

ELEC ENG 4BC3
Modelling of Biological Systems

COURSE OUTLINE

Please refer to course website for updated information.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Introduction to mathematical and engineering methods for describing and predicting the behaviour of biological systems; including sensory receptors, neuromuscular and biomechanical systems; statistical models of biological function; kinetic models of biological thermodynamics.

PRE-REQUISITES AND ANTI-REQUISITES

Prerequisite(s): One of ELEC ENG 3EJ4, ENGINEER 3N03 or PHYSICS 3B06; and registration in Electrical & Biomedical Engineering Level IV, or permission of the instructor.

SCHEDULE And MODE OF DELIVERY

The material for this course will be delivered through a mixture of online videos, textbook readings, live online lectures and tutorials (which are also recorded), and virtualized and projects. The platform for each component is noted at the end of each line.

Lecture: Monday and Wednesday 8:30 – 9:20 a.m., Friday 10:30 – 11:20 on Zoom

Tutorial: Monday 11:30 – 12:20 a.m. MacVideo

INSTRUCTOR

Dr. Aleksandar Jeremic

Email: jeremic@mcmaster.ca

Office: ITB-A214

Phone: 905-525-9140 ext. 27894

Office Hours: Thursdays 12:30 – 3:30 and by appointment

Please note that during the university closures due to Covid-19 in the Fall Term, instructors will not be in their offices. Please see the course website for clarification on their availability.

TEACHING ASSISTANTS

Names, contact information and office hours are provided on the course website.

COURSE WEBSITE/S

<http://avenue.mcmaster.ca>

COURSE OBJECTIVES

The purpose of this course is to understand some of the routine mathematical approaches to modelling biological systems. Linear time invariance (LTI) will be discussed as it applies to biological modelling. The short comings of LTI will be described and a thorough analysis using other approaches including short-time Fourier transform (STFT) wavelets will be presented. Real life examples will be presented using real data acquired from various physiological recording systems.

ASSUMED KNOWLEDGE

You should have a solid knowledge of linear algebra, vector calculus and basic statistics. Also, a thorough mastering of Matlab is critical. Lastly, working knowledge of anatomy and physiology is assumed.

COURSE MATERIALS

Required Texts:

No required texts. Relevant research papers will be posted on the course website.

Calculator:

Only the McMaster Standard Calculator (Casio fx-991 MS or MS Plus) will be permitted in tests and examinations. This is available at the Campus Store.

Other:

Throughout the course references to numerous texts and research review articles will be provided. All material is available in the McMaster Library system, or has been validated as open source.

COURSE OVERVIEW

Week	Topic	Readings
1-2	Data from biological systems; error analysis; statistical analysis	TBD

3	Building Models: e.g. Cardiovascular modeling	TBD
4	Respiratory modeling	TBD
5-7	Multivariate analysis	TBD
8-9	Time – frequency analysis, LTI, correlation	TBD
10-11	FT vs. STFT (EEG, ECG)	TBD
12-13	Machine Learning in biomedical signal processing	TBD

A more detailed timeline is available on the course web site.

At certain points in the course it may make good sense to modify the schedule. The instructor may modify elements of the course and will notify students accordingly (in class, on the course website).

ASSESSMENT

Component	Weight
Assignments	20 %
Project	20 %
Presentation	10 %
Midterm	20 %
Final Exam	30 %
Total	100 %

Students will hand in 2 assignments in approximately the first 2/3 of the semester. These will be based on material learned in lectures, presentations and tutorials. Assignments will require programming in Matlab or Python. Assignments will **not** be done in groups (as per previous years) but must be done individually.

Students will be required to complete a major data modeling and analysis project. These will be done in *groups of up to 3 students*. Data will be anything physiological/biological in nature. There are numerous sites on the internet that are repositories of biological/medical data. It is suggested data from one of these sites be downloaded and used. If you choose to get data from yourselves a student research ethics board application would need to be submitted. The report will include an introduction about the data and why it might be important. Analysis will include modeling of some form of response and how this was determined as appropriate, proper statistical analysis from multiple subjects and error analysis where appropriate. The report should end with interpretations, conclusions, and possible future directions. The report should be 2000-3000 words and include figures, program code, etc.

