

<b><u>Question</u></b>	<b><u>Answer</u></b>
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Title of Paper	Introduction to Engineering Course at Gonzaga University
Abstract	<p>Many universities have converted their freshman Introduction to Engineering courses from lecture format to a hands-on learning format. These changes increase student engagement in their courses and often increase first year retention. During fall semester 2011 Gonzaga University replaced their traditional Introduction to Engineer course with a hands-on lab course for these same reasons. The new course was a single credit lab to fit within the first year required courses. Lab activities explored beginning topics in Civil, Electrical, Computer, and Mechanical engineering. At the conclusion of the course the students were asked for feedback of aspects of the course that were useful and aspects that were not. The feedback was described as a way for them to help improve the course for future students. This paper presents the structure and supporting rationale for the Gonzaga course, and the lab activities identified by the students as being more engaging. The purposes of the paper and presentation are to disseminate the better lab activity ideas and to generate discussion and collaboration for instructors of similar courses.</p>