ME 195b Individual Writing Assignment    Due March 16, 2016

This assignment is required since ME 195a/b are now counted as GE courses when taken in conjunction with Engr 195a/b. The assignment is required of all students, even if you took different S and V courses.

In ME 195a, you wrote a paper addressing how your project may affect society--locally and/or globally--if implemented and how human behavior will affect the success of your design.

Expand upon that assignment, using what you learned in Engr 195a/b (or your other S/V courses) to do a more comprehensive analysis. Now that you have a final design, you will also be able to address some of the questions more fully (such as the environmental impact). In addition, add a new section discussing the following elements, as they apply to your project:

- How would you recommend changing your design, if at all, if your project were to be implemented in a country with a distinctly different culture than in the United States? For example, if you implemented your design in China, would the different social and cultural norms necessitate changes to the final design? Feel free to address only one culture as an example. Back up your recommendations with research.

- What human, social, and cultural barriers may result in difficulties implementing your project in a country outside of the United States? Feel free to address only one culture as an example.

- In what ways may your project malfunction to harm public health?

- In what ways could your project harm public health or society, even if used properly? In what ways could it benefit public health?

- In what ways could your project be mis-used in such a way to harm someone's health?

Length: This assignment must be a minimum of 900 words (approx. 3 pages double spaced), but you may use part or all of your ME 195a individual assignment as a starting point.

If this assignment doesn’t relate well to your project, feel free to write about a design closely related to your project. For example, one project last year involved designing and testing a pulsating heat pipe. This device is to be used in communications satellites, which can be used for cell phones (as one example). In that case, the team members could apply this assignment to cell phones instead of pulsating heat pipes if they wish.

As a reminder, the assignment that you had in ME 195a is shown below:

ME 195a Writing Assignment

Those of you in Engr 195a and b – or other S and V courses -- will be addressing issues related to self, society, and equality in the United States (SJSU Studies area S) and culture, civilization, and global understanding (SJSU Studies area V). In your senior project classes, we want you to examine how these
issues relate to the work you do as engineers. **This assignment is for all ME 195a students whether you are in Engr 195a or not.**

In this assignment, address how your project may affect society--locally and/or globally--if implemented and how human behavior will affect the success of your design.

The following are a list of questions to help you start thinking about this analysis. Not all questions will apply to all projects, and this list is not necessarily comprehensive.

- What global, social or cultural influences have led to a need for your project? (Everyone should be able to address this question.)

- If implemented on a wide scale, how will your project result in greater equality and social justice?

- How will your design help create an even playing field for underprivileged people?

- What human, social, and cultural barriers may result in difficulties implementing your project?

- How may society’s perception of your project result in difficulties during implementation?

- What may be the environmental impact of your project over its life cycle?

- What may be the effect on public health or society? How will your project affect quality of life?

If you are developing a component that will be used within a larger system, you are welcome to relate these questions to the design and use of the larger system, rather than the individual component that you are designing. Some of these questions cannot be addressed fully until you have a final design. In your second semester you will be asked to address these topics again so that you can do a more complete analysis, informed by your final design.

You need to write enough to do a thorough job, but the minimum requirement is 600 words (approx. two pages double-spaced).

This is an individual assignment (not one per team). The assignment will be input through Turnitin.com to check for plagiarism. For most sections you will need to turn this in via Canvas, but check with your instructor to be sure.