

# BME 6480: BIOMECHANICS RESEARCH

Fall Semester 2019

Fri., 12:00pm-1:00pm; MEB 2475

## 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 completion of BME 4250.

**Credit Hours:** 1

**Lectures:** 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](mailto:lucas.timmins@utah.edu)

**Office Hours:** By appointment

**Web Page:** Canvas, <https://utah.instructure.com/courses/567991>

**Textbook:** There is no official textbook for BME 6480.

<b>Grading:</b>	Presentation	40% total
	Abstract	10% total
	Presentation feedback	25% total
	In-class participation	25% total

<b>Grade Scale:</b>	A $\geq$ 92.5%	C $\geq$ 73.3%
	A- $\geq$ 90.0%	C- $\geq$ 70.0%
	B+ $\geq$ 86.6%	D+ $\geq$ 66.6%
	B $\geq$ 83.3%	D $\geq$ 63.3%
	B- $\geq$ 80.0%	D- $\geq$ 60.0%
	C+ $\geq$ 76.6%	E < 60.0%

**Presentations:** Each student is required to give a scientific presentation during the course. Undergraduate students typically give an ~20 minute presentation on their undergraduate research or a peer-reviewed publication on any range of topics in the field of biomechanics. Graduate students are expected to give an ~45 minute presentation on their graduate research.

**Abstract:** Students 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.

**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.

#### **Course Policies:**

**Academic Misconduct.** The Department of Biomedical Engineering 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. **In this course, any form of academic misconduct will result in a 0 mark for that assignment.** Any instances of academic misconduct will be immediately reported to the Department Chair, Associate Chair for Undergraduate Studies, and Dean of Students.

#### **College of Engineering Policies:**

The College of Engineering publishes semester guidelines on Appeals Procedures, Withdrawal Procedures, Adding Classes, and Repeating Courses. Information on these policies can be found at the following link: <https://www.coe.utah.edu/students/academic-affairs/academics/semester-guidelines/>

#### **University Policies:**

**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).

**Student Names & Personal Pronouns.** Class rosters are provided to the instructor with the student's legal name as well as "Preferred first name" (if previously entered by you in the Student Profile section of your CIS account). While CIS refers to this as merely a preference, the instructor will honor you by referring to you with the name and pronoun that feels best for you in class, on papers, exams, group projects, etc. Please advise the instructor of any name or pronoun changes (and update CIS) so he can help create a learning environment in which you, your name, and your pronoun will be respected. If you need assistance getting your preferred name on your UIDcard, please visit the LGBT Resource Center Room 409 in the Olpin Union Building, or email [bpeacock@sa.utah.edu](mailto:bpeacock@sa.utah.edu) to schedule a time to drop by. The LGBT Resource Center hours are M-F 8am-5pm, and 8am-6pm on Tuesdays.

**Content Accommodation.** Please review the syllabus to determine whether the content of the course or assigned readings conflict with any of your core beliefs. If you do see such a conflict, you may choose to drop the class, with no penalty, before the last day to drop courses. Please feel free to set up a time to discuss concerns regarding course content with the course instructor. For more information about the university's content accommodation policy, visit <https://regulations.utah.edu/academics/6-100.php>.

**Personal Wellness.** Personal concerns such as stress, anxiety, relationship difficulties, depression, cross-cultural differences, etc., can interfere with a student's ability to succeed and thrive at the University of Utah. For helpful resources contact the Center for Student Wellness at [www.wellness.utah.edu](http://www.wellness.utah.edu) or 801-581-7776.