

Subject: EEL 3701: IMPORTANT Info and ****PURCHASES REQUIRED****

From: "Eric M. Schwartz" <ems@ufl.edu>

Date: 12/17/2025, 11:25 AM

Spring 2026 EEL3701C student:

Welcome to EEL3701: Digital Logic and Computer Systems. I'm Dr. Schwartz, the course instructor. 3701 is a very important course, and one that I hope that you find very interesting. Please read this **ENTIRE** email carefully to be sure that you understand some of the important aspects of this course.

The course lectures and labs will be **ENTIRELY** synchronous and in-person. This means that your lectures and labs will occur at the times specified when you registered. Nothing will be Zoomed this semester, other than our practicals and exams (and some office hours). The practicals and exams will also use Honorlock, as will our lab quizzes.

Since practicals and exams will be administered remotely, all students will need a functioning webcam with microphone, and relatively high speed and stable internet connection (minimum upload and download bandwidths of 2 Mbps) through which you can participate. If you don't have the bandwidth or any of this hardware, you must secure these in order to participate in the course. (Note that **neither** headphones **nor** earbuds are allowed during Honorlock administered assignments. i.e., you will need speakers.) You will also need a smartphone with which you can scan documents to submit for the course, both for labs and during practicals and exams.

You will receive **SOME** items for your labs during your first lab (Lab 0), starting Monday, January 26th. There will be no labs before January 26th.

There is **NO NEED** to buy a **NEW** textbook, but access to a textbook **IS** required. This [link](#) will provide info with some textbook purchasing options. You can share a used book with a couple of other students, rent a textbook, or rent an electronic version of the textbook. An enhanced 7th edition has been available for a few years now. It is not necessary, as even the 5th edition of this textbook will meet our purposes. The textbook will **NOT** be needed during the first week of classes.

If you do NOT already own an **Diligent Analog Discovery (DAD)**, good news! The ECE department will supply you with a DAD-3 to use at no cost to you! You will not own this DAD, but will be borrowing it from ECE. ECE and CpE students will need to return it just prior to their BS graduation; students with other majors will need to return it at the end of the semester. A DAD is required for this course (and many other ECE courses); it will be used in most labs and during two of our (practical) exams. (If you already own a DAD, any working version of the DAD is okay, including the original versions, the DAD-1 and DAD-2.) Students in the course **cannot** share the devices, since everyone will need their own during two of our (practical) exams. —

Students will also be given a [DE10-lite](#) PLD PCB. All students will return the DE10-lite at the end of the semester. Students will need to **PURCHASE additional** parts **soon**, prior to your first lab. **Note that due to the recently imposed tariffs, some prices have gone up significantly since the summer semester.** These miscellaneous components will be used in our labs and practicals and are required.

The items that you need to purchase are listed on page two of the syllabus at https://mil.ufl.edu/3701/admin/syl_s26.pdf. A local company, [OOTB Electronics and Robotics](#), can provide either all of the parts (**Complete 3701 Kit**) or some of the parts (**3701 Parts Only**, without the required large and small breadboards and wire kit). Items from OOTB are now available for purchasing. An online company, [Jameco](#), can alternatively supply the parts. If you don't have them already, you will need a large bread board (the one from OOTB is more than 30% larger), a wire kit, and a small breadboard: [Jameco Part #: 20774](#), [Jameco Part #: 19290](#), [Jameco Part #: 2283767](#), respectively. You will also need several other parts specified in the syllabus that Jameco also sells.

Also, each student will need their own laptop PC for use in some lectures, all labs, and during our practicals and exams. It must be capable of running Windows software. If necessary, this may mean installing a virtual machine on Mac or Linux computers.

One of the devices that we use requires a USB type A port and the other a USB type C port on your computer. If your laptop does not have these two USB ports (one for the DE10-lite PLD and one for your DAD), then you will need to buy a USB Port Expander (generally, \$7 to \$15, prior to the newly imposed tariffs) or USB type converters. Details of what might be needed is at the end of this email (under USB Requirements).

A preliminary syllabus is now posted; I'll continue to update it when I get new information. Our website is mil.ufl.edu/3701/; the website will be used to distribute documents for our course. We will also use Canvas (<https://ufl.instructure.com/>) for course submissions and raw grade posting.

Note that 3701 is a rigorous and time-intensive course. It requires **consistent effort**. But if you put in the effort, you will not only be successful in the course, but you will likely come to find that it was one of the most impactful courses that you ever took!

Our class has a Slack channel, eel3701.slack.com. I will ****REGULARLY**** post announcements to this account. I will **NOT** generally email announcements; I only send them via slack. Use this [invitation link](#) to get signed up (until January 7th). Getting slack messages in this course is VERY important. Previously, when I was using twitter instead of slack, I sent a hint about three hours previous to an exam and several students told me that they never saw it! I suggest that you install slack on both your cell phone and your computer.

All the best,

Dr. Schwarz
EEL3701C instructor, Spring 2026

P.S. Action items:

1. Purchase the required components from [OOTB](#) or elsewhere.
2. **If necessary, buy an appropriate USB port expander and/or USB converter and/or USB cable.**
3. **If necessary, buy a speaker or speakers** (since headphone or earbuds are not allowed during our exams and practicals).
4. **Get access to a textbook, hopefully by finding a cheap used one for yourself or that you can share.**

P.P.S. **For CSE or CSC students:** EEL3701C is no longer required (i.e., there are other options) for either of these majors. I believe that 3701 is an **excellent course** and **extremely valuable** to both CSE and CSC majors, but it is a rigorous and time-intensive course.

P.P.S. If any of your friends might be interested in taking 3701, please encourage them to do sign up on the waiting list. As of today, **ALL OF THE SECTIONS** have one space remaining, but there is a waiting list waiting for these spaces to be released. There are usually many drops during the first week of the semester. I regularly have students who graduated from UF tell me about how critical this course was for them.

USB requirements:

You will get two USB connected items for our labs. The **DE10-lite** comes with a type A male to type B male USB cable (with the type B male USB side plugged into the DE10-lite and the type A male side plugged into the USB computer port). The new **DAD-3** has a USB-C cable (male to male). (Older DADs [DAD-1 and DAD-2] have USB-A connection to the PC.)

One solutions, if you have a shortage or the wrong kind of USB ports, is to get a USB hub like one of those below.



Alternatively, if you have two USB C ports on there computer, you could get one of the below adapters for the DE10-lite



or you could get a new a USB C to USB A cable (below).



If you have two USB A ports on your computers, you could get one of the below adapters for the DAD-3



or a new a USB A to USB B cable (below).



If you are unsure, please bring your laptop to a PI during office hours and they will help you decide the best solution.

Dr. Eric M. Schwartz
Director, Machine Intel. Lab (MIL)
Master Lecturer/Instructional Professor
Dept. of Elec. & Comp. Engineering
Director, NaviGator AMS Project
Director, SubjuGator AUV Project
Director, PropaGator ASV Project
Faculty Advisor, IEEE UF Student Branch
Chair, IEEE Gainesville Section
University of Florida

Phone: (352) 392-2541
e-mail: ems@ufl.edu
<http://mil.ufl.edu/ems/>
1889 Museum Rd
Malachowsky Hall #3110
Gainesville, FL 32611

MIL Location: 3001 MALA
