



Course title and number    ECEN 489: At the Interface of Engineering and Life Sciences  
Term                            Spring 2016  
Meeting times and location    M/W 3:00 – 4:15 PM, HELD 109

### Course Description and Prerequisites

**Course Description:** This course aims to provide a broad overview of electrical and computer engineering principles that are being applied to various areas in life sciences and introduce recent trends in interfacing engineering and various life science disciplines to address emerging grand challenges.

**Prerequisites:** None (suitable for junior and senior students, but not limited to)

### Learning Outcomes or Course Objectives

Engineering principles are revolutionizing our understanding in various life science disciplines, from biological sciences to medical sciences. The objective of this course is to provide a broad overview of electrical and computer engineering principles, and more broadly engineering principles, that are being applied to various areas of life sciences. Recent trends in interfacing engineering and life science to address emerging grand challenge problems in health, bioenergy, and biosecurity will be introduced. This will be a team-taught course by several faculties.

### Instructor Information

Name                            Profs. Arum Han and Xiaoning Qian  
Telephone number    979-845-6268  
Email address            [arum.han@ece.tamu.edu](mailto:arum.han@ece.tamu.edu), [xqian@ece.tamu.edu](mailto:xqian@ece.tamu.edu)  
Office hours                TBD  
Office location            WEB 214H

### Textbook and/or Resource Material

Handouts and Lecture Notes

### Grading Policies

Assessment will be through homeworks. These homeworks will be a mixture of multiple-choice questions, short questions, mini-projects, and essays. There will be no exams.

## **Tentative Lecture Schedule and Instructor**

### **Lecture 1 (1/20): Introduction - At the Interface of Electrical Engineering and Life Sciences (Xiaoning/Arum)**

- Introduction to life science areas where electrical and computer engineering technologies have made - and will continue to make - impacts
- Sensing techniques, imaging techniques (MRI/CT/PET/Ultrasound), brain-machine interfaces, implantable devices (e.g. pace makers), defibrillators, etc.
- Bio-signal processing (EEG/ECG) and biomedical image processing
- Bioinformatics

### **Lecture 2 (1/25): Introduction to Biology and Medicine (Aniruddha Datta)**

- How biological systems function (DNA, RNA, Cell, Protein)
- Traditional measurement technologies (DNA microchip, fluorescence technology, western blot, mass spectrometry, biosensors, etc)

### **Lecture 3 (1/27): Translational Science and Scientific Epistemology (Ed Dougherty)**

### **Lecture 4 (2/1): Introduction to Medical Imaging (Jim Ji)**

### **Lecture 5 (2/3): Medical Image Processing (Jim Ji)**

### **Lecture 6 (2/8): Magnetic Resonance Imaging Part 1 (Steve Wright)**

### **Lecture 7 (2/10): Magnetic Resonance Imaging Part 2 (Steve Wright)**

### **Lecture 8 (2/15): Ultrasound Imaging Part 1 (Raffaella Righetti)**

### **Lecture 9 (2/17): Ultrasound Imaging Part 2 (Raffaella Righetti)**

### **Lecture 10 (2/22): Biomedical Signal/Image Processing (Xiaoning Qian)**

### **Lecture 11 (2/24): Genomic Signal Processing: Microarray & Microarray Data Analysis (Ivan Ivanov)**

### **Lecture 12 (2/29): Genomic Signal Processing: Current and Next-Generation High Throughput DNA/RNA Sequencing Technology, Hardware (Noushin Ghaffari)**

### **Lecture 13 (3/2): DNA Sequence Assembly, Alignment, and Gene Prediction (Xiaoning Qian)**

### **Lecture 14 (3/7): Structure and Function Prediction (Yang Shen)**

### **Lecture 15 (3/9): Genomic Signal Processing: Classification and Prediction for Disease Prognosis and Diagnosis (Ulisses Braga-Neto)**

### **Lecture 16 (3/21): Cancer and Genomics (Mike Bittner)**

### **Lecture 17 (3/23): Genomic Signal Processing: TBD & Mini-Project (Ivan Ivanov)**

### **Lecture 18 (3/28): Micro/Nano Systems Technology for Life Science (Arum Han)**

### **Lecture 19 (3/30): Microfluidics for Next Generation High Throughput Assays (Arum Han)**

### **Lecture 20 (4/4): Lab-on-a-Chip for Point of Care Diagnosis (Arum Han)**

### **Lecture 21 (4/6): Biological Network (Xiaoning)**

## Lecture 22-25 (4/11, 13, 18, 20): Recent Trends in Interfacing Electrical Engineering and Life Sciences

- Enabling technology for personalized medicine
- Computational prediction of drug response, computational toxicology
- Brain activity maps
- Next-generation prosthetics (e.g. brain-machine interface)
- Microphysiological systems
- Enabling technologies in global and remote healthcare

### Instructor Contact

Prof. Aniruddha Datta: datta@ece.tamu.edu

Prof. Ed Dougherty: edward@ece.tamu.edu

Prof. Ivan Ivanov: iivanov@cvm.tamu.edu

Prof. Jim Ji: jimji@ece.tamu.edu

Prof. Mike Bittner: mbittner@tgen.org

Dr. Noushin Ghaffari: nghaffari@tamu.edu

Prof. Raffaella Righetti: righetti@ece.tamu.edu

Prof. Steve Wright: wright@ece.tamu.edu

Prof. Ulisses Braga-Neto: ulisses@ece.tamu.edu

Dr. Yang Shen: yangshen@ttic.edu

### **Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)**

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you believe you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact Disability Services, in Cain Hall, Room B118, or call 845-1637. For additional information visit <http://disability.tamu.edu>

### **Academic Integrity**

For additional information please visit: <http://aggiehonor.tamu.edu>

*"An Aggie does not lie, cheat, or steal, or tolerate those who do."*

The handouts used in this course are copyrighted. The definition of "handouts" is all materials generated for this class, which include but are not limited to syllabi, homework assignments, in-class materials, and additional printed materials except published scientific papers for personal use. Because these materials are copyrighted, **you do not have the right to make additional copies of the handouts unless the instructor of this course expressly grants permission.** As commonly defined, plagiarism consists of passing off the ideas, words, writings, etc., of another as one's own. In accordance with this definition, you are committing plagiarism if you copy the work of another person without proper citation and acknowledgement, and turn it in as your own, even if you should have the permission of that person. **Plagiarism** is one of the worst academic offenses, for the plagiarist destroys the trust

among colleagues without which research cannot be safely communicated. **Paraphrasing** without proper citation and acknowledgement is one form of plagiarism. If you have any questions regarding plagiarism, please consult the latest issue of the Texas A&M University Student Rules, under the section "Scholastic Dishonesty". Any forms of dishonesty including, but not limited to, cheating on any examinations and plagiarism on the **Review project** will be handled according to the procedures outlined by the Aggie Honor System Office. Please check the following websites for further information:

University Regulations Student Handbook: <http://student-rules.tamu.edu>

Definition of Academic Misconducts: <http://www.tamu.edu/aggiehonor/acadmisconduct.htm>