University of Manitoba

Price Faculty of Engineering
Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering

Instructor
- Greg Bridges, P.Eng.
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  (Reference to ECE 3590 must appear in the subject line.)

Office Hours
- By appointment

Teaching Assistant
- Dominic Estacio
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- Felix Gallardo Roque
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- Ralph Lejano
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Contact Hours
- 4 credit hours
- Lectures: 3 hours per week
- Laboratories: 3 hours x 5 weeks

Prerequisites:
- ECE 3580 Foundations of Electromagnetics

ECE 3590 – Electromagnetic Theory

Winter 2026

Course Objectives

Obtain an understanding of Maxwell's equations and be able to apply them to solving practical electromagnetic field problems. Fundamental concepts covered will include: laws governing electrodynamics, plane wave propagation in different media, power flow, polarization, transmission and reflection at an interface, transmission lines, microwave networks, waveguides, radiation and antennas. Experiment and computer simulation based laboratories are used to reinforce the course material.

Course Content

The following topics will be covered:
- Maxwell's Equations: Review of current continuity, Faraday's law, Ampère-Maxwell's law, time-harmonic fields, scalar and vector potentials, boundary conditions
- Plane Electromagnetic Waves: Uniform plane waves, phase and group velocity, wave impedance, dielectric and conducting media, polarization, energy and Poynting vector
- Plane Wave Reflection and Refraction: Normal and oblique incidence at media boundaries
- Transmission Line Theory: Distributed parameter model, transmission line equations, lossless and lossy lines, terminated t-lines, Smith chart, impedance matching, waveguides (if time permits)
- Microwave Networks: S-parameters, basic microwave circuits
- Radiation and Antennas: Radiation from a dipole, arrays, antenna parameters, introduction to communication systems.

Textbook

Fundamentals of Applied Electromagnetics, 7th edition, F.T. Ulaby and U. Ravaioli, Pearson, 2015. (http://www.amazon.ca) (em8e.eecs.umich.edu)

Other Resources

Conceptual Electromagnetics, B. M. Notaroš, CRC Press, 2017.
Field and Wave Electromagnetics, D.K. Cheng, Pearson, 2nd edition, 1989.

Learning Outcomes

1. Acquire an understanding of Maxwell's equations and be able to manipulate and apply them to EM problems.
2. Formulate and analyse problems involving uniform plane waves in lossy media with planar boundaries.
3. Able to derive, analyse, and apply the steady state transmission line equations to the design of simple distributed circuit components.
4. Derive the radiated field from an elementary current source.
5. For simple antennas derive fundamental antenna parameters starting from Maxwell's equations and be able to use these in the design of rudimentary communications systems.

Expected Competency Levels

Outcome	KB	PA	IN	DE	ET	IT	CS	PR	IE	EE	EP	LL
1	D	D	D	I								I
2	D	D	D	D	D							I
3	D	D	D	D	A							I
4	I	D	I	I								I
5	D	D	I	I					I			I

- **Term Test**
  March 3rd, 2026
  6:00PM–8:00PM
- **Voluntary Withdrawal Deadline**
  March 19th, 2026
- **Louis Riel Day**
  February 16th, 2026
  No classes or examinations
- **Spring Break**
  February 17th – 20th, 2026
  No classes or examinations
- **Good Friday**
  April 3rd, 2026
  No classes or examinations

Accreditation Details

Accreditation Units
- Mathematics: 0%
- Natural Science: 25%
- Complementary Studies: 0%
- Engineering Science: 75%
- Engineering Design: 0%

Graduate Attributes
KB: A knowledge base for engineering
PA: Problem analysis
IN: Investigation
DE: Design
ET: Use of engineering tools
IT: Individual and team work
CS: Communication skills
PR: Professionalism
IE: Impact of engineering on society/
    environment
EE: Ethics and equity
EP: Economics and project
    management
LL: Life-long learning

Competency Levels
I - Introduced (Introductory)
D - Developed (Intermediate)
A - Applied (Advanced)

CEAB Graduate Attributes Assessed

KB.4 – Recalls and defines, and/or comprehends and applies, first principles and concepts in specialized engineering science.

IN.2 – Devises and/or implements an appropriate plan/methodology for gathering information required to solve a complex engineering problem.

Evaluation

The student's grade will be determined from their performance in quizzes, assigned exercises, one mid-term test and the final exam. Students who are unable to write the mid-term exam for medical (or other acceptable) reasons will have their final examination weighted to include the mid-term weighting. Students must complete all components of the course and receive a minimum grade of 50% on the final examination to be eligible for a passing grade in the course.

