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## EECS 553 Fall 2022

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To: Laura Balzano <girasole@umich.edu>

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Dear EECS 553 students (enrolled and waitlisted),

EECS 553 Machine Learning - ECE is being run for the first time in Fall 2022. This message will hopefully answer your questions about the course and give you guidance as to whether you should stay enrolled. You can look at this course information page for FAQs and updates.

EECS 553 will be similar to EECS 545 (now Machine Learning - CSE) with more emphasis on algorithms and their derivation from fundamental mathematical principles. For Fall 2022, I will be relying heavily on the advisory prerequisite of "graduate level probability and linear algebra." The course will involve programming in Python, and experience with programming is also important. Please see the attached draft syllabus for a tentative course plan and policies.

Note that EECS 553 Machine Learning - ECE is a new course name/number and is essentially allowing us to expand the offering of what used to be EECS 545. Therefore, some things you find about EECS 553 or 545 online may be out of date. Here is the formal 553 course description:

<https://ece.engin.umich.edu/academics/course-information/course-descriptions/eecs-553/>

Currently there are 71 students enrolled and 277 on the waitlist. Currently our classroom has capacity for 99 people (DOW 1010, which has been renovated for Fall 2022). There are no plans to add another section. Both EECS 553 and EECS 545 are currently slated to be offered in Winter 2023.

If you are enrolled but have not taken graduate level probability and linear algebra, I encourage you to drop. For ECE students, I encourage you to take 501 and 551 first before 553. Other students should either consider EECS 498 - Principles of Machine Learning, or take the advisory prerequisites and try again in a future semester. If you choose to attempt EECS 553 without these prerequisites, you should understand that you will likely need to do quite a bit of extra work to do well in the course.

If you are on the waitlist, you will receive an email next week with a link to fill out a form and request an override. Please watch out for the email and fill out the form for your request asap. **If you receive an override, you will get an email notification and you will have only 48 hours to sign up.** If you receive an override, you will need to drop the course and then add it again to become enrolled. See this video for instructions on how to use an override.

You will find my priority order for overrides in the attached syllabus. If you haven't had graduate probability and linear algebra, I am very unlikely to approve an override for you. However if you have, don't lose hope; you'd be surprised how far down the waitlist we could get and many people drop in the first two weeks of class. If your required coursework is not covered by the course numbers listed in the syllabus, describe the courses you have taken in your override request form, including UM course number if taken here.

As a general rule, I will not be answering emails about the course. You can hopefully find answers in the syllabus or course info page FAQ for now. When the course begins, Piazza will be the venue for questions and answers.

I hope you're enjoying your summer and getting excited for machine learning! The International Conference on Machine Learning took place this past week. You'll find many exciting papers on their website and the award-winning papers are here:

[https://icml.cc/virtual/2022/awards\\_detail](https://icml.cc/virtual/2022/awards_detail)

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