

Dear future students,

The three weeks I spent in Nick's class just arrived at their end. Looking back, I'm amazed all that time has already passed; it has been some of the most rewarding time I've ever spent during a summer break.

I'm not going to lie to you. The pace of this class is relentless. It's a lot of material packed into a small time frame. In fact, the material was not spread out over all three weeks, but covered entirely within the first week and a half. The first couple of days cover fairly straightforward material, but you'll quickly find yourself diving deeper into linear algebra, until you finally (to paraphrase Nick) 'understand the 5000th dimension.' And that's only the beginning. There is going to be a lot of work during study hours. Except for the last day or two, I found myself using and even on occasion working past the three hours designated daily for study time. Regardless, Nick never left anyone behind so long as they spoke up. He encouraged us to speak up during his lectures and constantly asked us questions to be sure that we were actively learning and understanding.

One of the many things I enjoyed about Nick's class was that he never limited his teaching (or guiding, as he might say) strictly to electrical engineering. Every day at the start of class he would challenge us to think about a statement he wrote up on the board. Often these would be arguments laced with logical fallacies. He encouraged us to discuss these arguments and to rewrite them without logical flaws. Along with the daily tangents, Nick also taught us related concepts of our choice after we had covered all of the course material. This ranged from calculus to circuitry to why the world might end.

Although it was a lot of work, I learned a lot during these short three weeks. I had an amazing time at SPCS in and out of class. I encourage you all to challenge yourself as much as you can; not having to worry about a grade here allows you to take academic risks. Absorb as much as you can while you can.

Good luck and enjoy the arm circles,

Grayson