

I was taking Prof. Allen's ECE 298 JA class, "Concepts in Mathematics," in my first semester of the freshman year. As an international student, I was worried if I could catch up with new Mathematical concepts or jargons in English. When I talked about my worries to the advisor, she recommended me to take this class, which would go through most of Mathematics that I would need for my major. Amazingly, within just one semester, the class covered broad range of Mathematics deeply related to Engineering. I did not realise how broad it was until I took other courses later. The course basically went through most of theories I encountered. For example, it introduced eigenvectors and Gaussian elimination which was covered in MATH 415, various transforms in ECE 210, or Maxwell's equation and wave equation in ECE 329. The course did not just end up with theory but also explained how the theory could be applied to interpret circuitry. Taking Prof. Allen's lecture really helped me to understand the materials in higher level courses as they were already familiar to me. Engineering is a strenuous major and obtaining background knowledge really is important when dealing with hard courses. I think department should offer more of this kind of courses so that every future engineer can be ready for classes.