

ENGR 4311: Senior Design I (CRN23901)

Fall, 2023

Labs

Time: Tuesday 2:40 p.m.–5:20 p.m.

Location: Lewis Science Center Annex (LSCA) 105

Meetings

Time: Friday, 3:00 p.m.–3:50 p.m.

Location: Conway Corp Center of Science (CCCS) 112

Advisor

Name: Lin Zhang

Office: LSCA 105 *Look for me in LSC 013 or LSC 110 if not in office.*

Office Hours: Friday 10:00 AM–12:00 PM

Telephone: 501-450-5904

Email: Lzhang12@uca.edu

Webpage: <https://uca.edu/physics/facultystaff/lin-zhang-phd/>

Overview

Course Description

Part of the Engineering Physics core. A course that offers diverse experiences in problem analysis and system design similar to professional engineering practice, and an opportunity to practice and perfect the skills of technical writing and oral presentation. Part of a two-semester sequence, this course combined with ENGR 4312 (Senior Design 2) provides the capstone experience for engineering students.

Students in this course will practise the process of engineering design to build artificial intelligence powered mobile robots. Through the construction of mobile robots, students are expected to improve their skills and capabilities of identifying opportunities, developing requirements, performing analysis and synthesis, generating multiple solutions, evaluating solutions against requirements, considering risks, and making trade-offs, for the purpose of obtaining a high-quality solution under the given circumstances.

Prerequisites

2.75 GPA or higher in ENGR and PHYS courses and consent of instructor. Not mandatory, but **ENGR 3410: Microcontrollers**, **ENGR 3421: Robotics I** and **ENGR 3321: Introduction of Deep Learning for Robotics** are recommended to be taken in advance. Experience with mechanical design, Python/C++ programming will be helpful.

Textbooks

This is an open-ended project without a specified textbook, but students are expected to read a lot of materials.

Supplies

This course will provide most (if not all) project supplies for free, including robot assembly parts, microcontrollers, computers, sensors, crafting tools, measuring tools, programming software etc.. Students are welcome to ask the instructor to purchase upgrading materials for their robots.

Lab Meeting

Students are expected to attend all lab meetings. Attendance will help you effectively communicate with your advisor and your teammates and is part of your final grade. If you are sick, have an emergency, or university sanctioned event please let me know in advance via email.

The Senior Design and Senior Capstone students will meet as a group joined by their faculty mentors regularly during the semester. It is expected that students will have brief updates on their project status or progress at these meetings. Feedback from peers and other advisors is encouraged. Clear, concise, and convincing presentation of your work is important.

Progressive Updates

For the sake of improving academic writing and teamwork capabilities, students are expected to periodically update their projects' progress. Documented weekly updates are expected to be kept in projects repositories using Github (or students' choices of platforms, e.g. Google Drive). The designs of the prototype, solutions toward key problems, analyses and experiments are expected to be formalized and documented. All the teams will submit a final report to demonstrate the completeness of their project with highlights and details.

Grading

A's are 90-100%, B's are 80-89%, C's are 65-79%, D's are 64-50%, F's are 0-49%. The final grade will be determined by following criteria.

Component	Percentage	Requirement/Format
Attendance	10%	Show up in weekly meeting
Weekly updates	20%	Outcomes & plans
Prototype	50%	Functional
Final Report	20%	Document & presentation
Total	100%	

Other Policies

The policies and procedures detailed in the UCA 2023-2024 Student handbook are also part of this syllabus. Please refer to the relevant policies as your guidance.

<https://uca.edu/student/files/2023/08/STUDENT-HANDBOOK-2023-2024.pdf>

If a student discloses an act of sexual harassment, discrimination, assault, or other sexual misconduct to a faculty member (as it relates to "student-on-student" or "employee-on-student"), the

faculty member is encouraged to report the act to the Title IX coordinator, deputy coordinator, or employee with the authority to institute corrective measures on behalf of the University. An investigation of a formal complaint of Title IX Sexual Harassment will only be initiated when the Complainant (individual who suffers actual harm from the violation of the Title IX Sexual Harassment Policy) or the Title IX Coordinator signs a complaint. For further information, please visit: <https://uca.edu/titleix/>. *Disclosure of sexual misconduct by a third party who is not a student and/or employee is also encouraged if the misconduct occurs when the third party is a participant in a university-sponsored program, event, or activity.

Academic Integrity

The University of Central Arkansas affirms its commitment to academic integrity and expects all members of the university community to accept shared responsibility for maintaining academic integrity. Students in this course are subject to the provisions of the university's Academic Integrity Policy, approved by the Board of Trustees as Board Policy No. 709 on February 10, 2010, and published in the Student Handbook. Penalties for academic misconduct in this course may include a failing grade on an assignment, a failing grade in the course, or any other course-related sanction the instructor determines to be appropriate. Continued enrollment in this course affirms a student's acceptance of this university policy.

Building Emergency Plan

An Emergency Procedures Summary (EPS) for the building in which this class is held will be discussed during the first week of this course. EPS and Building Emergency Plan (BEP) documents for most buildings on campus are available at <https://uca.edu/go/bep-library>. Every student should be familiar with emergency procedures for any campus building in which he/she spends time for classes or other purposes.

Disabilities

The University of Central Arkansas adheres to the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act. If you need an accommodation under this Act due to a disability, please contact the Office of Accessibility Resources and Services (OARS), 450-3613.

Course Evaluation

The Student Course Experience Survey is a crucial element in helping faculty achieve excellence in the classroom and the institution in demonstrating that students are gaining knowledge. Students may complete surveys for courses they are taking starting on Monday, November 20th, through the Sunday, December 17th after finals week by logging in to myUCA and clicking on the Course Evaluations task.

Project Workflow

Note: Weekly report will be due on every Tuesday at 5:20 p.m.

Phase 1 - Prepare

Students will be introduced to the projects. Doing literature survey, reading documentations from previous years. Students are expected to propose a general plan during this phase. To work as a team, it is recommended to clarify each member's duties.

Phase 2 - Prototype

Students will design and construct the prototypes based on their knowledge. The basic safety and functionalities of the prototypes will be tested and reported. Revised plans are expected to be proposed due to the progress.

Phase 3 - Upgrade

The robots are expected to be upgraded with more autonomous capabilities. Students will be expected to test and report the more complicated robots, progressively.

Phase 4 - Conclude

Students will hand over final report and present the prototype to peers and faculty members by the end of the semester. Highlighted and detailed demonstrations are expected.