Socially Relevant Professional Practice:

Problem Solving and Ethical Decision

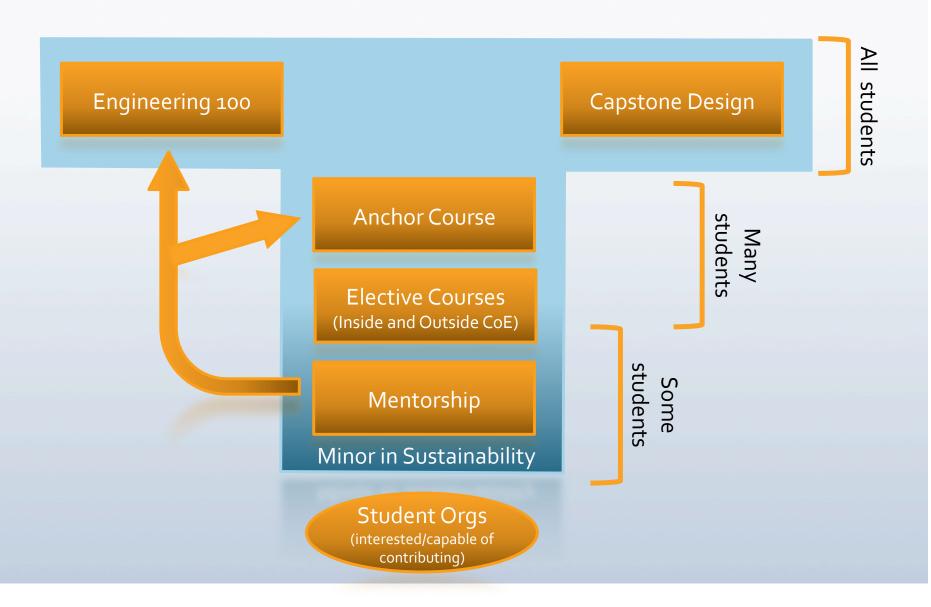
Making Through Service Learning

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Curriculum Commission

- Sustainability and Connections of Engineering to Society
- Professional Ethics Education
- College Ethics and Sustainability Courses
- Provision of Teaching Resources
- Curriculum Committee Oversight

Implementation Team

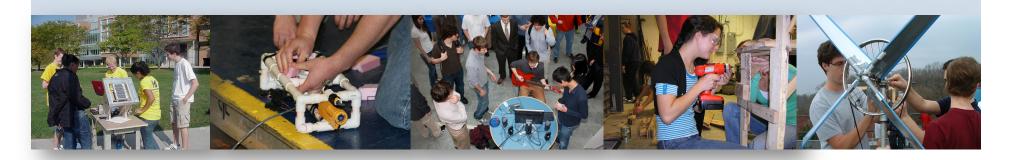


Proposed Learning Objectives

- Explain the different ethical and sustainability frameworks from which engineering decisions might be made
- Identify multi-faceted implications of engineering decisions (environmental, public health, ethical, legal, political and economic) and identify impacts of technological solutions across the full spectrum of stakeholders and time scales
- Evaluate and communicate trade-offs between economic interest, social concerns, environmental impact and ethical considerations and use this evaluation to make engineering decisions
- Demonstrate the ability to apply judgment in decision contexts that mimic the real world

Engineering 100

- Project-based experiential learning course
- Introduces students to the professional skills required of engineers
 - technical communications
 - technical problem solving and the creative engineering design process
 - teamwork and team management
 - the ethics of engineering practice
 - the influence of engineers on society
 - environmental sustainability and decision-making



Learning Outcomes

- Basic Ethics/Sustainability Frameworks/Concepts
- Case Study and Design Project
 - Identify unintended consequences
 - Presence of risk
 - Comprehensive list of stakeholders and interests
 - Conflicting interests
 - Decision-making process

See handout for details

Engineers Making a Difference

- Service-Learning Curriculum
- Power of the Partnership
 - Social Sustainability
 - Real Solutions for Real People Motivation
- Responsibility of Engineers for Solving World Problems
 - Local Focus on World Hunger Food Insecurity in Urban America
- Case studies linking engineering, sustainability and ethics
 - The real cost of food...
- Underlying Keys
 - Developing the maturity to see more than one side of an issue,
 - Identification of conflicting issues,
 - Developing the habit of reflection
 - Practice in reflective judgment in the service of more informed defensible decisions



