AUTOMATIC FEEDBACK CONTROL IN HUMAN BIOLOGY

EEL 5934  Section 32513

Class Periods: MWF, period 8, 3:00-3:50PM
Location: Classroom location
Academic Term: Spring 2021

Instructor:
Name: Jacob Hammer
Email Address: hammer@mst.ufl.edu
Office Phone Number: 3523924934
Office Hours: MWF hours available, office location

Teaching Assistant/Peer Mentor/Supervised Teaching Student:
Please contact through the Canvas website
- Name, email address, office location, office hours
- Name, email address, office location, office hours

Course Description
A course about the automatic feedback control principles that govern biological, biochemical, and genetic mechanisms underlying critical processes in human biology. The course concentrates on case studies, including the automatic feedback control principles that regulate vision, balance, heart rate, and various metabolic and immunologic processes in human biology.

Course Pre-Requisites
- Basic knowledge of control theory and linear algebra (EEL 4657C or EEL 4610 or equivalent) or instructor consent

Course Objectives
Introduce students to general principles of automatic control, as they are applied by natural phenomena in human biology.

Materials and Supply Fees
List if applicable

Required Textbooks and Software:
- "Biomolecular Feedback Systems"
  Domitilla Del Vecchio and Richard M. Murray
  ISBN number

(if course notes derived from various published sources are used, provide information above for each source)
(if course notes are developed by the instructor, so state)

Recommended Materials: None
- Title
- Author
- Publication date and edition
- ISBN number
Course Schedule

Week 1: Introduction: basic concepts in automatic feedback control
Week 2: Automatic feedback control mechanisms in biological systems
Week 3: Automatic feedback control of gene expression
Week 4: Biochemical mechanisms of automatic feedback control
Week 5: The eye, Part I: automatic light control: the eye's iris
Week 6: The eye, Part II: automatic focusing of the eye's lens
Week 7: Automatic balancing: standing up
Week 8: Diabetes: a defect in an automatic feedback control loop
Week 9: The beating heart: automatic feedback control of heart rate
Week 10: Wound healing and automatic feedback control of blood coagulation
Week 11: Automatic feedback control of blood acidity and respiration
Week 12: Automatic feedback control and blood pressure regulation
Week 13: Automatic feedback control and reflexes: hand on a hot stove
Week 14: Automatic feedback control loops in the immune system
Week 15: Review

Online Course Recording

Our class sessions may be audio visually recorded for students in the class to refer back and for enrolled students who are unable to attend live. Students who participate with their camera engaged or utilize a profile image are agreeing to have their video or image recorded. If you are unwilling to consent to have your profile or video image recorded, be sure to keep your camera off and do not use a profile image. Likewise, students who un-mute during class and participate orally are agreeing to have their voices recorded. If you are not willing to consent to have your voice recorded during class, you will need to keep your mute button activated and communicate exclusively using the "chat" feature, which allows students to type questions and comments live. The chat will not be recorded or shared. As in all courses, unauthorized recording and unauthorized sharing of recorded materials is prohibited.
F2F Course Policy in Response to COVID-19

We will have face-to-face instructional sessions to accomplish the student learning objectives of this course. In response to COVID-19, the following policies and requirements are in place to maintain your learning environment and to enhance the safety of our in-classroom interactions.

- You are required to wear approved face coverings at all times during class and within buildings. Following and enforcing these policies and requirements are all of our responsibility. Failure to do so will lead to a report to the Office of Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution.
- This course has been assigned a physical classroom with enough capacity to maintain physical distancing (6 feet between individuals) requirements. Please utilize designated seats and maintain appropriate spacing between students. Please do not move desks or stations.
- Sanitizing supplies are available in the classroom if you wish to wipe down your desks prior to sitting down and at the end of the class.
- Follow your instructor's guidance on how to enter and exit the classroom. Practice physical distancing to the extent possible when entering and exiting the classroom.
- If you are experiencing COVID-19 symptoms (Click here for guidance from the CDC on symptoms of coronavirus), please use the UF Health screening system and follow the instructions on whether you are able to attend class. Click here for UF Health guidance on what to do if you have been exposed to or are experiencing Covid-19 symptoms.
- Course materials will be provided to you with an excused absence, and you will be given a reasonable amount of time to make up work. Find more information in the university attendance policies.

Attendance Policy, Class Expectations, and Make-Up Policy

This class will be presented online using Zoom and requires access to a working webcam and stable internet connection. I prefer that students keep their camera on during the class so that I can see you as I would during normal face-to-face classes. Studies show that if we can see each other's faces then we will have more engagement, more student success, and more faculty success. However, this is not a requirement. I understand if on certain days you can't have your camera on due to internet bandwidth limitations, other family members, health issues, or any other reasons.

Excused absences must be in compliance with university policies in the Graduate Catalog (http://gradcatalog.ufl.edu/content.php?catoid=10&navoid=2020#attendance) and require appropriate documentation.

Evaluation of Grades

**Assessment Guidance from the ECE Graduate Committee:** Course evaluation components should include:

1. At least one component that individually evaluates each student's understanding of course material and ability to apply concepts.
2. At least one evaluation activity that takes place in class.
3. When a project is involved, evaluation rubrics should be explicitly stated.
4. When team work is expected, individual student contribution verification method should be explicitly stated.