Late submissions of assignments or project report are subject to 20% penalty per day (less than one day is counted as one day).

No make-up midterm tests will be granted. Weight of a missed midterm test will be transferred to final exam.

Prior to the “Last day for withdrawing from courses without failure by default” date you will receive marks for the following activities, which constitute at least 10% of the final grade.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

You are expected to exhibit honesty and use ethical behaviour in all aspects of the learning process. Academic credentials you earn are rooted in principles of honesty and academic integrity. It is your responsibility to understand what constitutes academic dishonesty. Academic dishonesty is to knowingly act or fail to act in a way that results or could result in unearned academic credit or advantage. This behaviour can result in serious consequences, e.g. the grade of zero on an assignment, loss of credit with a notation on the transcript (notation reads: "Grade of F assigned for academic dishonesty"), and/or suspension or expulsion from the university. For information on the various types of academic dishonesty please refer to the Academic Integrity Policy, located at <https://secretariat.mcmaster.ca/university-policies-proceduresguidelines/>

The following illustrates only three forms of academic dishonesty:

- plagiarism, e.g. the submission of work that is not one's own or for which other credit has been obtained.
- improper collaboration in group work.
- copying or using unauthorized aids in tests and examinations.

AUTHENTICITY / PLAGIARISM DETECTION

Some courses may use a web-based service (Turnitin.com) to reveal authenticity and ownership of student submitted work. For courses using such software, students will be expected to submit their work electronically either directly to Turnitin.com or via an online learning platform (e.g. A2L, etc.) using plagiarism detection (a service supported by Turnitin.com) so it can be checked for academic dishonesty.

Students who do not wish their work to be submitted through the plagiarism detection software must inform the Instructor before the assignment is due. No penalty will be assigned to a student who does not submit work to the plagiarism detection software. All submitted work is subject to normal verification that standards of academic integrity have been upheld (e.g., on-line search, other software, etc.). For more details about McMaster's use of Turnitin.com please go to www.mcmaster.ca/academicintegrity.

COURSES WITH AN ON-LINE ELEMENT

Some courses may use on-line elements (e.g. e-mail, Avenue to Learn (A2L), LearnLink, web pages, capa, Moodle, ThinkingCap, etc.). Students should be aware that, when they access the electronic components of a course using these elements, private information such as first and last names, user names for the McMaster e-mail accounts, and program affiliation may become apparent to all other students in the same course. The available information is dependent on the technology used. Continuation in a course that uses on-line elements will be deemed consent to this disclosure. If you have any questions or concerns about such disclosure please discuss this with the course instructor.

Some courses may use online proctoring software for tests and exams. This software may require students to turn on their video camera, present identification, monitor and record their computer activities, and/or lock/restrict their browser or other applications/software during tests or exams. This software may be required to be installed before the test/exam begins.

COPYRIGHT AND RECORDING

Students are advised that lectures, demonstrations, performances, and any other course material provided by an instructor include copyright protected works. The Copyright Act and copyright law protect every original literary, dramatic, musical and artistic work, including lectures by University instructors.

The recording of lectures, tutorials, or other methods of instruction may occur during a course. Recording may be done by either the instructor for the purpose of authorized distribution, or by a student for the purpose of personal study. Students should be aware that their voice and/or image may be recorded by others during the class. Please speak with the instructor if this is a concern for you.

CONDUCT EXPECTATIONS

As a McMaster student, you have the right to experience, and the responsibility to demonstrate, respectful and dignified interactions within all of our living, learning and working communities. These expectations are described in the Code of Student Rights & Responsibilities (the “Code”). All students share the responsibility of maintaining a positive environment for the academic and personal growth of all McMaster community members, whether in person or online. It is essential that students be mindful of their interactions online, as the Code remains in effect in virtual learning environments. The Code applies to any interactions that adversely affect, disrupt, or interfere with reasonable participation in University activities. Student disruptions or behaviours that interfere with university functions on online platforms (e.g. use of Avenue 2 Learn, WebEx or Zoom for delivery), will be taken very seriously and will be investigated. Outcomes may include restriction or removal of the involved students’ access to these platforms.

ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATIONS

Students with disabilities who require academic accommodation must contact Student Accessibility Services (SAS) at 905-525-9140 ext. 28652 or sas@mcmaster.ca to make arrangements with a Program Coordinator. For further information, consult McMaster University’s Academic Accommodation of Students with Disabilities policy.

Students requiring academic accommodation based on religious, indigenous or spiritual observances should follow the procedures set out in the RISO policy. Students should submit their request to their Faculty Office normally within 10 working days of the beginning of term in which they anticipate a need for accommodation or to the Registrar's Office prior to their

examinations. Students should also contact their instructors as soon as possible to make alternative arrangements for classes, assignments, and tests.

REQUESTS FOR RELIEF FOR MISSED ACADEMIC WORK

McMaster Student Absence Form (MSAF): In the event of an absence for medical or other reasons, students should review and follow the Academic Regulation in the Undergraduate Calendar “Requests for Relief for Missed Academic Term Work”.

EXTREME CIRCUMSTANCES

The University reserves the right to change the dates and deadlines for any or all courses in extreme circumstances (e.g., severe weather, labour disruptions, etc.). Changes will be communicated through regular McMaster communication channels, such as McMaster Daily News, A2L and/or McMaster email.

RESEARCH ETHICS

The two principles underlying integrity in research in a university setting are these: a researcher must be honest in proposing, seeking support for, conducting, and reporting research; a researcher must respect the rights of others in these activities. Any departure from these principles will diminish the integrity of the research enterprise. This policy applies to all those conducting research at or under the aegis of McMaster University. It is incumbent upon all members of the university community to practice and to promote ethical behaviour. To see the Policy on Research Ethics at McMaster University, please go to <http://www.mcmaster.ca/policy/faculty/Conduct/ResearchEthicsPolicy.pdf>.

ACCREDITATION LEARNING OUTCOMES

Note: The *Learning Outcomes* defined in this section are measured throughout the course and form part of the Department’s continuous improvement process. They are a key component of the accreditation process for the program and will not be taken into consideration in determining a student’s actual grade in the course. For more information on accreditation, please ask your instructor or visit: <http://www.engineerscanada.ca> .

Outcomes	Indicators	Measurement Method(s)
To be able to design a mathematical model for a biomedical or biological problem. To understand how to test the model using computational approaches, mock systems and real life scenarios.	2.1	Assignment/test/exam

To be able to decide upon best mathematical models to investigate a real biological or biomedical problem. Be able to identify ways to simplify model by way of logical choices of assumptions. To know when to use model or data driven approaches.	3.2	Assignment/test/exam
To be able to classify and characterize sources of error in biological models. Understand error propagation and sources of error in bio systems.	3.3	Assignment
Students are asked to work together in groups to critically evaluate a topic in biological modeling as it relates to biomedical engineering. Evaluations are presents as two 20min seminars on the topic, the first an overview and the second detailed mathematically.	6.3	Presentation
To understand complex systems (chaos theory, temporal and spatial fractals) and how they relate to biological modeling. To understand how complex systems relate to biomedical and environmental problems. Viral/bacterial spreading sustainability of herds/food sources- epidemiology.	9.1	Assignment/project/

www.eng.mcmaster.ca/ece

Electrical and Computer Engineering Lab Safety

Information for Laboratory Safety and Important Contacts

This document provides important information for the healthy and safe operation of ECE instructional laboratories. This document is required reading for all laboratory supervisors, instructors, researchers, staff, and students working in or managing instructional laboratories in ECE. It is expected that revisions and updates to this document will be done continually. A McMaster University lab manual is also available to read in every laboratory and online <https://hr.mcmaster.ca/app/uploads/2019/07/2019-McMaster-Lab-Manual.pdf>

General Health and Safety Principles

Good laboratory practice requires that every laboratory worker and supervisor observe the following whether conducting lab work at school or at home:

