

**CALIFORNIA STATE POLYTECHNIC UNIVERSITY, POMONA**  
**College of Engineering**

**ETT 101 Intro to ET**  
**Winter 2013**

*Journal*

The main purpose of this course is to enhance your success as a student and as a person. You will learn about various strategies that will help you to succeed as a student. We will talk about why it is important to be responsible for your attitudes and actions, how to motivate yourself, how to increase your awareness about your potential and many other issues related to your success.

As in any other course, just learning new information will not by itself make you a successful student. For example, in a calculus course you listen to a professor explaining you new concepts and showing you how to solve problems, but to actually be able to solve problems yourself, it is important to practice solving problems by yourself. Similarly, in order to become a successful student, it is not merely enough to listen to information how to achieve this, or even to agree with this information. In addition to learning about how to become a successful student, practicing developing new attitudes and new behaviors is absolute necessity for success.

The objective for this assignment is for you to reflect on how practicing various strategies help you to achieve your goal. You will be asked to choose the most challenging course in this quarter, to set a goal to get a specific grade in this course (not less than B) and apply certain strategies in this particular course. You will record the results of your efforts in this journal. Hereafter, the selected most challenging course will be referred to as *the chosen course*. The entire journal will consist of the following categories (in the parenthesis is the grading percent for each category of the entire grade for this course):

1. **Notes taken in class (2%).** Buy a spiral notebook for taking notes in the chosen course. At the end of the quarter, you will submit this notebook for grading.
2. **Time log in Excel sheet (2%).** You will keep a daily time log of time spent studying for the chosen course. According to your personal schedule, you will be asked to allocate time for studying for the chosen course, so that you will study consistently and read material before each lecture. You must commit yourself to spend this time exclusively for studying for the chosen course; it must be absolutely sacred time just like your work time (if you work). Time log will reflect how well you follow your plans.
3. **Excuses log in Word document (2%).** For each allocated study time slot that you did not use to study for the chosen course, you will write down an explanation why you did not study in this time as expected. This will assist you to identify the most common excuses that prevent you from achieving your goal, and possibly will help you adjust your schedule or your habits accordingly.
4. **Reading reflections in Word document (4%).** After each reading or preparation for the next lecture, write down 3-5 sentences about what you have learned and any questions, issues or perspectives that you gained from reading.

5. **Reports about visiting your professor during office hours (2%).** You will be required to prepare questions on a topic or a concept and ask them your professor. In the report you will describe your visit and reflect on how helpful it was and how you could do it even more beneficial for you. At least two such reports (one-two paragraphs) will be required.
6. **Reports about group studies (2%).** In your report you will write about how many students were in your group study, describe what you were working on, whether you got a chance to explain something to other students, and reflect on how beneficial it was, and how you could organize the group study to make it more organized, structured and more efficient. At least two (one-two paragraphs) reports will be required.
7. **Other weekly journal-specific assignments (4%).** Please see the class's website for each weekly journal-specific assignment.
8. **Final report (2%)** about what you have learned in ETT 101 that you found helpful, what strategies you applied, and how your attitudes and behaviors changed (one-two pages).

You will be required to submit a weekly report toward your journal assignment that will contain weekly time log, excuse log, reading reflections and other weekly journal-specific assignments. The rest of categories of Journal assignment, namely, professor meeting reports, group study reports and final report, will be due on Sunday, 03/17/2013, at 9:00am, i.e. by the end of 10<sup>th</sup> week. The notebooks with notes is due during lab 10, 03/13/2013, by 5:50pm.