Syllabus

Course Description: The overall purpose of this course is to provide a forum for discussion of student research on topics related to any area of biomechanics. The format is a once-weekly informal meeting during which one or more students will present progress on their research project(s) or analysis of a recent peer-reviewed journal publication; practice a PhD proposal or conference presentation; or discuss a fellowship proposal under preparation (chalk talk format). This is an ideal place to discuss research-in-progress and receive feedback on new ideas and research directions.

Course Outcomes: Following completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Effectively organize and clearly communicate a scientific presentation
2. Critically analyze and evaluate research methods, results, and data interpretation
3. Interact constructively with peers to provide and receive feedback
4. Appreciate the breadth and depth of the biomechanics field, yet common problem formulation and approach

Prerequisites: Graduate status or undergraduate status and completed Biomechanics I (BIOEN 4250).

Instructor: Lucas H. Timmins, Ph.D.
Office: MEB 2474
lucas.timmins@utah.edu (preferred method of contact)
Phone: 801-581-8112

Office Hours: By appointment


Textbook: There is no official textbook for BIOEN 6480.

Grading:
- Presentation 40% total
- Abstract 10% total
- Presentation feedback 25% total
- In-class participation 25% total

Abstract: Presenters are required to submit (via email to the instructor) a title and 200 word abstract for their presentation to the course instructor by 5pm on the Wednesday before their presentation.

Presentation Feedback: Students are required to provide constructive feedback to each presenter by completing a “Presentation Evaluation Form”. A template is available on the course website. As a courtesy to the presenter, the form should not be filled out during the presentation; however, students may take notes during the presentation to aid in completing the form. Submissions are due by 1:00pm on the Friday following the presentation and should be submitted through Canvas.

Course Policies:

Attendance. Attendance is required, and students are expected to actively participate in class each week. Therefore, except for a University approved absence (Type I), which are explicitly listed in Policy 6-100.III.O (http://regulations.utah.edu/info/policyList.php), permission to be excused from a class will only be granted for extremely unusual circumstances. All planned absences must be discussed in advance with the professor and supported by documentation. In the event of an unplanned absence (Type II), the reason for the absence must be communicated to the professor as soon as practically possible and documentary evidence is required (e.g., a doctor’s note in the case of illness). Failure to provide evidence for the absence will result in an unexcused absence for that date, with no exceptions.

Cell Phones. Cell phones must be silenced during all lectures, exams, and laboratory sessions. Students are expected to avoid texting during lecture. Failure to comply with this policy may result in removal from the classroom.
College of Engineering Policies:

**Appeals of Grades and other Academic Actions.** If a student believes that an academic action is arbitrary or capricious he/she should discuss the action with the involved faculty member and attempt to resolve. If unable to resolve, the student may appeal the action in accordance with the following procedure:

1. Appeal to Department Chair (in writing) within 40 business days; chair must notify student of a decision within 15 days. If faculty member or student disagrees with decision, then,
2. Appeal to Academic Appeals Committee (see http://www.coe.utah.edu/appeals for members of committee). See II Section D, Code of Student Rights and Responsibilities for details on Academic Appeals Committee hearings.

**Adding Classes.** All classes must be added within the FIRST TEN academic days of the term (deadline: Friday, January 19). Late adds will be allowed January 20-29, requiring only the instructor’s signature. Any request to add a class after January 29 will require signatures from the instructor, department, and Dean, and need to be accompanied by a petition letter to the Dean’s office. A $50 FEE WILL BE ASSESSED BY THE REGISTRAR’S OFFICE FOR ADDING CLASSES AFTER January 29.

**Withdrawl Procedures.** Please note the difference between the terms “drop” and “withdraw”. Drop implies that the student will not be held financially responsible and a “W” will not be listed on the transcript. Withdraw means that a “W” will appear on the student’s transcript and tuition will be charged.

**Drop Period – No Penalty**
Students may DROP any class without penalty or permission during the FIRST TEN academic days of the term (Friday, January 19).

**Withdrawal from Full Term Length Classes**
Students may WITHDRAW from classes without professor’s permission until Friday, March 2, 2018. Between January 20 and March 2, a “W” will appear on the transcript AND tuition will be charged. Refer to Class Schedule, Tuition and Fees for tuition information.

**Withdrawal from Session I & Session II**
See the web page for details: http://registrar.utah.edu/academic-calendars/spring2018.php
Withdrawals after March 2 will only be granted due to compelling, nonacademic emergencies. A petition and supporting documentation must be submitted to the Dean’s Office, 1602 Warnock Engineering Building. Petitions must be received before the last day of classes (Tuesday, April 24, 2018).

**Repeating Courses.** When a College of Engineering class is taken more than once, only the grade for the second attempt is counted. Grades of W, I, or V on the student’s record count as having taken the class. Departments enforce these guidelines for other courses as well (e.g., math, physics, biology, chemistry). Attempts of courses taken at transfer institutions count as one attempt. This means a student may take the course only one time at the University of Utah. Courses taken at the University of Utah may not be taken a second time at another institution. If a second attempt is needed, it must be at the University of Utah. Please work with your department advisor to determine the value of repeating courses. Students should note that anyone who takes a required class twice and does not have a satisfactory grade the second time may not be able to graduate. It is the responsibility of the student to work with the department of their major to determine how this policy applies in extenuating circumstances.

University Policies:

**Academic Misconduct.** The Department of Bioengineering has a zero-tolerance policy for any form of academic misconduct. Students are expected to abide by the University of Utah Code of Student Rights and Responsibilities (see http://regulations.utah.edu/academics/6-400.php). Academic misconduct, which includes cheating, misrepresenting one’s work, inappropriately collaborating, plagiarizing, and fabrication of falsification of information, will not be tolerated. Any instances of academic misconduct will be immediately reported to the Department Chair, Associate Chair for Undergraduate Studies, and Dean of Students.

**The Americans with Disabilities Act.** The University of Utah seeks to provide equal access to its programs, services, and activities for people with disabilities. If you will need accommodations in this class, reasonable prior notice needs to be given to the Center for Disability Services, 162 Olpin Union Building, (801) 581-5020. CDS will work with you and the instructor to make arrangements for accommodations. All written information in this course can be made available in an alternative format with prior notification to the Center for Disability Services.

**Addressing Sexual Misconduct.** Title IX makes it clear that violence and harassment based on sex and gender (which includes sexual orientation and gender identity/expression) is a civil rights offense subject to the same kinds of accountability and the same kinds of support applied to offenses against other protected categories such as race, national origin, color, religion, age, status as a person with a disability, veteran’s status, or genetic information. If you or someone you know has been harassed or assaulted, you are encouraged to report it to the Title IX Coordinator in the Office of Equal Opportunity and Affirmative Action, 135 Park Building, 801-581-8365, or the Office of the Dean of Students, 270 Union Building, 801-581-7066. For support and confidential consultation, contact the Center for Student Wellness, 426 SSB, 801-581-7776. To report to the police, contact the Department of Public Safety, 801-585-2677(COPS).
Course Schedule

The schedule of speakers will be determined after the first class and distributed to course participants.

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