

Physics 471E -- Advanced Topics in Physics: Biophysics -- Spring 2021

Instructor	Renate Wackerbauer, Office Location: REIC106 phone: 474-6108 e-mail: rawackerbauer@alaska.edu
Open office hours	Due to Covid19 there are no walk-in office hours unless the situation improves; meeting via zoom works; email is effective for straight-forward questions. additional recitation classes can be scheduled on request. homework questions can be discussed during/before class.
Course info	Phys471E, 1 credit
Prerequisites	Phys220 and Phys301, or instructor's permission
Lectures	MWF 1 to 2pm, REIC 203 The lectures will explore in depth material presented in the text Lectures will be recorded, they will be recorded, uploaded to "google classroom", and shared with all students in class. Due to the fluid situation with covid, the course modality can change throughout the semester. In the case of online course delivery, lectures would be offered synchronously (tablet with whiteboard), recorded, and uploaded into google classroom.
Noyes Lab	Access to the Noyes Computer Lab (REIC 101) is provided to all students enrolled in a Physics course. Your polar express card lets you in.
Text	<u>We use following text that is available through the library (some excerpts can be made available if there is a need)</u> --Biological Physics, by Philip Nelson, Freeman and Company, 2008 other readings for interest: --Mathematical Foundations of Neuroscience, by Ermentrout and Terman, Springer 2012 --Mathematical Physiology, by Keener and Sneyd, Springer (1998) --Mathematical Biology, by Murray, Springer (2002) --Computational Cell Biology, by Fall, Marland, Wagner, and Tyson, Springer (2002)
Course Content Tentative course calendar	Introduction into Biophysics - Biochemical reactions, transport and diffusion in cell membranes, membrane potential, neuron models, propagation of activity
Course Goals	This course provides a brief introduction into the mathematical modeling of biological systems. We consider the generation of order in biological systems; discuss transport at the microscopic level. Mathematical modeling is explored in the context of a nerve membrane.
Student Learning Outcomes	Students learn, *to apply physical concepts to a different scientific discipline *how to address interdisciplinary tasks with a physics background *how to model biological processes focusing on differential equations *how to simulate biological processes on a computer

Homework homework assignments	<p>Homework will be assigned about weekly and will be due by 3pm on the due dates. <i>Late homework will not be accepted.</i></p> <p>Finished homework should be uploaded as a pdf-file to "google classroom"</p>						
Examination	<p>A one-hour in-term final examinations will be held during the semester. The exam will be closed books and closed notes.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="391 436 1166 531"> <tr> <td>Final exam</td> <td>friday, feb 12, in class</td> <td>Class material and Lectures</td> </tr> </table>	Final exam	friday, feb 12, in class	Class material and Lectures			
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Grading	<p>Homework: The maximum score for each homework will be 100 points. <i>Illegible work will not be graded.</i></p> <p>Project: Explore the wide field of Biophysics in a project that will be presented to class in a 10 minute talk. Choose an application of a physical concept from fluid mechanics, mechanics, electricity and magnetism, or quantum mechanics in the broad field of biological physics. Browsing through articles in Physics Today or books on biological physics is a good starting point to find such a project.</p> <p>Evaluation of the presentation</p> <p><i>Grades A - D (including +/-) are assigned equal weight for total credits between 50% and 100% (A:>87.5%, B:>75%, C>62.5%, D:>50%. For the final grade homeworks, presentation, and exam will be weighted as follows:</i></p> <table border="1" data-bbox="391 968 1029 1150"> <tr> <td>Homework</td> <td>40%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Project presentation</td> <td>30%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Final exam</td> <td>30%</td> </tr> </table>	Homework	40%	Project presentation	30%	Final exam	30%
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Project presentation	30%						
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Course policies	<p>Attendance at lectures is expected. Active class participation, questions, comments on newspaper articles on biological physics are extremely welcome in the lectures. A missed exam will receive 0 credit unless the instructor is notified by email, phone, etc before the exam starts.</p>						
Student Obligations	<p>As students of UAF, you are bound by the policies and regulations of the University of Alaska, UAF rules and procedures, and the Student Honor Code. You are obligated to make yourselves familiar with all conditions presented in the UAF Catalog. <i>Plagiarism on homework or on an exam will result in a failing grade.</i></p> <p><i>Students should keep up-to-date on the university's policies, practices, and mandates related to COVID-19 by regularly checking this website.</i></p> <p><i>Further, students are expected to adhere to the university's policies, practices, and mandates and are subject to disciplinary actions if they do not comply.</i></p>						
Student protection and services statement	<p>Every qualified student is welcome in my classroom. As needed, I am happy to work with you, disability services, veterans' services, rural student services, etc. to find reasonable accommodations. Students at this university are protected against sexual harassment and discrimination (Title IX), and minors have additional protections. As required, if I notice or am informed of certain types of misconduct, then I am required to report it to the appropriate authorities. For more information on your rights as a student and the resources available to you to resolve problems, please go the following site: www.uaf.edu/handbook/.</p> <p>UA is an AA/EO employer and educational institution and prohibits illegal</p>						

discrimination against any individual: <https://alaska.edu/nondiscrimination/>.

Your instructor follows the University of Alaska Fairbanks Incomplete Grade Policy: “The letter “I” (Incomplete) is a temporary grade used to indicate that the student has satisfactorily completed (C or better) the majority of work in a course but for personal reasons beyond the student’s control, such as sickness, has not been able to complete the course during the regular semester. Negligence or indifference are not acceptable reasons for an “I” grade.”

Effective communication: Students who have difficulties with oral presentations and/or writing are strongly encouraged to get help from the UAF Department of Communication's Speaking Center (907-474-5470, speak@uaf.edu) and the UAF English Department's Writing Center (907-474-5314, Gruening 8th floor), and/or CTC's Learning Center (604 Barnette Street, 907-455- 2860).