**CHALLENGES**

- Busy schedules and limited study time.
- Difficult classes require focus and quiet atmosphere for study.
- Time management, prioritizing, avoiding distractions.

**SOLUTIONS**

- Larson’s *Linear Algebra*, 7th Edition
- Enhanced WebAssign

**RESULTS**

- Better prepared for tests.
- More efficient study.
- Success in the course, based on better study habits and increased understanding.

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“**I definitely think Enhanced WebAssign helped me improve my thinking skills and approach to problem solving dramatically.**”

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**Enhanced WebAssign® Helps Busy Engineering Students Stay Focused and Organized**

Debarghya Bhandary and Ajith Shajan, both engineering majors at Columbus State University, share the common goal of soon transferring to Georgia Tech to complete their studies. In fact, Debarghya has already been accepted to Georgia Tech and plans to begin studies there in fall 2014.

Where they differ is how tech savvy they consider themselves to be: Ajith admits that he “knows the basics” while Debarghya is much more advanced in his familiarity with technology. “I definitely consider myself to be a very tech savvy person. I am very interested in technology and computers and have in fact put together my own personal desktop for high level computing and schoolwork.”

Both students enjoy their classes and the professors who have helped motivate them in the study of engineering.

**THE CHALLENGES**

For both students, tough science-based courses are the norm for them at Columbus State, with classes like Calculus III, Chemistry, Dynamics of Rigid Bodies, Engineering Thermodynamics, and Physics II. Both are taking Linear Algebra, which includes Enhanced WebAssign as the online homework component.

Both students agree that it’s tough to get much, if any, time for themselves, and most of their days and nights are spent in class or doing homework and studying. Ajith and Debarghya both admit to being distracted by sports if they have a bit of down time, but that’s rare. “Overall, as an engineering major, I face numerous challenges as a student. From difficult homework to not having enough time to even socialize, I consider being a student one of the most difficult jobs—especially because we don’t get paid,” said Debarghya. Ajith agrees that the job of college student is a tough one, but admits: “I have a problem with distractions, like the NBA playoffs during finals week.”

However, both young men agree that their college experience so far has been positive and they’ve grown in terms of maturity, responsibility, and problem solving.

**ENHANCED WEBASSIGN MAKES STUDY MORE ORGANIZED AND EFFICIENT**

For their Linear Algebra course, both Ajith and Debarghya purchased access to Enhanced WebAssign through CengageBrain.com, along with digital access to Ron Larson’s Linear Algebra text. “I didn’t know Enhanced WebAssign would be involved until the start of the class,” said Ajith. “But it worked out well! I thought it would be more difficult, but it has been much easier and more user-friendly than I expected. It’s great.”

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**Debarghya Bhandary**

Student
Columbus State University

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**Ajith Shajan (L) and Debarghya Bhandary**

Students, Columbus State University
Both Ajith and Debarghya liked the fact that Enhanced WebAssign allows you to go back and review and practice questions you don’t understand until you get it right, which helped them both prepare for quizzes and do well. “I was able to do homework problems and check and see if I was in the right track,” said Debarghya. “I would most definitely recommend the materials to anyone who has never used Enhanced WebAssign before in that they are indeed very good study tools. The three main benefits I gained from using the digital text and Enhanced WebAssign were being able to be exposed to different types of problems using the practice system in Enhanced WebAssign, becoming better at doing problems with a minimal amount of mistakes, and assurance in doing problems correctly. I definitely think Enhanced WebAssign helped me improve my thinking skills and approach to problem solving dramatically.”

As Ajith described, “It definitely helped me succeed in Linear Algebra! Just having the assignments together and the tests in the same format allowed me to know what to expect on the test. And, it helped me stay organized... I could go back and check the book, reread the assignments, and then get things done quicker.”

Debarghya agrees. “Overall I think Cengage’s material is extremely helpful in the learning process and really encourages and accentuates skills that are commonly used and sought after in the work force. I definitely enjoyed using all of the Cengage material throughout the semester and it really helped me to be successful in my Linear Algebra course all together.”

“I never thought it would be so easy to use. It’s not like some other online assignments where it’s complicated. It’s really friendly and it helps you. My grades really went up.”

Ajith Shajan  
Student  
Columbus State University