BIOEN 6480: BIOMECHANICS RESEARCH  
Fall 2017 – Syllabus

Purpose: 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.

Objectives: Following completion of the 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 instructor consent

Lectures: F 1:00 – 2:00pm; MEB 2475
The schedule of speakers will be determined after the first class and distributed to course participants.

Instructor: Lucas H. Timmins, Ph.D.
Office: MEB 2474
lucas.timmins@utah.edu

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) 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 12:00pm on the Friday following the presentation and should be submitted through Canvas.

Absence Policy: Students are expected to attend and 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.

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).