I expected this class to be hard and be very challenging. I expected to be thrown into a group of strangers and take a few weeks to get past the awkward conversations and be able to be real friends with the people on my team. I expected to hate this class when it got extra stressful and difficult but love it when we had small or big successes with our satellite. Finally, I expected to have fun. All of the expectations I had above were met and exceeded. This class was by far worth the time and effort my team and I put into this satellite.

My expectations were absolutely met. I was looking at this class as a way to get an idea of what it would be like to have a career in engineering, and this class definitely gave me that. I enjoyed making the satellite, and I felt that most of the guest lectures were beneficial and interesting as well.

My expectations were met and passed, and that is completely honest. Before taking this course, I was considering dropping aerospace as my major, but it has re-inspired me to continue to follow my childhood dreams. Thank you.

I’ll be honest, this class was not what I expected it to be. In some ways it was more than expected, in others, not so much. I was absolutely expecting the class to be a challenge, since building and testing a satellite to work is not a simple task, the deadlines however, were a little off in my personal opinion. On a positive note, the class was definitely fun to be in as the lectures were generally very entertaining and informative, the guest speakers too.

My expectations for this class were definitely met. It was amazing getting to work in a real life meaningful engineering environment. It is a lot of work but so long as you get a hard working responsible team you will be fine. Bonus tip: JUST MAKE A CUBE UNLESS YOU HAVE TO MAKE SOMETHING ELSE. All other shapes will cause you pain.

My expectations for this class were exceeded. I really enjoyed all of the intensity of the project and how rewarding it felt at the end. I defiantly got lucky and had a functional group who’s experiment worked really well which helps. Though I still learned a lot through the semester and I have been inspired to continue working in the space industries.

Yes, my expectations were met. I’d heard a bit about this class, mostly that it would be very difficult, and very rewarding. It was both. Making deadlines was always a bit of a challenge, but putting in crazy hours with my team and then seeing the results was so inspiring. However, my team didn’t always work together the best. It feels like I had to do a lot of the work myself, but I’m sure everyone feels that way. We all had to do a ton.

My expectations for the workload is certainly met, as there have been numerous sleepless nights throughout the course. It would be nice if we get more in class help and work time. It would also be nice if this class worth a bit more than just 4 credits.

The class mostly met my expectations. It was a ton of work, but still super fun. I was pleasantly surprised by how well my group worked together throughout the whole process. I also, while I enjoyed most of the guest speakers, I did find some quite dull.

This class was much more intense than I had expected. I absolutely loved it though. I honestly had no idea what this class was though but all I heard was that it involved space and I said: “count me in!” The teams could have been better and I expected to have some more fun times with my teammates after we finished spacebox deadlines on time.
My expectations were met in most regards. First, I came into CU with no experience in engineering and this class taught me a lot of that. I learned how to solder, and I learned the process of building a balloon satellite. I got hands-on experience that I’ve never gotten before that will be very useful in my career. This class did have a lot of work but nothing that wasn’t manageable. All my expectations for what this class could provide me were actually met.

My expectations for this class were somewhat met. I expected to gain a lot of knowledge about what it’s like to be an aerospace engineer, and this expectation was met through the guest lectures. I also expected to be able to partake in hands-on learning, and this expectation was met. However, I expected to learn about how to build a BalloonSat through this class, and this was done almost entirely through my own research because we received very little instruction about our BalloonSats and Design Documents during class. I also think that this class would benefit if students were allowed to choose one or two of their team members. I have a lot of musical commitments, so it was difficult for me to find common times to meet with my other team members. However, I know several people in the class who have similar commitments, so it would’ve been very beneficial to be able to work with them.

Pretty much all of my expectations for this class were met and more; I built, flew, and analyzed data for a BalloonSat. Honestly, coming into the class I did not know that we would be learning about other space related stuff, but learning about orbits and other topics as well as having the guest speakers made for a great experience. The only thing I didn’t encounter was the amount of work that was promised (which is a good thing). I think my group was very organized and worked hard, so we didn’t ever struggle too much, not many long nights at the ITLL.

