Summer is Coming

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Consequences of Lagging Behind and Resources for Seeking Help

- If you haven't got project approved by the 3rd week...
  - Although you seem to only have lost 5 / ~500 points
  - You will have a tight time getting RFA approved, and proposal finished in the 4th week, when 25 / ~500 points at stake
  - The effect is cumulative, all other times will be shortened

- If you haven't got project approved by the 2nd week...
  - Talk to TA and professors to clarify the scope
  - Talk to project sponsors
  - Join approved teams
  - We will help you succeed but don't wait until the last minute

How to succeed in ECE 445

- Get familiar with the course web site and watch the videos
  - Watch videos on group project formation and practice brainstorming
    - RFA, project proposal, lab notebook, modular design, ethics, ...
- Use the **PCB assignments** and course **Wiki page** to prepare for designing and soldering your project PCB
- Use course calendar to anticipate deadlines
- Understand the grading process – 21 grades large and small
  - Proposal Review, lab book, demo, final presentation & report
  - Idea post and PCB assignments
  - Team evaluation, individual progress report, peer review assignments
- **Focus initially on getting a project approved**
- Participate in web board discussions, go to office hours.
- Can't find a project?
  - Respond to project pitches
  - Look for teams needing complementary expertise

How to succeed in ECE 445, continued

- Get started on your PCB as soon as your project is approved – have a design ready for the first-round orders on February 26 (during 6th week of course).

- Work with your teammates to build a strong team
    - Hold regular meetings
    - Communicate and be transparent with your teammates and TA
    - Discuss problems as soon as they arise

- Spend time frequently documenting your work in your lab notebook

- Get help solving problems - a lot of expertise is available

- Keep the project moving during the build and test phases

Initial Post Deadline
Thursday Jan 22 11:59pm

RFA Early Approval Deadline
(5 pts extra credit)
Thursday, January 22 4:45pm

RFA Final Approval Deadline

Thursday, February 5 11:59pm