How has this course changed you?

I learned to embrace reading datasheets, hacking things together, and learning by failing. The course has provided me a foundation of skills and confidence to explore digital design and fabrication. While I've always had an interest in making, I now also feel like it is a possibility.

I am a different learner and person than when I entered this course. Although I don't know all the answers I feel more confident in my ability to figure it out, whether that is through sheer trial and error, masterful crafting or google searches, or reaching out to my peers. The environment that Rob created in our shop was one of the most supportive creative learning communities I have ever been a part of. If nothing else, I am taking away how powerful it is to push yourself to your limits, especially when you are crossing the finish line hand in hand with your peers. Everyone's success in this course felt like a team effort and that is a beautiful thing.
It has overall been a great experience - I have learned many new fabrication techniques, but more importantly, I feel I have developed a much more proactive and empowered attitude towards rapid prototyping. Also, a lot of the design elements of the course (e.g. 3D CAD software) were a nice bonus which I had not anticipated.

Going in, I had no clue how to make something in electronics - I didn't know where to start. I also had no idea of a design process or fabrication technique for making 3D objects. I now feel comfortable starting projects in any of these domains and projects that integrate these (and integrate software, too), and have useful mental handles for thinking about what it will take to create something.

It has provided me with insight on the envisioning, design and fabrication of random things (almost anything). It has widened my knowledge in all sorts of useful industries, engineering types, possibilities in innovation. It has made me want to pursue at least in the short term the building of things and electronics, and also in the long term possibly a career in design and fabrication.
Immensely. Having started with almost no background, I now feel much more competent and knowledgeable. A whole new realm has been opened to me, and I'm excited to explore more of it and to incorporate what I've learned into my life and work.

I learned that there are many ways to make things at pretty low cost. I found the electronics work most interesting and useful, as it's a ridiculously fast, extensible workflow.

I have always enjoyed making things, but this course has shown me ways to make functional things beyond just arts and crafts. Now when I see something that I haven't seen before, I will start thinking about how it is made and how it works internally. More importantly, I feel that this course has "initiated" me into a community of creative and resourceful makers, from whom I will always be able to learn new things in the future. This course has instilled a passion for digital fabrication in me as well as many of my like-minded classmates; I feel very fortunate to be part of this class.
this was the best class i've ever taken, and i've learned so much. i'm really excited and confident about future projects.

I am more confident and now where to start if I have to develop a functional hardware application. I also met a community.

I understand how simple pieces of Technology are put together. I am more interested in learning. I can integrate the new skills I've learned in my own work and research.

I feel much more comfortable designing and creating my own devices and physical projects, and I feel better prepared to hack with others. I made friends, created an online portfolio, and I gained an appreciation for how the everyday things around me were made.
With no exaggeration this class was one of the most rewarding experiences I have had in my academic career. I came into this class with interest in a lot of these areas, having always considered myself a person that builds things, and this class just took that to another level. If filled so many knowledge gaps that I had, and exposed me to the resources I need to continue to learn these skills going forward. I have noticed a change in the approach I take to my own work as a result of this class. The concept of 'Spiral Design' is a big part of this course, build something simple and then make it better. I have been able to use this more and more in other areas. For instance, if I am trying to build an data analysis workflow, instead of trying to build it immediately with every feature I would like, I built an initial end to end version and then go back and improve it. My confidence in computer programming took a huge jump over this past semester. I came to realize how my more of my time on a computer was being spend within the command line or script editing software. This class also oddly restored my faith for the possibility of teamwork in an academic and/or professional setting. The group of students in this class and how we worked together was incredible. This may have been partially due to the fact that we were all so out of our depth that there was no shame in admitting ignorance on a
topic. However, we all knew something, so there was opportunity for reciprocating knowledge. Also, there is never a 'right' answer in this class, it's primarily an exercise in understanding and expression, so there was no zero-sum mentality of someone else's success diminishing your own success. If you did figure something out on your own, you were so satisfied with that accomplishment that you wanted to share it with the person who was still struggling.

I am more aware of some of the tools available for modern fabrication, and have some idea of how to utilize them.

I met very interesting people. Although I missed the hidden part of the iceberg, I have some knowledge/tools to start building things myself.
This course has given me a considerable amount of confidence in the realm of embedded electronics and being able to turn any idea into a reality. I already was fairly comfortable with many of the digital fabrication techniques, but the weekly assignments allowed me to refine some skills and correct improper habits. I also appreciate the production demands as it forced me to rapidly explore many things and not get caught up in smaller details, as well as build a large volume of work for portfolio purposes. It has provided me with a larger perspective on the design industry and helped open my thinking to new product opportunities and career paths.