For the most part, my expectations were met with this class since it was challenging, intuitive, and we got to launch a high altitude science payload that was sort of approved from NASA, so that is pretty cool! (Bragging rights are amazing). Also, without you, I would not have known that Space Grant exists and I have the possibility to do undergraduate research in this platform with the environment that I crave for. Here are the following criticisms I would give if any.

a. I sort of do wish that you (I’m not sure if this would be accurate information on my end) had a CA/ a student with coding experience. Since I was the head of the Software in my team with little to none coding experience, I do wish that besides Dan (since he is so busy as a professor and his research) that there would be another person (a student perhaps) that has coding experience in C++. With the pretty brief intro you gave and my lack of experience, the struggle of figuring out how my sensors worked and coding them appropriately was a major learning curve for me, I was having some sort of error every other day. I just sort of wished I had more support with that side of things.

b. Occasionally bring out Hanz a little bit more. He is fun and I enjoyed him as a guest lecturer.

c. I also wished that there were more executive on team effort. Granted that this is college and you are not supposed to baby people around, but if in almost everyone’s team evaluations put one or two particular people in a very low ranking, try to make an executive order to see if you could get them to do more for each team. One thing I hoped was for my team to be more proactive that reactive and it really was not the case for around 4 out of the 7 people in my team.

That seems to be it. I’m positive that people will enjoy the class next semester!
My expectations for this class were met and surpassed. I knew this class was going to be a lot of work, but I didn’t realize how much work it was really going to be. I had a friend who took the class in fall of 2015 and told me that if I get the chance to take it, I should go for it. They learned a lot and told me it was super helpful. Little did I know what kind of experience it was going to be. I enjoyed every aspect of this class, from the guest lectures to the outside work for the satellite. It all was an extremely helpful and eye opening experience. I believe I learned a lot about myself and how I work with others. I learned there are some people who don’t really understand how teams work, I learned that I can’t always rely on others to do the work, and some people aren’t always mature right now and act like adults. I found all of the lectures extremely interesting and entertaining. I just think that the team experience I got was very important. My biggest recommendation is, and I know this is out of your control because of FAA weight restrictions on launch, but it is to make the teams smaller, so about 6-7 people. Being in a team of 8, a lot of times I think we were too big to get some of the more important things done and we had a lot of different perspectives that hardly ever agreed. Overall, it has definitely been the most beneficial part of college so far, and I felt like I learned a lot about myself and understood the basis of what I could potentially be doing in the future.

To be honest I didn’t know what to expect walking into this class. Chris kind of freaked me out the first day when he came in on a scooter and then walked across the table. When my advisor placed me in this class I had no idea what we would actually be doing in this class but as soon as I found out we would be making a satellite and sending it to space I was ecstatic. I knew it was going to be hard work but I definitely didn’t anticipate the actual amount of hours that would be put into making sure this BallonSat was functional and ready for flight.

My only expectation coming into this class was getting to send something into space, so my expectations were met but I was easy to please. I learned a lot about teamwork and time management that I don’t think I could have learned in any other class. My expectations were definitely surpassed in that regard.

Most of my expectations were met. However, what was not predicted was the amount of homework/ shear volume of what we had to do for this. Also, I originally expected that our group would succeed and I personally don’t think we did since we could not get 1 sensor to work and we only had two.

When asked if my expectations were met in this class, I can only answer with a resounding yes. At the beginning of the semester I was not too sure what to expect from a freshman project class. From day one it was apparent Gateway to Space was not like anything I had been a part of before. After we had been put in our groups and saw what would be expected of us, I began to develop a mental picture of what the semester would be like. The end result, or where we are today, is very similar to what I had imagined. We built a satellite from scratch sent it to near space, and had an overall successful mission. Although I had predicted how the end of the semester would feel, I had no idea what it would take to get here. This class defiantly exceeded my expectations for work load and difficulty. This class required double digit hours almost every week. In some cases, almost 20 hours. This class also required exceeding problem solving skills. My team and I spent many nights banging our heads on the wall trying to find the solutions needed to progress the project. In the end it was all worth it. This class left me wanting to find
more projects to be a part; more problems to solve. Almost as if it opened my eyes to what being an engineer really could be. So yes this class met and exceeded my expectations in all multiple ways.

