I double major /minor?

Yes! It's hard, but you can definitely do it and many do!

Q: How easy is it to switch between CompE and EE?

Super easy because it's the same department! It is advised to wait until after completing the core classes to decide.

Q: Can I take other classes outside my major?

Yes, and required for Gen Ed requirements!

Q: How does class sign up work?

You get a sign-up date, and then you go to an online portal and sign up for your classes.

Q: Can I graduate early?

Yes, if you come in with a lot of credit you can generally graduate a semester early.

Q: How can I participate in research?

Reach out to professors! Many professors would love having undergraduates in their research group. PURE is another resource.

Q: How easy is it to get an internship/How do I get one?

We have a semesterly career fair where over 200 companies come to recruit YOU! Typically, it's more difficult for freshman to get summer internships (though it is not unheard of). It becomes much easier once you've taken higher level courses. We also have an ECE/CS specific career event and companies in our atrium every week.

ECE OR CS?

Q: Can I do a CS minor?

Only as an EE major.

Q: Can you take CS classes if you're in ECE?

Yes, you might even have to. Many of them are crosslisted between both departments.

Q: Can I double major in CS with ECE?

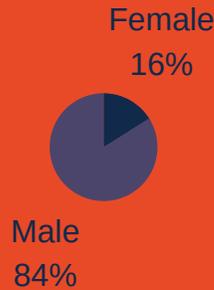
Only as an EE (not CompE because of too much overlap), but it is not recommended due to workload. If you choose to do so, you will need to apply to separately to CS department.

Q: What's the difference between ECE and CS?

We describe EE, CE, and CS as part of a spectrum of topics. You can find where you fit in based on topic of interest. They aren't as disjoint as you may think!

CHARTS & DATA

Q: What is the approximate self-reported gender representation?



Q: What is the job success rate for ECE graduates?

As of Spring 2018, **94%** of ECE graduates have secured jobs or enrolled in further education within 6 months of graduating



Q: What is the major split within ECE?



Q: What is the average time taken to graduate?

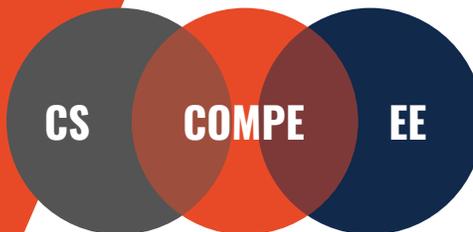
4.5 years (9 semesters)

Q: What percentage of students go to grad school vs industry?



Q: How would you visually explain ECE vs CS?

There are a range of topics in these majors and MANY of them overlap. Some subdisciplines include Device Physics, Circuits & Signals, Hardware Systems, AI/ML, Cybersecurity and Networking etc. Many of these are cross-listed topics in both ECE and CS!



LIFE IN COLLEGE

Q: Where do ECE majors typically live?

ECE Majors for the first year or two live in the dorms and people tend to live all over campus.

- Dorms: FAR/PAR has great bussing to classes and has a late night dining hall. The Ikenberry Commons is also a great choice for the dining hall and social community experience. Most engineers tend to choose ISR as a living option because it is the closest dorm to the center campus.
- Private certified housing: A slightly more expensive option that gives access to a kitchen and suite-style living available to all years.
- Apartments: Typically, ECE students like to move into off campus apartments by their second or third year so that they can live closer to the ECE building. There are a surplus of off-campus apartments that are within a 5-10 minute walk of this building.

Q: How is the work-life balance within ECE?

This is a rigorous program but everyone has time to take on other interests and unwind. The hard part is learning how to manage your time properly. Try to figure out how you learn and focus best, and cater your schedule to that.

ECE RSO'S

RSO: Registered Student Organizations

- **Pulse**: A week-long tech conference organized by students including Hackathons, guest speakers & volunteering.
- **HKN**: ECE Honor Society
- **IEEE**: Professional association for the advancement of technology, recognized nationally
- **WECE**: Women in ECE open to all students
- **iRobotics**: Largest Robotics RSO on campus
- **Illini Solar Car**: Solar car building / competition
- **ECESAC**: Not an RSO but similar to an ECE student government working with students, professors, advising and student advancement office to better the ECE Experience.