Should I take ECE 110 with ECE 220?

Relevancy:
Both courses are introductory ECE courses that cover vastly different areas. ECE 110 is an introduction to electronics. Students taking ECE 110 will learn about selected fundamental concepts and principles in electrical engineering, through lectures and labs. ECE 220 picks up where ECE 120 leaves off with the LC-3 and continues on to the C programming language. These two courses have no overlap at all and are introductions to two parts of ECE.

Workload:
ECE 110 is informally known as one of the easiest electrical engineering courses; the homeworks are able to be finished in 2-3 hours maximum, especially if keeping up with lecture is achieved. If not, it is typically very easy material to pick up relatively quick. The hardest part of the class may be the lab; first, the lab itself is 3 hours long, and typically understanding lectures thoroughly do not ensure full proficiency in lab due to other tools used with little introduction. However, the lab is mostly self-contained in the 3 hours, with the exception of pre-labs. There are also modules that vary from 15 minutes to 2 hours each, and are done sparingly throughout the semester. This workload depends on the student.

ECE 220 consists of weekly MPs that are relatively easy to somewhat tedious depending on previous experience in coding. These MPs are really the only week-to-week homework in the class, and of course time varies greatly depending on how the material is handled by the student. Times on MPs vary from around 1 to 5 hours a week, with one significantly taking up a huge amount of time outside of this range. Other than this, the exams could take some time to study for. The class is not that heavy at all on work, especially when compared to other classes after it; some may even find this class easier than ECE 120. The difficulty comes solely from the exams.

Recommendation:
Yes. 100% yes. The courses have a good match up of workloads rare in the department, and the workload is not enough for the combination to even take up the majority of the semester workload, meaning other hard classes can be added safely. In addition to this, 220 opens up a whole bunch of classes, including CS 173, CS 225 (only concurrently with 173 if you get an A in 220), ECE 391, ECE 408, etc. The next step from 110 (ECE 210) is the one that opens the entire EE course, so it’s a priority to get rid of 110 ASAP. In short, if you have the ability to advance faster by taking both, do, for it opens up a ton of routes with minimal workload issues that typically accompany these.