My expectations for the class were exceeded, the only negative thing that can be said is the amount of time the BalloonSats took but from day 1 Chris emphasized that it would be a big time commitment. I got to be on a great time where everybody participated, had a positive attitude, and a great sense of humour. Because of those traits it was enjoyable to work together and that made the class so much better. I think that Chris was a great teacher because he is different from any other teacher I have ever had. It is the little things like Goats Live or the random video clips he would play in each class that made the classroom such a positive environment. Towards the end the satellite building process becomes a drag but it is easily made up with launch day. I do not understand why everybody felt so happy and proud of themselves from seeing the satellites float up into the sky, even the people who pretended they did not care cheered and clapped as it went up. Overall the class was great because of the unique professor and the hands on project.

This course perfectly met my expectations. I was hoping for an experience that would help me understand what the aerospace industry is like, provide interesting information, and allow me to help send a payload to the edge of space: the class delivered on all of these items. I was told as I entered the class that it would be one of my hardest, and I can honestly say that I have worked harder for Gateway than I have for anything else I have ever done. I am grateful, for the class has allowed me to realize just what I can do, and that I can see myself succeeding in the aerospace industry. I am extremely satisfied with the SolidWorks and team dynamic experience I have gotten from this class, as I was ignorant on both of these items.

When I signed up for this class I had somewhat of an idea of what to expect as far as what would be included in the material. I didn’t know what to expect for the course load. After the entire class was finished I was very pleased with how much knowledge I obtained and how much I grew as a team member. I understand when the class started Chris forewarned everyone how much of a time commitment the class would be; however, I wasn’t expecting it to hit me like a brick wall later in the semester.

My expectations for this class were met. I expected a lot of work, but also to come out of the class knowing much more than before I started. Something I did not expect were all the processes and work we had to put in. I had no idea all the reports and presentations that go into a project, but I also know that is what is required as a job in engineering. I wanted to come out of this class not only knowing how to code better, or build structure, or a better understanding of different sensors, I wanted a better understanding of what it means to be an engineer which I feel I got. I also expected a lot of team working and comprising, but nothing like I experienced in this class. To be able to be a successful team means to listen to everyone and compromise, which I feel may have been hard at first for my team but eventually we learned to work through it. Even though it was a lot of hours, in the end I am happy with the result of this class.

My expectations for this class were met. I was happy with the experience, despite how time intensive it was. My group made the class less enjoyable than it could have been.

My expectations for this class were exceeded by far. This class was a lot of hard work but also a lot more fun. I gained experience and knowledge that will help me for the rest of my career. This class took a lot of work every week but I had my team to help for the whole thing.
My team and I became great friends and we all learned a lot about how to successfully work in a team.

Were my expectations met? Well yes and no. I didn’t really have expectations for this class, so in that way, yes. They absolutely did. I knew this class filled up quickly, so I figured it must be a good one. For the majority of the semester I was not a fan. This class is a lot of work - way more than I knew I was signing up for. And none of that work is done in class - its all stuff you have to figure out on your own - with little external help. This was disappointing to me and made everything worse. I really did enjoy all the lectures we had in class, but whats the point of all the classes if, what 5% of them were actually related to the project we were working on. I would much prefer to spend time in class working so we can figure stuff out with guidance. Outside of that, the project was never super interesting to me. I’m switching to mechanical engineering next semester because I’m realizing this isn't what I’m sure I want to be doing with my life. So working countless hours, struggling, for something I never really cared about was again, hard. This last week, however, my outlook has changed. The echo made me realize how much we’ve done and I was proud of it. I will remember this class, and for good reasons. It has a lot of aspects to it that are awesome, it just wasn’t completely what I wanted it to be. That said, I am glad I took it and it will definitely prepare me better for the next few years. I thank Chris for that. It was a fun ride, and although I may not have enjoyed the whole thing, it was worth it in the end.

