NPREF-446: Interaction of Radiation with Matter I  
Last updated: March 22, 2021

Instructor  
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Schedule  
Lectures: M 9:00 – 9:50, Zoom  
Lectures: W 9:00 – 9:50, Zoom  
Office Hours: F 9:00 – 9:50, Zoom  

In addition, video lectures will be prerecorded and shared with the class.

Course Website  
http://z.engineering.illinois.edu/teaching.html

Credit  
3 credit hours

Prerequisite  
MATH 285, PHYS 211–214, or equivalent.  
Linear Algebra (MATH 125) is not required, but highly recommended.

Grading  
1) Homework (40%). Late homework is acceptable, but 10% of the score will be deducted per day until 30% is reached. Homework will be collected using Gradescope. Please register on gradescope using your real name and netid email at www.gradescope.com. Gradescope is FERPA compliant.  
2) Mid-term exam (20%), Final exam (40%).

Description  
The classical and quantum theories of the interaction of radiation (neutrons, photons, and charged particles) with matter are the core components of nuclear and materials science and engineering. At UIUC, we offer a sequence of four courses (446, 447, 521, and 529) at different progressive levels on this subject. The sequence, in the aggregate, aims to provide the students with solid trainings on essential physical principles, mathematical competence, and computational skills. In this course, we provide a quantitative introduction to introductory quantum mechanics, fundamentals of atomic and nuclear physics, and interaction of radiation with matter.

Topical Outline  
1. *Introductory Quantum Mechanics:* limitations of classical theory (stable atomic model, black-body radiation, photoelectric effect, Compton scattering), wave-particle duality, operators, Schrödinger equation, eigen states, observables, statistical interpretation, probability conservation, bound/unbound states (square potential, Harmonic oscillator, ladder operators, free particle, $\delta$ potential), uncertainty principle,  
2. *Fundamentals of Atomic and Nuclear Physics:* Atomic structure, nuclear properties (terminology, size, distributions of charge and mass, abundance, binding energy, Q-value, separation energy, semi-empirical mass formula, liquid drop model, mass parabola, spin, parity, electromagnetic moments), nuclear force and nuclear structure (properties of nuclear force, deuteron structure, neutron-proton scattering, phase shift, partial wave approximation, scattering length, differential cross section, exchange force model, nuclear shell model, nuclear magic numbers), radioactive decay, nuclear reactions  
3. *Interaction of Radiation with Matter:* neutron (neutron-proton scattering, energy dependence of cross section, moderation), gamma (attenuation, photoelectric effect, Compton scattering, pair production), heavy and light charged particle (stopping power, Bragg curve, range, ionization loss and radiation loss)

Recommended Texts  

**Sexual Misconduct Reporting Obligation**

The University of Illinois is committed to combating sexual misconduct. Faculty and staff members are required to report any instances of sexual misconduct to the University’s Title IX Office. In turn, an individual with the Title IX Office will provide information about rights and options, including accommodations, support services, the campus disciplinary process, and law enforcement options.

A list of the designated University employees who, as counselors, confidential advisors, and medical professionals, do not have this reporting responsibility and can maintain confidentiality, can be found here: wecare.illinois.edu/resources/students/#confidential.

Other information about resources and reporting is available here: wecare.illinois.edu.

**Academic Integrity**

The University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign Student Code should also be considered as a part of this syllabus. Students should pay particular attention to Article 1, Part 4: Academic Integrity. Read the Code at the following URL: http://studentcode.illinois.edu/.

Academic dishonesty may result in a failing grade. Every student is expected to review and abide by the Academic Integrity Policy: https://studentcode.illinois.edu/article1/part4/1-401/. Ignorance is not an excuse for any academic dishonesty. It is your responsibility to read this policy to avoid any misunderstanding. Do not hesitate to ask the instructor(s) if you are ever in doubt about what constitutes plagiarism, cheating, or any other breach of academic integrity.

**Religious Observances**

Illinois law requires the University to reasonably accommodate its students' religious beliefs, observances, and practices in regard to admissions, class attendance, and the scheduling of examinations and work requirements. You should examine this syllabus at the beginning of the semester for potential conflicts between course deadlines and any of your religious observances. If a conflict exists, you should notify your instructor of the conflict and follow the procedure at https://odos.illinois.edu/community-of-care/resources/students/religious-observances/ to request appropriate accommodations. This should be done in the first two weeks of classes.

**Disability-Related Accommodations**

To obtain disability-related academic adjustments and/or auxiliary aids, students with disabilities must contact the course instructor and the Disability Resources and Educational Services (DRES) as soon as possible. To contact DRES, you may visit 1207 S. Oak St., Champaign, call 333-4603, e-mail disability@illinois.edu or go to https://www.disability.illinois.edu. If you are concerned you have a disability-related condition that is impacting your academic progress, there are academic screening appointments available that can help diagnosis a previously undiagnosed disability. You may access these by visiting the DRES website and selecting “Request an Academic Screening” at the bottom of the page.

**Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA)**

Any student who has suppressed their directory information pursuant to Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) should self-identify to the instructor to ensure protection of the privacy of their attendance in this course. See https://registrar.illinois.edu/academic-records/ferpa/ for more information on FERPA.

**Anti-Racism and Inclusivity Statement**

The intent is to raise student and instructor awareness of the ongoing threat of bias and racism and of the need to take personal responsibility in creating an inclusive learning environment. The Grainger College of Engineering is committed to the creation of an anti-racist, inclusive community that welcomes diversity along a number of dimensions, including, but not limited to, race, ethnicity and national origins, gender and gender identity, sexuality, disability status, class, age, or religious beliefs. The College recognizes that we are learning together in the midst of the Black Lives Matter movement, that Black, Hispanic, and Indigenous voices and contributions have largely either
been excluded from, or not recognized in, science and engineering, and that both overt racism and micro-aggressions threaten the well-being of our students and our university community. The effectiveness of this course is dependent upon each of us to create a safe and encouraging learning environment that allows for the open exchange of ideas while also ensuring equitable opportunities and respect for all of us. Everyone is expected to help establish and maintain an environment where students, staff, and faculty can contribute without fear of personal ridicule, or intolerant or offensive language. If you witness or experience racism, discrimination, micro-aggressions, or other offensive behavior, you are encouraged to bring this to the attention of the course director if you feel comfortable. You can also report these behaviors to the Bias Assessment and Response Team (BART) (https://bart.illinois.edu/). Based on your report, BART members will follow up and reach out to students to make sure they have the support they need to be healthy and safe. If the reported behavior also violates university policy, staff in the Office for Student Conflict Resolution may respond as well and will take appropriate action.