

Newsletter from DLTC

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Dear Colleagues

In this February 2018 issue of the “Newsletter from DLTC”, the Departmental Learning and Teaching Committee (DLTC) has invited Prof. Francis Lau to share his good teaching and learning practices with colleagues.

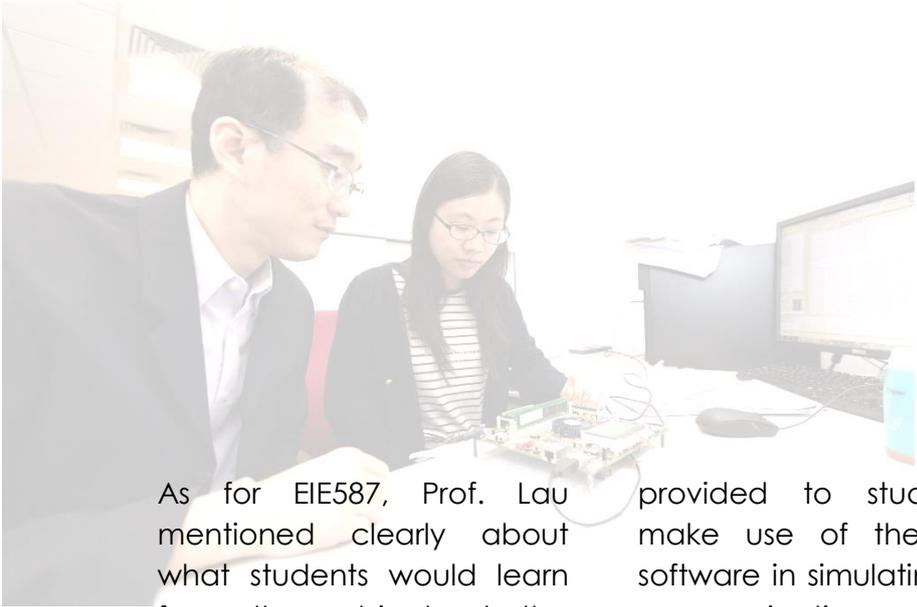


Prof. Lau taught “EIE509 Satellite Communications – Technology and Application” and “EIE587 Channel Coding” in 2016/17 Semester 1 and 2017/18 Semester 1 respectively. The two subjects have received many positive comments from students.

In EIE509, Prof. Lau arranged a visit to Hong Kong Satellite Earth Station at Stanley for students taking the subject. Through field visit, students' horizons were widened and they could witness how the theories and knowledge taught in classes were put into practice in real life.

Moreover, students were required to do a mini-project. They could choose a topic from among several topics and then do further reading on the selected topic, search for information, write a report and give a presentation. In this way, students took a more active role and were more engaged in the learning process.





As for EIE587, Prof. Lau mentioned clearly about what students would learn from the subject at the beginning of the semester so that students understood clearly the subject expectation and hence could follow the subject matter thoroughly with interest.

Many chances were

provided to students to make use of the Matlab software in simulating digital communication systems with/without channel coding. Sufficient support and guidance were given to help students in the simulation process.

Similar to EIE509, students were divided into groups to work on a group project.

Apart from submitting a group project report, each group needed to give a presentation followed by a question-and-answer session to ensure students really understand the project topic and enable students to learn from each other. In this way, students were pretty engaged in the subject.

What We Learn...

From Prof. Lau's experience, we found that the following might have contributed to positive learning experience for students:



Provide Hands-on Experience with Sufficient Guidance -

Allowing students to engage in hands-on activities with sufficient guidance and support could foster deeper learning and instill in them a sense of achievement when they completed the tasks successfully.



Require Students to Do Project -

Facilitating students to take a more active role in study and engage in the learning process as students need to do further reading, search for relevant information, summarize the findings into a report, and give a presentation.



Arrange Field Visit -

Enabling students to witness how the theories and knowledge they had learnt in classes were applied in real life.

The DLTC will continue to identify good learning and teaching practices for sharing. If you have any teaching practices and experience that you want to share with colleagues, you are welcome to send us your views anytime.

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