

NORTHERN ARIZONA UNIVERSITY  
COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING, FORESTRY & NATURAL SCIENCES  
DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING & COMPUTER SCIENCE

EE 486C GUIDELINES: 486C POSTMORTEM REPORT (200 Points)

*Toddy*

The Postmortem report is a summary of the semester's activities. It is an individual writing exercise and will be graded on content, organization and English usage. It is in lieu of a final exam, so it will be due no later than 5:00PM on Thursday, May 12th. Please turn in an electronic copy in Word or pdf format. You will be penalized if you exceed or fall short of the word limits given below. No papers will be accepted after noon on Saturday, and papers turned in between Thursday at 5pm and Saturday at noon will receive a 10% penalty.

Your two part essay should be accompanied by a peer evaluation for the semester (see next page). The peer evaluation may substantially impact semester grades. Therefore it is very important that your peer evaluation ratings be fair and justifiable.

The postmortem report has two separate written sections that should each start on a new page. Be sure to use headings and subheadings to help organize your writing. Bulleted lists, tables and figures should be used if/when appropriate.

1st Essay: Prepare a 600-800 word synopsis of your role and contributions during the portion of the design process that your team went through this semester. Include 1) successes and difficulties you had in working on your project, 2) experience or knowledge that you gained and 3) lessons learned that you would like to pass on to future students. This can be a chronological account or it could be organized differently, just so that it focuses on your role and accomplishments and not on those primarily attributable to other team members. Also 4) give your individual assessment of your project's successes and failures in relation to the project design objectives, requirements and specifications.

2<sup>nd</sup> Essay: In this second 600-800 word essay, discuss the contribution that your general education classes (including English, all math, all science, and liberal studies electives) and the contribution that your technical classes (including EE, CS, EGR and other engineering) had in development of each of the three following skill/knowledge areas at NAU. For each of the three following skills/knowledge areas, write a section giving an overall assessment followed by how specific general education courses contributed to your development of each skill/knowledge area, followed by how specific technical courses contributed. The next section would address the second area and the last section the third area below:

1. Effective writing and English usage
2. Effective oral communication in communicating facts, ideas and concepts with a wide variety of people. This includes team/class members, vendors, faculty/technical advisors and/or client, and with the general public, family, etc.
3. Use of technology for accomplishing engineering analysis, design and testing. Also describe the technology and tools you employed in completing your assigned capstone project.