My expectations for this class were met and exceeded. I expected it to be challenging and extremely time consuming, which it was. This class pushed me to try things that I’ve never done before. I previously had absolutely no experience with coding, working with sensors, wiring, soldering, or building in general. By giving this class the time commitment it demands (6+ hours outside of class), I was able to learn how to do all of those things. I also expected this class to be fun and rewarding, which it completely was. It is the coolest feeling, being able to track something that you built as it travels up into near space. One thing that I didn’t expect was the friendships I would make with the people on my team. This isn’t just another group project; you spend so much time with these people and really get to know them. I had no idea that the people on my team would become such great friends. I knew Gateway was going to be hard and probably worth it, but I had no idea that it would be as fun and rewarding as it was.

My expectations for this class was met in some sense and not met in others. I expected to learn more about the processes of building a project, and the skills and the work load involved with it, and I did learn about all of these things. I learned what an Arduino is, how to write proposals and design revs, the extensive processes necessary to continue with the project, how to meet requirements, and how to make a project successful. I am really glad I took this class in that sense because I am now able to build theoretical knowledge on top of the experience I had. I also expected to meet new people and make some friend, and I made new friends and met some people.

On the other hand, I expected this class to have a lot of time commitment and work, but I didn’t expect to be so stressful. It was mostly stressful because my group members did not care at all about the class or the project, and not because of the work load. I also did not expect everything to take so long. To smooth out a plot, it would take a couple hours; to solder some wires, it would take three hours; to code a sensor, it would take hours after hours. But, I think it was good that I learned that everything requires a lot of time commitment because now I know what to expect for the future.
My expectations were greatly exceeded. This class blew me out of the water. Not only did I acquire a solid foundation about many aspects of space and space travel, I acquired so many new and useful skills (critical thinking, problem solving, collaboration, compromise, etc.) that I will employ throughout my college career and as an engineer. The class was challenging but very interesting and a lot of fun. When our team formed we were strangers but through this project journey we became great friends. I am prepared for what is expected of me in my future engineering classes at Boulder. I look forward to taking similar project based engineering classes like Gateway to Space that will allow me to connect personally, not just to the other people on my team, but also to an interesting and challenging project that I know will take on its own personality.

To be honest, this class really met my expectations and I’m certainly glad that I took it. As an incoming freshman and Electrical Engineering major, I didn’t know anything about Gateway to Space but I expressed interest in the course through the BOLD program and they gave me a spot. At first, I thought about dropping the class to take the standard EE project class but someone took my spot in that class and I was stuck. Although that sounds like a bad thing, it was probably the best thing that could’ve happened for my first semester in college. The lectures, guest speakers, and assignments peaked my interest in space to the point where I think I want to get involved with more projects through Space Grant. The BalloonSat project taught me a lot about working with a team, and through it, I’ve gained some very cool friends and firsthand experience with engineering. I’m going to continue my degree path in Electrical Engineering instead of switching to Aerospace but I can honestly say that even though I initially had no concrete expectations, this class has been a great experience and I’m very glad that I was given the opportunity to participate in it.

I did not know what to expect for this class, except that we would be building a balloon payload which I’ve done before, so I knew it was going to be fun. But I was highly pleased with how things turned out, not least due to my excellent teammates, who all work very hard and without even one of which the project would not have been nearly as successful. I did not expect the professor to be such a great guy; Dr. Koehler has certainly exceeded my expectations both in teaching style and presentation, and in personality and availability for help and questions.

