MSE 490 Research Course

Junior and senior students (or others receiving permission from the Program Advisor) wishing to do research for credit (MSE 490) must submit a proposal that includes this form, signed by you and your Advisor by the 3rd week of the same term of the project. A proposal is not required if you are only enrolling for 1 credit. Enrollment in MSE 490 implies a commitment of time each week, with the number of hours to be determined by your Faculty Research Advisor, of unpaid research.

In addition to your proposal, a final report covering your research must be written and submitted by the end of the term (by the end of finals) in which you are enrolled. Both the proposal and the final report must be submitted to both your Advisor and to the Undergraduate Program Office (after approval by the research advisor). If you fail to submit a final report, credit for your MSE 490 course will not count toward either the MSE Program Elective or as a Tech Elective.

Elements of the course:
1. Written Proposal (waived if enrolling for 1 credit)
2. Attendance at group meetings
3. Research
4. Analysis
5. Deliverable: One of the following depending on what the research advisor requires. Poster presentation (2 or 3 credits) Short report (1 credit) (or other deliverable approved by UG program advisor and research advisor, e.g., published paper, conference presentation, whiteboard video, etc.). The deliverable must be evaluated and graded by the research advisor before sending to the UG program advisor.

Please write a 2 or 3 page proposal with the following elements:
1. Title
2. Advisor
3. Project overview and objectives (~¾ page)
4. Background: literature review or information from research group (~1 page)
5. Questions and/or hypotheses (~¼ page)
6. How you plan to answer the questions and/or test your hypotheses (~¾ page)
7. Potential impacts of research to technology and/or society (~¾ page)
8. References
The proposal and this form must be approved by the research advisor. The signature below represents approval of the proposal and project. Both the proposal and form must be submitted together.

MSE 490 Project in the _______________________ Research Group

Term: ____________, Credit hours: ___________.

Student Name: ___________________________________________

ID: ______________

E-mail address:______________________________________________

Faculty Research Advisor Name: _______________________________________

Faculty signature (represents approval of both the proposal and the project):
________________________________________________________

Statement to be signed by student:

I have read the requirements for a MSE 490 project and understand the expected work requirement, including meetings with my Advisor. I understand that I will not receive either MSE Program Elective or Tech Elective credit if I do not submit a final report. The final report will document what I have achieved in this research project, and how the educational objectives and outcomes described in this proposal were met.

Signature: ___________________________ Date: ___________

UG Advisor approved__________________________________