

**Process Control Theory**  
ECH 4323 Section 1661 (Class Number 11622)  
*Class Periods:* MWF, Period 9 (4:05 – 4:55 PM)  
*Location:* PSY 130  
*Academic Term:* Fall 2023

**Instructor:** Spyros A. Svoronos  
Phone: 352-392-9101 (O), 352-378-1342 (H)  
E-mail: [svoronos@ufl.edu](mailto:svoronos@ufl.edu)  
Office Hours : T 4:30-6:00 pm via Zoom  
                  W 5:10-6:15 pm in my office and via Zoom  
                  F 5:10-6:15 pm in my office and via Zoom

**Zoom:** <https://ufl.zoom.us/j/6379945549> with passcode: 0

**Mask policy:** I am considered high risk, as I will be turning 70 in a year and have certain health issues. To protect myself I will be wearing a mask consistently. I believe that this precautionary measure is ample to safeguard my health. It's important for me to clarify that my decision to wear a mask should not be misconstrued as a solicitation for you to do the same. My choice to wear a mask should not influence your own decision regarding mask usage.

**Teaching Assistant:** None

**Course Description**

The analysis and automatic control of process systems in chemical engineering.

**Course Pre-Requisites / Co-Requisites**

Prerequisites: COT 3502 and\* ECH 3023 and\* MAP 2302 (\*Catalog incorrectly has 'or')  
Corequisite: ECH 4323L

**Course Objectives**

1. The student will be able to formulate dynamic models for chemical engineering systems and to perform model-linearization procedures
2. The student will be able to obtain approximate process models from experimental data
3. The student will be able to use and tune proportional-integral-derivative controllers
4. The student will be able to analyze the performance and stability of linear control systems, both open loop and closed loop

**Materials and Supply Fees:** None

**Relation to Program Outcomes (ABET):**

Outcome	Coverage*
1. An ability to identify, formulate, and solve complex engineering problems by applying principles of engineering, science, and mathematics	High
2. An ability to apply engineering design to produce solutions that meet specified needs with consideration of public health, safety, and welfare, as well as global, cultural, social, environmental, and economic factors	High
3. An ability to communicate effectively with a range of audiences	
4. An ability to recognize ethical and professional responsibilities in engineering situations and make informed judgments, which must consider the impact of engineering solutions in global, economic, environmental, and societal contexts	
5. An ability to function effectively on a team whose members together provide leadership, create a collaborative and inclusive environment, establish goals, plan tasks, and meet objectives	
6. An ability to develop and conduct appropriate experimentation, analyze and interpret data, and use engineering judgment to draw conclusions	
7. An ability to acquire and apply new knowledge as needed, using appropriate learning strategies	

**Required Textbook:** None. Instructor notes are posted in CANVAS.

**Spring 2021 Videos:** [https://ufloida-](https://ufloida-my.sharepoint.com/:f/g/personal/svoronos_ufl_edu/EtBnr53oz3NLqICy4xVmqEgBKKI3I_IEbLdH99V2hRfa7g?e=IAY0Ye)

[my.sharepoint.com/:f/g/personal/svoronos\\_ufl\\_edu/EtBnr53oz3NLqICy4xVmqEgBKKI3I\\_IEbLdH99V2hRfa7g?e=IAY0Ye](https://ufloida-my.sharepoint.com/:f/g/personal/svoronos_ufl_edu/EtBnr53oz3NLqICy4xVmqEgBKKI3I_IEbLdH99V2hRfa7g?e=IAY0Ye)

**Computer:** Laptop computer **running Windows, Excel, and Python** is required. Additional frequency response software is provided by the instructor without charge.

**Course Topics** (*The timing is approximate as I slow down or accelerate according to my perception of how well the students comprehend what I am lecturing on.*)

- Introduction to feedback and feedforward control (1<sup>st</sup> week)
- Nonlinear state space models and their linearization (weeks 2-4)
- Laplace transforms, transfer functions, and open-loop stability (weeks 5-6)
- First-order plus time delay systems and approximate transfer functions from experimental data (weeks 7-8)
- The PID control law and low-pass filtering (week 8)
- Controller tuning methods for first order plus time delay systems (weeks 8-9)
- Velocity and position forms of the discrete PID control law (week 9)
- Frequency response analysis (weeks 10-11)
- Closed-loop stability analysis (weeks 12-13)
- Controller tuning methods for any transfer function model (week 14)

- Optional topics, depending on time availability: Cascade control, design of feedforward control, controller design for open-loop unstable systems (week 15)

### *Attendance Policy*

Class attendance is required. I recognize that infectious diseases may force some students to miss class. I am therefore providing access to recordings of the spring 21 offering of the class and accompanying PowerPoint slides, and I intend to follow the same topic coverage. Frequent absences will significantly impact the class attendance and participation grade which makes up 5% of your total grade (see below).

Requirements for class attendance, make-up exams, assignments, and other work in this course are consistent with university policies (see <https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-regulations/attendance-policies/>). I will work with students who have University excused absences to promote health and safety, and will provide reasonable exam accommodations and assignment extensions.