*These requirements will be fulfilled by the Midterm Exam, which will be given face-to-face in this course. The date and location of the midterm exam will be announced in due course.*

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Total Points</th>
<th>Percentage of Final Grade</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Homework Sets (10)</td>
<td>100 each</td>
<td>10%</td>
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Midterm Exam | 100 | 35%
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Final Exam | 100 | 55%
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**Grading Policy**
The following is given as an example only.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Range</th>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>GPA</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>93.4 - 100</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>4.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>90.0 - 93.3</td>
<td>A-</td>
<td>3.67</td>
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<tr>
<td>86.7 - 89.9</td>
<td>B+</td>
<td>3.33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>83.4 - 86.6</td>
<td>B</td>
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<tr>
<td>80.0 - 83.3</td>
<td>B-</td>
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<td>76.7 - 79.9</td>
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<td>0 - 59.9</td>
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More information on UF grading policy may be found at: [http://gradcatalog.ufl.edu/content.php?catoid=10&navoid=2020#grades](http://gradcatalog.ufl.edu/content.php?catoid=10&navoid=2020#grades)

**Students Requiring Accommodations**
Students with disabilities who experience learning barriers and would like to request academic accommodations should connect with the disability Resource Center by visiting [https://disability.ufl.edu/students/get-started/](https://disability.ufl.edu/students/get-started/). It is important for students to share their accommodation letter with their instructor and discuss their access needs, as early as possible in the semester.

**Course Evaluation**
Students are expected to provide professional and respectful feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing course evaluations online via GatorEvals. Guidance on how to give feedback in a professional and respectful manner is available at [https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/students/](https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/students/). Students will be notified when the evaluation period opens, and can complete evaluations through the email they receive from GatorEvals, in their Canvas course menu under GatorEvals, or via [https://ufl.bluera.com/ufl/](https://ufl.bluera.com/ufl/). Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students at [https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/public-results/](https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/public-results/).

**University Honesty Policy**
UF students are bound by The Honor Pledge which states, “We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honor and integrity by abiding by the Honor Code. On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: “On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment.” The Honor Code ([https://sccr.dso.ufl.edu/policies/student-honor-code-student-conduct-code/](https://sccr.dso.ufl.edu/policies/student-honor-code-student-conduct-code/)) specifies a number of behaviors that are in violation of this code and the possible sanctions. Furthermore, you are obligated to report any condition that facilitates academic misconduct to appropriate personnel. If you have any questions or concerns, please consult with the instructor or TAs in this class.

**Commitment to a Safe and Inclusive Learning Environment**
The Herbert Wertheim College of Engineering values broad diversity within our community and is committed to individual and group empowerment, inclusion, and the elimination of discrimination. It is expected that every
person in this class will treat one another with dignity and respect regardless of gender, sexuality, disability, age, socioeconomic status, ethnicity, race, and culture.

If you feel like your performance in class is being impacted by discrimination or harassment of any kind, please contact your instructor or any of the following:
• Your academic advisor or Graduate Program Coordinator
• Robin Bielling, Director of Human Resources, 352-392-0903, rbielling@eng.ufl.edu
• Curtis Taylor, Associate Dean of Student Affairs, 352-392-2177, taylor@eng.ufl.edu
• Toshikazu Nishida, Associate Dean of Academic Affairs, 352-392-0943, nishida@eng.ufl.edu

**Software Use**
All faculty, staff, and students of the University are required and expected to obey the laws and legal agreements governing software use. Failure to do so can lead to monetary damages and/or criminal penalties for the individual violator. Because such violations are also against University policies and rules, disciplinary action will be taken as appropriate. We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to uphold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honesty and integrity.

**Student Privacy**
There are federal laws protecting your privacy with regards to grades earned in courses and on individual assignments. For more information, please see: [https://registrar.ufl.edu/ferpa.html](https://registrar.ufl.edu/ferpa.html)

**Campus Resources:**
Health and Wellness

U Matter, We Care:
Your well-being is important to the University of Florida. The U Matter, We Care initiative is committed to creating a culture of care on our campus by encouraging members of our community to look out for one another and to reach out for help if a member of our community is in need. If you or a friend is in distress, please contact umatter@ufl.edu so that the U Matter, We Care Team can reach out to the student in distress. A nighttime and weekend crisis counselor is available by phone at 352-392-1575. The U Matter, We Care Team can help connect students to the many other helping resources available including, but not limited to, Victim Advocates, Housing staff, and the Counseling and Wellness Center. Please remember that asking for help is a sign of strength. In case of emergency, call 9-1-1.


Sexual Discrimination, Harassment, Assault, or Violence
If you or a friend has been subjected to sexual discrimination, sexual harassment, sexual assault, or violence contact the Office of Title IX Compliance, located at Yon Hall Room 427, 1908 Stadium Road, (352) 273-1094, title-ix@ufl.edu

Sexual Assault Recovery Services (SARS)
Student Health Care Center, 392-1161.

University Police Department at 392-1111 (or 9-1-1 for emergencies), or http://www.police.ufl.edu/.

Academic Resources

E-learning technical support, 352-392-4357 (select option 2) or e-mail to Learning-support@ufl.edu. https://lss.at.ufl.edu/help.shtml.


Library Support, http://cms.uflib.ufl.edu/ask. Various ways to receive assistance with respect to using the libraries or finding resources.

Teaching Center, Broward Hall, 392-2010 or 392-6420. General study skills and tutoring. https://teachingcenter.ufl.edu/.


Student Complaints Campus: https://care.dso.ufl.edu.