Important!
Project and Final Exam Info for EECE696

Project Grading

As stated in the course syllabus, the project portion of the course is worth 30% of your total grade. This 30% will be determined as follows:

- 5% for each of the 4 project assignments (Full credit on project assignment 1 if you turned it in)
- 10% for final project layout and integration. The score on this portion will be the same for all members of your company. To obtain full credit, your company must deliver a final layout suitable for submission to MOSIS and show convincing evidence that the final layout has been carefully checked and will work when fabricated. A recommended way to provide this evidence is to show that the individual designs have been simulated following extraction, and to demonstrate to me using the 's' command that all connections from the pad frame to the circuits, and between circuits are correct.

Final Project Layout Due Date

The final project layout(s) must be submitted and demonstrated by Friday of exam week. If you must leave before that date, be certain that your portion of the design is fully integrated and checked, and that someone from your company will be present to submit the full layout.

Final Exam Options

As previously stated in class, you will have the option of taking a traditional final exam (on Tuesday Dec 14 from 2:00 to 3:50), or of creating a web page documenting your project. Whichever option you choose will count as 20% of your total grade as stated in the syllabus.

If you choose to take the traditional in-class final, you must notify me *in writing* that you wish to do so by Friday, Dec 10, at 5pm. The in-class final will be similar in difficulty to the midterm, and will be cumulative, covering the full semester lectures.

If you wish to create a web page instead of taking the in-class final, refer to the detailed instructions below. The web page deliverables must be turned in on or before Friday, Dec 17 at 5pm.

Copyright Ownership

By electing the web page option to the final exam, you agree to allow your page to be posted on a department web page with visibility inside and outside the KSU campus. Aside from this requirement, you may place any restrictions you wish on the use of your page. For example, you may add a "Copy-left" as Linux software does, requiring anyone who uses your work to keep you copyright notice, giving you credit for the design.

Required Web Page Elements

To provide some uniformity in the pages and an adaquet basis for grading, you must include the following elements in your page:

- A copy of the overall chip block diagram (preferably with your portion highlighted)
- Supporting text explaining what your portion is and how it fits in with the overall chip design
- Schematic(s) of your circuits, including component reference designators (e.g. M1, M2, etc.) and W/L values
- Supporting text explaining the operation of your circuits.
- Simulation results supporting the schematic and circuit description above
- Layout(s) showing your design
- Brief supporting text explaining the layout(s)
- A summary of testing you have done, including expected performance variations with process corners and temperature (if applicable to your design)

Web Page Authoring Recommendations

Unless you are experienced with HTML or with a specific web authoring tool, I recommend you use Netscape Communicator to create your page. This software is available on both the Windows and Linux systems in the lab and works like a standard word processor, except that you can add links, page backgrounds, and other web things. Don't spend your energy on these detailed formatting issues until after you have created the required content specified above. Once the content is in place, you can easily 'jazz-up' your page if desired.

One significant issue you will encounter is how to put graphics into your page. I recommend you capture layouts and simulations using XV as in homeworks, and save these in GIF format. Then you can just use Insert>Image from the Composer program menus. For your schematics, you may create these in any program you wish to use that can save to GIF or JPG formats (the standard web file formats read by any browser). As a last resort, if you run out of time, you can scan in graphics - but this will make your page very big and not very usable by someone trying to download with a 28.8 modem (too many bytes).

Finally, make sure you name your files using you initials at the beginning of them. This will avoid any potential for collision with other people's files (and resulting erasure of them!).

Uploading and Testing Your Page

I have created a special account on the machine 'pcs' in our department and have placed subdirectories under a .html directory for you and your teammates to install your files. I recommend that you use ftp to move files, since I have not been successful with using Composer's 'Publish' button. (Please see me or a classmate if you have trouble uploading your files and getting them to appear on the web).

Deliverables and Grading

You must provide me with a printout of your page in addition to installing it onto the 'pcs' machine account. As in your project assignments, grading of pages will be based on completeness, correctness, and overall technical and presentation quality.