

Principles of Nuclear Reactor Operation Laboratory

ENU 5176L

Class Periods: TBD

Location: UFTR Facility

Academic Term: Fall 2023

Instructor:

Dr. Donald Wall

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352-273-2662

Office Hours:

Tuesday 3:30 – 4:30 p.m.

Wednesday 1:00 – 2:00 p.m.

Office Location: MAE 311

Teaching Assistant/Peer Mentor/Supervised Teaching Student:

- UFTR staff members will participate in some reactor-related activities.

Course Description

Principles of reactor operations applied to startup, operation, and control of the training reactor to include performing reactor physics measurements and instrument and control calibrations.

One credit hour.

Course Pre-Requisites / Co-Requisites

Prerequisite: ENU 4144 or equivalent and consent of the instructor.

Course Objectives

The course objectives include comprehension and proficiency in the following topics:

- Use of radiation monitoring instruments
- Irradiation of samples and data analysis
- Conduct of reactor pre-startup checkouts and reactor startup
- Measurement of reactor core characteristics

The course objectives will be addressed by means of

- Lecture delivery of course content and “hands-on” work in the UFTR facility
- Reading materials for each topic (reading materials will be provided as electronic files)

Materials and Supply Fees

There are no materials and supply fees.

Required Textbooks and Software

Study materials will be distributed in electronic format, e.g. as .pdf files, or will be provided as links to materials that are available online.

Recommended Materials

- Nuclides and Isotopes, Chart of the Nuclides
Published by Knolls Atomic Power Laboratory
Publication date: 2010, 17th Edition

Note that the current price for a chart directly from Bechtel/KAPL is \$30, which is lower than the prices that are found at some other vendors. The book is the preferable format for classroom use. An earlier Edition is also acceptable. Study materials will be distributed in electronic format, usually as .pdf files or will be provided as links to material that is available online.

Course Schedule

Date	Subject	Comments
Week of Aug. 21	Radiation surveys and survey instruments	
Week of Aug. 28	High resolution gamma spectroscopy	Quiz 1 Survey instruments
Week of Sept. 4	High resolution gamma spectroscopy	Quiz 2 Gamma spectroscopy
Week of Sept. 11	Material preparation for irradiation, neutron activation	Assignment 1 Gamma spectroscopy
Week of Sept. 18	Reactor flux determination by NAA	Quiz 3 Preparation for irradiation
Week of Sept. 25	Technical Specifications	Assignment 2 Neutron activation
Week of Oct. 2	Daily Preoperational Check	Quiz 4
Week of Oct. 9	Daily Preoperational Check	Assignment 3
Week of Oct. 16	Weekly checkout	
Week of Oct. 23	Weekly checkout	Quiz 5
Week of Oct. 30	Reactor startup and operation	Assignment 4
Week of Nov. 6	Control rod calibration	Quiz 6
Week of Nov. 13	Control rod calibration	Assignment 5
Week of Nov. 20	determination of core excess reactivity	Assignment 6
Week of Nov. 27	TBA	
Week of Dec. 04	TBA	
Week of Dec. 11	There is not a final exam for this course	

Attendance Policy, Class Expectations, and Make-Up Policy

This course is primarily a laboratory-type course. There will be some lecture content that will precede the hands-on activities.

Attendance for hands-on work is mandatory.

Assignments must be submitted via Canvas. Late assignments will not be accepted.

Missed quizzes cannot be made up except under compelling circumstances and only when an absence is excused. Refer to the University policy on excused absences.

Excused absences must be consistent with university policies in the Graduate Catalog (<https://catalog.ufl.edu/graduate/regulations>) and require appropriate documentation. Additional information can be found here: <https://gradcatalog.ufl.edu/graduate/regulations/>

Evaluation of Grades

Course activity	Points per activity	Total*	Percent of total
6 Quizzes	10	50	40 %
6 Assignments	15	75	60 %
	Total →	125	100%

Note: There will be six quizzes and six assignments during the semester. The lowest quiz grade and lowest assignment grade will be dropped.

Grading Policy

Percent	Grade	Grade Points
94 - 100	A	4.00
90 - 93.9	A-	3.67
87 - 89.9	B+	3.33
84 - 86.9	B	3.00
80 - 83.9	B-	2.67
77 - 79.9	C+	2.33
74 - 76.9	C	2.00
70.0 - 73.9	C-	1.67
60 - 69.9	D	1.33
0 - 59.9	E	0.00

More information on UF grading policy may be found at:

[UF Graduate Catalog](#)
[Grades and Grading Policies](#)

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.bluer.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 Honor 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. 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 varied perspectives and lived experiences within our community and is committed to supporting the University’s core values, including the elimination of discrimination. It is expected that every person in this class will treat one another with dignity and respect regardless of race, creed, color, religion, age, disability, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, marital status, national origin, political opinions or affiliations, genetic information, and veteran status.

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
- HWCOC Human Resources, 352-392-0904, student-support-hr@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>

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.

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

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 Connections 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: <https://distance.ufl.edu/getting-help/>; <https://distance.ufl.edu/state-authorization-status/#student-complaint>.