



Fundamentals of Engineering (FE) ELECTRICAL AND COMPUTER CBT Exam Specifications

Effective Beginning with the July 2020 Examinations

- The FE exam is a computer-based test (CBT). It is closed book with an electronic reference.
- Examinees have 6 hours to complete the exam, which contains 110 questions. The 6-hour time also includes a tutorial and an optional scheduled break.
- The FE exam uses both the International System of Units (SI) and the U.S. Customary System (USCS).

Knowledge	Number of Questions
1. Mathematics	11–17
A. Algebra and trigonometry	
B. Complex numbers	
C. Discrete mathematics	
D. Analytic geometry	
E. Calculus (e.g., differential, integral, single-variable, multivariable)	
F. Ordinary differential equations	
G. Linear algebra	
H. Vector analysis	
2. Probability and Statistics	4–6
A. Measures of central tendencies and dispersions (e.g., mean, mode, standard deviation)	
B. Probability distributions (e.g., discrete, continuous, normal, binomial, conditional probability)	
C. Expected value (weighted average)	
3. Ethics and Professional Practice	4–6
A. Codes of ethics (e.g., professional and technical societies, NCEES <i>Model Law</i> and <i>Model Rules</i>)	
B. Intellectual property (e.g., copyright, trade secrets, patents, trademarks)	
C. Safety (e.g., grounding, material safety data, PPE, radiation protection)	
4. Engineering Economics	5–8
A. Time value of money (e.g., present value, future value, annuities)	
B. Cost estimation	
C. Risk identification	
D. Analysis (e.g., cost-benefit, trade-off, break-even)	

5. Properties of Electrical Materials	4–6
A. Semiconductor materials (e.g., tunneling, diffusion/drift current, energy bands, doping bands, p-n theory)	
B. Electrical (e.g., conductivity, resistivity, permittivity, magnetic permeability, noise)	
C. Thermal (e.g., conductivity, expansion)	
6. Circuit Analysis (DC and AC Steady State)	11–17
A. KCL, KVL	
B. Series/parallel equivalent circuits	
C. Thevenin and Norton theorems	
D. Node and loop analysis	
E. Waveform analysis (e.g., RMS, average, frequency, phase, wavelength)	
F. Phasors	
G. Impedance	
7. Linear Systems	5–8
A. Frequency/transient response	
B. Resonance	
C. Laplace transforms	
D. Transfer functions	
8. Signal Processing	5–8
A. Sampling (e.g., aliasing, Nyquist theorem)	
B. Analog filters	
C. Digital filters (e.g., difference equations, Z-transforms)	
9. Electronics	7–11
A. Models, biasing, and performance of discrete devices (e.g., diodes, transistors, thyristors)	
B. Amplifiers (e.g., single-stage/common emitter, differential, biasing)	
C. Operational amplifiers (e.g., ideal, nonideal)	
D. Instrumentation (e.g., measurements, data acquisition, transducers)	
E. Power electronics (e.g., rectifiers, inverters, converters)	
10. Power Systems	8–12
A. Power theory (e.g., power factor, single and three phase, voltage regulation)	
B. Transmission and distribution (e.g., real and reactive losses, efficiency, voltage drop, delta and wye connections)	
C. Transformers (e.g., single-phase and three-phase connections, reflected impedance)	
D. Motors and generators (e.g., synchronous, induction, dc)	
11. Electromagnetics	4–6
A. Electrostatics/magnetostatics (e.g., spatial relationships, vector analysis)	
B. Electrodynamics (e.g., Maxwell equations, wave propagation)	
C. Transmission lines (high frequency)	

12. Control Systems	6–9
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Block diagrams (e.g. feedforward, feedback) B. Bode plots C. Closed-loop response, open-loop response, and stability D. Controller performance (e.g., steady-state errors, settling time, overshoot) 	
13. Communications	5–8
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Basic modulation/demodulation concepts (e.g., AM, FM, PCM) B. Fourier transforms/Fourier series C. Multiplexing (e.g., time division, frequency division, code division) D. Digital communications 	
14. Computer Networks	4–6
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Routing and switching B. Network topologies (e.g., mesh, ring, star) C. Network types (e.g., LAN, WAN, internet) D. Network models (e.g., OSI, TCP/IP) E. Network intrusion detection and prevention (e.g., firewalls, endpoint detection, network detection) F. Security (e.g., port scanning, network vulnerability testing, web vulnerability testing, penetration testing, security triad) 	
15. Digital Systems	8–12
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Number systems B. Boolean logic C. Logic gates and circuits D. Logic minimization (e.g., SOP, POS, Karnaugh maps) E. Flip-flops and counters F. Programmable logic devices and gate arrays G. State machine design H. Timing (e.g., diagrams, asynchronous inputs, race conditions and other hazards) 	
16. Computer Systems	5–8
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Microprocessors B. Memory technology and systems C. Interfacing 	
17. Software Engineering	4–6
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Algorithms (e.g., sorting, searching, complexity, big-O) B. Data structures (e.g., lists, trees, vectors, structures, arrays) C. Software implementation (e.g., iteration, conditionals, recursion, control flow, scripting, testing) 	