### *Course Assessment*

- |  |       |
|--|-------|
| - Exam 1, Thursday October 12, 4:05 PM - ?   | 37.5% |
| A review will be held Tuesday October 10, 4:05 - 9:00? PM  |       |
| - Exam 2, Thursday December 14, 8:00 PM - ?  | 37.5% |
| A review will be held Thursday December 7, 1:00 - 5:00? PM   |       |
| - Classwork and Homework   | 20%   |
| Each homework/classwork problem (or part of it) will be graded in a scale from 0 to 3, with a 3 earned only for perfect answers. |       |
| - Class attendance & participation   | 5%.   |

## *Detailed Explanation of Grading*

1. For each student, Overall Points are calculated as follows:

$$\text{Overall Points} = 0.375 * \text{Exam1 Grade} + 0.375 * \text{Exam2 Grade} + 0.20 * \text{Homework/Classwork Grade} + 0.05 * \text{Class Participation Grade}$$

where

- Exam grades are 0-100
- Homework/Classwork Grade = ( Total homework points earned)/(maximum possible points) \*100
- Class participation grade:  
Students will receive an 88 if they attend all classes (aside from university excused absences) but do not contribute to class discussions, or ask questions, or correct lecture errors, something encouraged and appreciated. Then the grade is reduced according to the frequency of unexcused class absences and raised according to how active a participant they are.

2. Grades are then decided as follows:

Division between A and A- : The division between the lowest A and the highest A- occurs in students who averaged overall score 87.5 +/- 2.5. As it is undesirable to have a student with 87.49 obtain a different grade from a student with 87.51, instead of having a hard boundary at 87.5, the students are first sorted in decreasing order of overall points and the division occurs at the largest gap (difference). So, if there are five students with overall points 89.6, 88.4, 87.3, 85.2, and 85.1, 87.3 is assigned the lowest A and 85.2 the highest A-.

Divisions between lower grades are decided in the same manner, with one exception. A minimum of 50% overall points is required for a student to earn a C.

Division between A- and B+ : 82.5 +/- 2.5

Division between B+ and B : 77.5 +/- 2.5

Division between B and B- : 67.5 +/- 2.5

Division between B- and C+ : 62.5 +/- 2.5

Division between C+ and C : 57.5 +/- 2.5

**Division between C and C- : 50 (no gap here, 50 is C, 49.9 C-)**

Division between C- and D+ : 37.5 +/- 2.5

Division between D+ and D : 17.5 +/- 2.5

Division between D and D- : 2.5 +/- 2.5 (never happens)

E: Pursued for students with honesty violations

The class participation grade is designed so that students who attend class regularly will not have an A grade lowered even if they never speak. It helps attending students with lower overall points.

## **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

### ***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/>. 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/>. 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/>. Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/public-results/>.

### ***In-Class Recording***

Students are allowed to record video or audio of class lectures. However, the purposes for which these recordings may be used are strictly controlled. The only allowable purposes are (1) for personal educational use, (2) in connection with a complaint to the university, or (3) as evidence in, or in preparation for, a criminal or civil proceeding. All other purposes are prohibited. Specifically, students may not publish recorded lectures without the written consent of the instructor.

A “class lecture” is an educational presentation intended to inform or teach enrolled students about a particular subject, including any instructor-led discussions that form part of the presentation, and delivered by any instructor hired or appointed by the University, or by a guest instructor, as part of a University of Florida course. A class lecture does not include lab sessions, student presentations, clinical presentations such as patient history, academic exercises involving solely student participation, assessments (quizzes, tests, exams), field trips, private conversations between students in the class or between a student and the faculty or lecturer during a class session.

Publication without permission of the instructor is prohibited. To “publish” means to share, transmit, circulate, distribute, or provide access to a recording, regardless of format or medium, to another person (or persons), including but not limited to another student within the same class section. Additionally, a recording, or transcript of a recording, is considered published if it is posted on or uploaded to, in whole or in part, any media platform, including but not limited to social media, book, magazine, newspaper, leaflet, or third party note/tutoring services. A student

who publishes a recording without written consent may be subject to a civil cause of action instituted by a person injured by the publication and/or discipline under UF Regulation 4.040 Student Honor Code and Student Conduct Code.

### ***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 Conduct Code (<https://sccr.dso.ufl.edu/process/student-conduct-code/>) specifies a number of behaviors that are in violation of this code and the possible sanctions. 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
- Jennifer Nappo, Director of Human Resources, 352-392-0904, [jpennacc@ufl.edu](mailto:jpennacc@ufl.edu)
- Curtis Taylor, Associate Dean of Student Affairs, 352-392-2177, [taylor@eng.ufl.edu](mailto:taylor@eng.ufl.edu)
- Toshikazu Nishida, Associate Dean of Academic Affairs, 352-392-0943, [nishida@eng.ufl.edu](mailto: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>

## ***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](mailto: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.

**Counseling and Wellness Center:** <https://counseling.ufl.edu>, and 392-1575; and the University Police Department: 392-1111 or 9-1-1 for emergencies.

#### **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](mailto: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>.

**Career Resource Center**, Reitz Union, 392-1601. Career assistance and counseling; <https://career.ufl.edu>.

**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/>.

**Writing Studio, 302 Tigert Hall**, 846-1138. Help brainstorming, formatting, and writing papers. <https://writing.ufl.edu/writing-studio/>.

**Student Complaints Campus**: <https://sccr.dso.ufl.edu/policies/student-honor-code-student-conduct-code/>; <https://care.dso.ufl.edu>.

**On-Line Students Complaints**: <http://www.distance.ufl.edu/student-complaint-process>.