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Thompson

CPRE 494

### General Elective Reflection

During my time at Iowa State University I was required to take a few general education electives for my degree. The ones I chose to take were Philosophy 201, Management 310, Women's Studies 201, and German 375.

I went into the Philosophy class my freshman year thinking it will not be helpful to my major at all or beneficial to me in any way. I was very gladly wrong. Philosophy helped cement the required logic used in CPRE 281 or Digital Logic. The memory maps for all possible values were made much easier due to assignments in Philosophy. We even covered De Morgan's Law as a way to disprove Skepticism in Philosophy. I learned so much more than I thought I would have in the class.

In Management 310, we learned why and how businesses operate and how to guide the entrepreneurial spirit. Throughout the entire semester I related each of the concepts back to a previous internship where I disagreed with the route management was taking the product. Their decisions made a lot more sense once I learned the business aspect behind the decisions. This will help me immensely once I am working full time and if I run across disagreements with management again. This class also helped me learn and understand what goes on when a company axes a product or creates a new product with virtually no use case.

Women's Studies 201 was originally taken to join a friend in the class. I had always wondered why my sister calls me everytime she walks to her car or on the street at night but this

class was eye opening. The amount of harassment women face daily is sickening. Now if my sister mentions she is going anywhere, I call her first and offer to stay on the line even if she does not want to talk so she knows there is someone else listening. I learned about the struggles women have faced in the past and the ones they still continue to face. Solely due to this class I am more empathetic and willing to help out others in need.

German 375 or the class on Grimm's Brothers and their fairy tales is the class I am currently in and have been more able to read into texts and discover hidden or double meanings. It has also taught me about German culture and daily life back in the 1800's.

Overall I am glad I chose these classes. I never thought I would have gained as much knowledge as I did in the classes outside of my major. These have made me and the others who took them more of a well rounded person and better human being overall.