My expectations were met, because I loved the class and everything about it. The experience of sending a satellite up to space is a once in a lifetime project for some people. I am so glad that
this is just the start to what will happen in my aerospace engineering career. I love the teamwork, and the responsibilities I had for completing this project. The only problem with this class was the group I was given. A few members would not do their portion or would not even just show up to group meetings. The effort was not there for some members, and that was not acceptable to me. I would have to do their work most of the time. Other than the group I was given, I love the process of building the satellite and all the work/papers/presentations in between.

Yes, my expectations for this class were met! I was excited to learn more about Aerospace Engineering and the processes involved in sending something to space. I was also excited to get hands on experience building a BalloonSat and working with a group towards a common goal. All of these expectations were met as I learned a lot about engineering, enjoyed hearing from the guest speakers, and also learned a lot from the hands on experience.

My expectations were surpassed. Coming into this class, I was expecting it to be hard, and of course it was. However, I never expected the project itself to be so enlightening. Launch day was amazing, and the interactivity that I got with the project was surreal. The whole experiment, and the success of it, made me feel like my future of making an impact in my career isn’t too far away. Even though Chris was harsh at times(with his criticism) he treated us students seriously, and gave us expectations just as we will have in the future. I believe that this class has given me more teamwork experience, time management experience, and more insight to pursuing passionate careers than I have ever had before. I am so glad I took this class, and I recommend it to anyone in the future.

My expectations were exceeded for this class. I did not expect to work as hard as I did, and at the same time I learned immense amounts about how things in a system supposed to work together do so, about how to manage an uncooperative team, and how to write proposals and give presentations.

Personally, my expectations for this class were much more than met – I had a blast and got so much out of it. I was expecting a class with a lot of stress and work (which it did require a lot of work, but with managing time, it was completely reasonable), but what I got more than the stress was a good time. I had fun building our project and developing it, going to Chris’ lectures, and becoming friends with my team. I was told the class would be very satisfying and rewarding, and I believed those words. I did not understand them until now, however. This class was one of my favorites this semester and by far the most fun. The only expectation this class did not meet of mine was my expectation of struggling a lot. I was prepared to argue with my team, be buried in work, and stumble through the course. This was not even close to the truth. I had a blast working with my team and dividing work prevented my previous feelings of doom. I apologize for having no constructive advice, but I cannot think of anything that wasn’t good for me.

All my expectations were met. I don’t feel like I have more to say on the topic.

Yes, partly exceeded! The challenge was beyond what I had expected but I’ve learnt many new things to be aware of and have become better at managing my time. It feels like I have pushed my limits and actually did something worthwhile that I am proud of. The launch day was awesome and it felt like we’re doing something on a large scale and it was very satisfying to see the BalloonSat fly into the air after all of our hard work and help from the amazing team at the
EOSS, ITLL and our CAs. I thought everything would be more straightforward in the making process, but we’ve run across lots of problems that needed to be fixed and this put creativity and my problem solving skills to good use. The workload was over the top in some weeks due to multiple problems we’ve come across with some systems.

My expectations for this class were met and exceeded. I expected this to be a project class in which we would get some real world experience, but now I feel like I have experienced a real part of the field. I’m very excited about the skills I’ve learned in this class, and cant wait to build on them in the coming years.

My expectations for this class were met. We were told it would be a lot of work and it was!

However, not only did we build a satellite for our projects requirement but we got a great ‘intro to space’. Classes were filled with lectures from Chris about the field but also included guest lectures from super interesting businesses in the space field. The class really enlightened everyone about what to expect from a ‘space related’ career field.

Personally, I thought this class was actually super interesting and could see that many of my classmates were super passionate about their future in space. However, after finishing this class I realized that a career in space just wasn’t for me. It was not at all that ASEN 1400 did not interest me but that I just realized that I was not as passionate as other peers and/or future competitors about this field. I strongly believe that in order to do well at any job you need to really be passionate about your work.

This class was awesome though. Like I said, it was taught really well, Chris exceeds all qualifications for teaching ASEN 1400 and really gets the entire class excited every day.

