

**ENGR 212L: Linear Circuit Theory**  
**Department of Engineering, Trinity College, Spring 2026**

**Instructor:** Dr. Taikang Ning, Professor of Engineering

**Office hours:** Tue 11-11:50AM & Wed 10-10:50 AM or by appointment @MECC-343

**Lectures:** Tue & Thurs. 9:25AM -10:40 AM @MECC-246

**Course outline:** This course covers the basics of linear circuit theory. Topics include: node and mesh analysis of linear circuits, natural and forced responses of first-and second-order resistor-capacitor-inductor (RLC) circuits, operational amplifiers, passive and active filter design, and three-phase circuit in power systems. Laplace transform and Fourier series will be used to facilitate solving linear circuit equations. Laboratory experiments are included in this course to improve hands-on experience in circuit design and analysis.

**Textbook:** *Introduction to Electric Circuits* by J.A. Svoboda and R.C. Dorf (9<sup>th</sup> Edition)

**Grading:** Midterm Exam 30%, Final Exam-35%, Assignments 10%, Labs 25%;

**Week**

**Lecture Topics**

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|------------|---|
| 1. 1/20,22 | Base units and derived units of electric circuit variables<br>Linear circuit elements: resistor (R), capacitor (C) and inductor (L) |
| 2. 1/27,29 | Resistors, Kirchoff's current law (KCL), current and voltage division<br>Node analysis of electric circuits                         |
| 3. 2/3,5   | Node Analysis Mesh analysis of electric circuits  |
| 4. 2/10,12 | Mesh Analysis of electric circuits  |
| 5. 2/17    | Simplification of electric circuits; theorem<br>Thevenin's and Norton's equivalent circuits   |
| 6. 2/24,26 | Basic properties of operational amplifiers (OP-AMP)   |

7. 3/3,5 Commonly used OP-AMP circuits  
First order linear resistor-inductor (RL) and resistor-capacitor (RC) circuits,
8. 3/10,12 Time responses of RL and RC circuits  
**Midterm Exam 3/12**
9. 3/24,26 Solving the 1<sup>st</sup> order LDEs using the Laplace transform  
Natural responses of resistor-inductor-capacitor (RLC) circuits
10. 3/31,4/2 Forced responses of RLC circuits  
Solving the 2<sup>nd</sup> order LDEs with the Laplace transform
11. 4/7,9 Fourier transform (FT)- time domain to frequency domain
12. 4/14,16 Frequency response of linear circuits for sinusoidal inputs
13. 4/21,23 Calculation of frequency response of RLC circuits  
Low-pass, high-pass, and band-pass filters
14. 4/28 Active filter design using OP-AMPs

**Calendar Reminder**

- Trinity Days: 2/19,20
- Spring Vacation: 3/14-22
- Last day of class: 4/29
- **Final Exam: 5/6 @9AM**

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