All ECE Graduate Students are required to register for (any section) and attend a one (1) credit Graduate Seminar Course (ECE 793 in Fall and ECE 794 in Spring semesters) each and every semester that they are enrolled for course credits and in residence. ECE 793/794 are graded as Pass/Fail based on attendance. These one credit seminars do not count towards University degree eligibility, however, attendance is an ECE departmental requirement for graduation.

Students must register/enroll for Seminar (ECE 793/794) before the end of the Add/Drop period for a given semester or no credit will be given. No one will remind students to register. To verify enrollment, please check final semester schedule on SPIRE. Students are responsible to understand the importance of ECE Seminar attendance as a departmental graduation requirement.

Seminars are scheduled on weekdays usually from 4:00-5:00 p.m. All seminars are announced on the ECE website (http://www.ecs.umass.edu/ece/lectures/), sent out by email and are posted on the seminar board near graduate student mailboxes in Marcus Hall. Seminar announcements include the name of the research area and indicate if required for graduate students in that area.

Students are required to attend the majority (simple) of SEMINARS in their assigned area (determined by primary research area of student’s advisor).

Students on PROGRAM FEE or Industrial Program students enrolled only in off campus courses, DO NOT have to register for Seminar during that semester. All students in residence (on Campus) are required to enroll for ECE 793/794 and attend required seminars in their area.

A maximum of two (2) excused absences are permitted per semester, the exception being if a class or lab is in conflict with the seminar day and time for the whole semester. To be excused from a seminar absence students must submit a Seminar Exemption Form signed by their advisor, and submitted to the ECE Graduate Office (210 Marcus). Exemption forms are available on the ECE website and can be found on the graduate student bulletin board in Marcus Hall.

Students must attend and sign the attendance sheet for the majority (simple majority) of required seminars in a given semester or they will Fail the seminar course for that semester. Submitted excused absence forms (no more than 2 per semester) count as attended. It is up to each student to keep track of his/her seminar attendance. Each student must be certain that he/she has completed and signed the seminar attendance sheet for each seminar. Seminar grades are recorded on your permanent transcript records.

If you have any questions about seminar registration and/or attendance, PLEASE do not hesitate to ask the Academic Programs Manager, Graduate Program Director or your faculty advisor.

IMPORTANT REMINDERS:
- Register for Seminar (ECE 793/794, any section) every semester you are in residence! Notify the Academic Programs Manager immediately if all sections of Seminar are closed to enrollment.
- Seminar grading (Pass/Fail) is based on proof of attendance
- Be sure to sign the attendance sheet at each seminar or you will not be given credit for attendance.
- STUDENTS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR KEEPING TRACK OF THEIR SEMINAR PARTICIPATION.