Yes. I had the opportunity to gain hands on experience. I got to see how all the math and science make engineering happen, and how cool it is to make something of your own. I really enjoyed this class and have to say it was my favorite. I thought the lectures were very beneficial in relation to getting a better idea of what we may be doing in the future. Also, you’re a great professor and do an awesome job at keeping the class awake. I love goats live!

My expectations for this class were met. At first it seemed alittle intimidating and scary when we learned on day one just how hard this class was but it has paid off. The experience that I have gained in this class is worth more than any project’s class could have given me in a semester and with any luck I can extend that experience into an internship. I love this class and it is completely worth it so if you are a freshman reading this because he made you do it for that homework assignment trust me, stay in the class. It really is amazing. I honestly wish this had been a yearlong course and that we could have done two projects because I just want to stay in this class. I know there are other classes that Chris teaches but this one really has been great and I don’t want to leave.

My expectations for this class were met. I knew I would be putting in a lot of time into the class outside of class time, but I really enjoyed that. I expected to grow close with my team and to be able to call them my friends, and I feel like I can count on my team for anything. I would love to hang out with my team in the future.

To be quite honest with you here, I had zero expectations coming in to this course. I had no idea what it was. I never read a description or anything like that. Lauren Cole sent out an email about projects courses and she said this one was hard to get in to. Based on its name and
difficulty to get in to, I gave it a shot. I must say, this had been one of the best experiences of my life from an academic standpoint. Stressful, but incredibly enjoyable.

My expectations for this class were met. The class was challenging, and ended up being more work than I had anticipated, but all the work ended up being very rewarding. The class allowed me to explore the field of aerospace engineering while gaining knowledge of what it is like to be an aerospace engineer. The course tested and developed my leadership, teamwork, and public speaking skills. This course helped prepare me for the challenge ahead of me in my scholastic journey here at CU Boulder and as a bonus I developed friendships that will hopefully continue throughout my college experience. I am thankful I signed up for this class and would recommend it to any incoming engineering student.

Gateway to Space exceeded my expectations. Going into this class, I was expecting to learn a little bit more about Aerospace Engineering, such as exactly what it is. While I did learn this, I learned a great deal more. For example, I learned many new skills that I can add to my resume that will help me throughout my time as a student and eventually in my career. I learned skills such as soldering, Solid Works, and laser printing. All of these are skills I never imagined I would learn. In addition, this class gave me the opportunity to learn what it’s really like to be an engineer. I learned the importance of working on an assigned team, and staying organized and on top of everything. Yes, this class was extremely time consuming and at time very frustrating, but I learned more than I ever could have through a lecture or recitation, and all of these skills will help me be successful in the future. I had low expectations for this class, but clearly they were far exceeded.

My expectations for this class were not only met but were exceeded. I knew going into the class that there was going to be a couple long nights and a lot of out of class time was going to be needed. It was a little intimidating at the beginning of the course, since I’ve never done anything remotely close to building a balloon sat but I was placed on a wonderful team who helped me but challenged me as well. I liked that after a certain point in the semester we were no longer allowed to go to Professor Koehler for help, it was a little tough but it pushed myself and my team to use our resources and I feel that we all learned more that way than if he had just given us the answers. This class was easily my favorite one this semester, I enjoyed working on the different problems that came up during the construction of our satellite but my very favorite part had to be watching something I helped construct head into space, it was such a fulfilling moment and it made me very excited for the rest of my career at CU Boulder in aerospace engineering!

In short, no. This class was nothing I expected it to be. In most areas, it far exceeded them, such as team work, and the amount of work there is to do, and late nights, and delegating, and accountability. The only place this class really fell short for me was in the biggest expectation I had for it which was some guidance as to whether aerospace engineering is for me. I’m just as confused as I’ve been all along, now I just have less time to worry about it, and I’m not sure if that’s a good thing or a bad thing.