Component	Value (%)	Method of Feedback	Learning Outcomes Evaluated
Quizzes	10	F, S	1, 2, 3, 4, 5
Laboratories	15	F, S	1, 2, 3, 4, 5
Term Test	25	F, S	1, 2, 3
Final Examination	50	S	1, 2, 3, 4, 5

∗ Method of Feedback: **F** - Formative (written comments and/or oral discussion), **S** - summative (numerical grade)

Student Absences

Attendance in lectures, tutorials, and laboratories is mandatory. For short-term absences due to illness or other extenuating circumstances of 120 hours (5 days) or less, students are required to complete a *Self-Declaration Form for Brief or Temporary Absence* available on the University website. This form must be submitted to the course instructor within 48 hours of the absence. (No additional documentation is required.)

Note that students are responsible to complete any missed work and must consult with the instructor to make appropriate arrangements.

For absences longer than 120 hours, students must contact the instructor and ECE Undergraduate Advisor, Tammy Holowachuk (Tammy.Holowachuk@umanitoba.ca) for further instructions.

Deferred Final Examinations

Students who miss the regular scheduled writing of a final examination, for valid medical or compassionate reasons, may be given the opportunity to write a deferred examination, subject to approval by the Associate Dean (Undergraduate). All requests for a deferred examination must be made within 48 hours of the missed examination, and must follow the procedure described on the Faculty website, without exception. Course instructors do not have the discretion to grant deferred final examinations.
(https://umanitoba.ca/engineering/student-experience#engineering-student-policies)

Academic Integrity

Students are expected to conduct themselves in accordance with the highest ethical standards of the Profession of Engineering and evince academic integrity in all their pursuits and activities at the university. As such, in accordance with the *General Academic Regulations on Academic Integrity*, students are reminded that plagiarism or any other form of cheating in examinations, term tests, assignments, projects, or laboratory reports is subject to serious academic penalty (e.g. suspension or expulsion from the faculty or university). This includes the unauthorized use of AI when preparing course deliverables. A student found guilty of contributing to cheating by another student is also subject to serious academic penalty. Integrity also applies to respecting copyrighted course content, which should not be distributed without the creator's permission. Uploading content for the purpose of transcription or other AI-enabled features is commonly a violation of the copyright holder's rights.

Grading Scale

Letter	Mark
A+	95–100
A	85–94
B+	80–84
B	70–79
C+	65–69
C	55–64
D	45–54
F	< 45

Note: These boundaries represent a guide for the instructor and class alike. Provided that no individual student is disadvantaged, the instructor may vary any of these boundaries to ensure consistency of grading from year-to-year.

Copyright Notice

All materials provided in this course are copyright and are provided under the fair dealing provision of the *Canadian Copyright Act*. This material may not be redistributed in any manner without the express written permission of the relevant copyright holder. This includes recording class sessions for personal use and/or uploading any course materials to a website.

Retention of Student Work

Students are advised that copies of their work submitted in completing course requirements (i.e. assignments, laboratory reports, project reports, test papers, examination papers, etc.) may be retained by the instructor and/or the department for the purpose of student assessment and grading, and to support the ongoing accreditation of each Engineering program. This material shall be handled in accordance with the University's *Intellectual Property Policy* and the protection of privacy provisions of *The Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (Manitoba)*. Students who do not wish to have their work retained must inform the Head of Department, in writing, at their earliest opportunity.

Requirements and Regulations

- Attendance at lectures and laboratories is essential for successful completion of this course. Students must satisfy each evaluation component in the course to receive a passing final grade.
- It is the responsibility of each student to contact the instructor in a timely manner if they are uncertain about their standing in the course and about their potential for receiving a failing grade. Students should also familiarize themselves with the University's *General Academic Regulations* 🔗, as well as the Price Faculty of Engineering *Academic Regulations* 🔗 dealing with incomplete term work, deferred examinations, attendance and withdrawal.
- No programmable devices or systems (such as calculators, PDAs, smart phones, smart watches, wireless communication or data storage devices) are allowed in examinations unless approved by the course instructor.
- Students should be aware that they have access to an extensive range of resources and support organizations. These include Academic Resources, Counselling, Advocacy and Accessibility Offices as well as documentation of key University policies e.g. Academic Integrity, Respectful Behaviour, Examinations and related matters.

🔗 *Supplemental Resources*