

Seminar in Materials Science & Engineering
EMA6936
Class Periods: Tuesday, 8th period and 3:00 - 3:50 pm
Location: 125 Rhines Hall
Academic Term: Spring 2025

Instructor:

Josephine Allen
jallen@mse.ufl.edu
Phone: (352) 846-3328
Office Hours: On Demand, send e-mail to schedule

Staff Assistant:

Please contact through the Canvas website
Nekia Jones, office@mse.ufl.edu, Rhines 100

Course Description

Offered in Fall and Spring. Required of all students

Course Pre-Requisites / Co-Requisites

- None

Course Objectives

By the end of this course, students will be able to think critically about presented topics and provide insights about their applications, future research directions, etc.

Materials and Supply Fees

- None

Required Textbooks and Software

- None

Recommended Materials

- None

Required Computer

- None

Course Schedule (Tentative)

Week	Date	Speaker(s)
1	January 14, 2025	Josephine Allen PhD, and Simon Phillpot, PhD, <i>Course Introduction</i>
2	January 21, 2025	David Simmons, Ph.D. – University of South Florida
3	January 28, 2025	TBD
4	February 4, 2025	TBD
5	February 11, 2025	TBD
6	February 18, 2025	Scott Trenor, Ph.D. – Association of Plastic Recyclers
7	February 25, 2025	Glenn Fredrickson, Ph.D. – University of California, Santa Barbara
8	March 4, 2025	Chris Ellison, Ph.D. – University of Minnesota
9	March 11, 2025	TBD
10	March 18, 2025	Spring Break, No Seminar
11	March 25, 2025	Brij Moudgil, Ph.D. – University of Florida
12	April 1, 2025	Bokinla Moses Abraham, Ph.D. – Drexel University
13	April 8, 2025	Chris Cornelius, Ph.D. – Iowa State University
14	April 15, 2025	Beth Dickey, Ph.D. – Carnegie Mellon University
15	April 22, 2025	TBD

Important Dates

- ***March 25th is an important retirement seminar for Dr. Brij Moudgil, please be sure to attend seminar on this date.***

Attendance Policy, Class Expectations, and Make-Up Policy

Attendance is **required** and is taken before each seminar begins. Please be prepared to access the Canvas course and enter the access code. **Arrive on time:** you will not receive credit for the day's seminar **after 3:05 p.m. Stay for the entire class:** students who leave early will be reported to the student honor court for cheating. You will receive an unsatisfactory (U) for this course. Furthermore, the honors court will assign additional educational sanctions, including completion of courses from the following: Avoiding Plagiarism Workshop, Ethical Decision- Making Seminar, and Reflection Paper (see the Faculty Student Resolution Form online for more information). Also, see the section called the "University Honesty Policy" below.

Students are expected to behave professionally during the seminar. No talking, reading, laptop/tablet/notebook/smart-phone activity, etc. is allowed. Students should pay attention to the speaker, actively engage, facilitate and enhance the learning atmosphere, and be courteous at all times. Students who do not behave appropriately will be asked to leave and will not receive attendance credit that day.

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

This class offers 14 seminars during class hours in Spring 2025, and students must attend 12 for satisfactory completion. Up to 2 make-up seminars from MSE are allowed, to replace missed seminars, but they must be materials related. Students must obtain approval for the make-up seminar topic from Dr. Allen prior to the make-up seminar.

IMPORTANT NOTE: The seminars scheduled for April 15th and April 22nd are mandatory, students are expected to attend.

The following activities are allowable to replace missed seminars:

- Other departmental seminars: A listing of seminars across the UF Engineering Departments can be found at: <https://www.eng.ufl.edu/news-events/events-calendar/>
- Professional conferences: Up to two (2) conference presentations of individuals other than yourself, your advisor or someone in your research group can be used as a make-up seminar.

Furthermore, students must fill out the make-up form on Canvas. The form must include the following information:

- Title of the seminar/presentation
- Name of the speaker
- Hosting department (if applicable)
- Time and place of the seminar
- One paragraph summary and one paragraph analysis/critique of the presentation

These should be turned into Dr. Allen. Students who know that they cannot attend 12 official seminars/make-up seminars/conferences/workshops in the semester due to other obligations (e.g., TA schedule conflicts or any off-campus internships) must drop the course before drop/add date in the semester.

Grading Policy

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[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 Coordinator
- HWCOC Human Resources, 352-392-0904, student-support-hr@eng.ufl.edu
- Pam Dickrell, Associate Dean of Student Affairs, 352-392-2177, pld@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](mailto:title-ix@ufl.edu), 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://elearning.ufl.edu/>.

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>.