1. Food and beverages are not permitted in the instructional laboratories.

2. A Laboratory Information Sheet on each lab door identifying potential hazards and emergency contact names should be known.
3. Laboratory equipment should only be used for its designed purpose.
4. Proper and safe use of lab equipment should be known before using it.
5. The course TA leading the lab should be informed of any unsafe condition.
6. The location and correct use of all available safety equipment should be known.
7. Potential hazards and appropriate safety precautions should be determined, and sufficiency of existing safety equipment should be confirmed before beginning new operations.
8. Proper waste disposal procedures should be followed.
9. Personal ergonomics should be practiced when conducting lab work. <https://bit.ly/3fOE71E>
10. Current University health and safety issues, and protocol should be known.
<https://hr.mcmaster.ca/resources/covid19/workplace-health-and-safety-guidance-during-covid-19/>

Location of Safety Equipment

Fire Extinguisher

On walls in halls outside of labs

First Aid Kit

ITB A111, or dial "88" after 4:30 p.m.

Telephone

On the wall of every lab near the door

Fire Alarm Pulls

Near all building exit doors on all floors

Who to Contact

Emergency Medical / Security: On McMaster University campus, call Security at extension 88 or 905-522-4135 from a cell phone.

Non-Emergency Accident or Incident: Immediately inform the TA on duty or Course Instructor.

University Security (Enquiries / Non-Emergency): Dial 24281 on a McMaster phone or dial 905-525-9140 ext. 24281 from a cell phone.

See TA or Instructor: For problems with heat, ventilation, fire extinguishers, or immediate repairs

Environmental & Occupational Health Support Services (EOHSS): For health and safety questions dial 24352 on a McMaster phone or dial 905-525-9140 ext. 24352 from a cell phone.

ECE Specific Instructional Laboratory Concerns: For non-emergency questions specific to the ECE laboratories, please contact 24103.

In Case of a Fire (On Campus Dial 88)

When calling to report a fire, give name, exact location, and building.

1. Immediately vacate the building via the nearest Exit Route. Do not use elevators!
2. Everyone is responsible for knowing the location of the nearest fire extinguisher, the fire alarm, and the nearest fire escape.
3. The safety of all people in the vicinity of a fire is of foremost importance. But do not endanger

yourself!

4. In the event of a fire in your work area shout “*Fire!*” and pull the nearest fire alarm.
5. Do not attempt to extinguish a fire unless you are confident it can be done in a prompt and safe manner utilizing a hand-held fire extinguisher. Use the appropriate fire extinguisher for the specific type of fire. Most labs are equipped with Class A, B, and C extinguishers. Do not attempt to extinguish Class D fires which involve combustible metals such as magnesium, titanium, sodium, potassium, zirconium, lithium, and any other finely divided metals which are oxidizable. Use a fire sand bucket for Class D fires.
6. Do not attempt to fight a major fire on your own.
7. If possible, make sure the room is evacuated; close but do not lock the door and safely exit the building.

Clothing on Fire

Do not use a fire extinguisher on people

1. Douse with water from safety shower immediately or
2. Roll on floor and scream for help or
3. Wrap with fire blanket to smother flame (a coat or other nonflammable fiber may be used if blanket is unavailable). Do not wrap a standing person; rather, lay the victim down to extinguish the fire. The blanket should be removed once the fire is out to disperse the heat.

Equipment Failure or Hazard

Failure of equipment may be indicative of a safety hazard - You must report all incidents.

Should you observe excessive heat, excessive noise, damage, and/or abnormal behaviour of the lab equipment:

1. Immediately discontinue use of the equipment.
2. In power labs, press wall-mounted emergency shut-off button.
3. Inform your TA of the problem.
4. Wait for further instructions from your TA.
5. TA must file an incident report.

Protocol For Safe Laboratory Practice

In general, leave equipment in a safe state when you finish with it. When in doubt, consult the course TA.

Defined Roles

TA	The first point of contact for lab supervision	
ECE Lab Supervisor	Steve Spencer- ITB 147	steve@mail.ece.mcmaster.ca
ECE Chair	Tim Davidson- ITB A111	davidson@mcmaster.ca
ECE Administrator	Kerri Hastings- ITB A111	hastings@mcmaster.ca
ECE Course Instructor	Please contact your specific course instructor directly	