

# Environmental Systems Dynamics (Special Problems in Environmental Engineering)

EnV6932 Section: 1234

**Class Periods:** MWF Period 8 (3:00-3:50 PM)

**Location:** Online (Zoom)

**Academic Term:** Fall 2020

## **Instructor:**

Katherine Todd-Brown, PhD

ktoddbrown@ufl.edu

(352) 448-5467 [Google voice]

Office/Student Hours: By appointment

## **Course Description**

Special Problems in Environmental Engineering. 1-4 Credits, Max 8 Credits

## **Course Pre-Requisites / Co-Requisites**

No pre-requisites, however a background in calculus and some experience with R is useful.

## **Course Objectives**

Students will be able to implement reaction kinetic models to describe soil biogeochemistry, parameterize models using literature values, distinguish between models using 1) steady state analysis, 2) response to environmental perturbation, and 3) parameter sensitivity, document reproducible analysis pipelines, and give/receive constructive feedback.

## **Materials and Supply Fees**

None

## **Required Textbooks and Software**

- RStudio (software, free)
  - RStudio Team (2020). *RStudio: Integrated Development for R*. RStudio, PBC, Boston, MA  
URL <http://www.rstudio.com/>
- Additional course notes developed by instructor

## **Recommended Materials**

- Advanced R. Hadley Wickham. 2019. 2<sup>nd</sup> edition. ISBN-13: 978-0815384571. Available: <https://adv-r.hadley.nz/>

## **Course Schedule**

Week 1: Computer set up and R review  
Week 2: Soils as a system and model diagrams  
Week 3: First order linear models  
Week 4: Steady state and environmental sensitivities  
Week 5: Parameter ranges and model response  
Week 6: Non-dimensional analysis  
Week 7: Averaging non-linear responses  
Week 8: Noise in models  
Week 9-10: Soil carbon model analysis: CENTURY  
Week 11-12: Soil carbon model analysis: MIMICS  
Week 13-14: Soil carbon model analysis: MEND  
Week 15: Final project due

### **Online Course Recording**

Our class sessions may be audio visually recorded for students in the class to refer back and for enrolled students who are unable to attend live. Students who participate with their camera engaged or utilize a profile image are agreeing to have their video or image recorded. If you are unwilling to consent to have your profile or video image recorded, be sure to keep your camera off and do not use a profile image. Likewise, students who un-mute during class and participate orally are agreeing to have their voices recorded. If you are not willing to consent to have your voice recorded during class, you will need to keep your mute button activated and communicate exclusively using the "chat" feature, which allows students to type questions and comments live. The chat will not be recorded or shared. As in all courses, unauthorized recording and unauthorized sharing of recorded materials is prohibited.

### **Attendance Policy, Class Expectations, and Make-Up Policy**

- Attendance is not required; however, the student is responsible for content discussed in class.
- Any assignment may be turned in for full credit or a regrade up to one-week past deadline. Further extensions require an excused absence.
- Excused absences must be consistent with university policies in the [Graduate Catalog](#) and require appropriate documentation. Additional information can be found in [Attendance Policies](#).
- This is a new course, syllabus is subject to revision during the semester changes will be announced via Canvas Announcements and during class.

### **Evaluation of Grades**

<b>Assignment</b>	<b>Total Points</b>	<b>Percentage of Final Grade</b>
Paper recaps (7)	10 each	20%
Class notes (4)	20 each	25%
Paired programming (4)	30 each	35%
Final Project	70	20%
TOTAL	340	100%

### **Grading Policy**

The following is given as an example only.

<b>Percent</b>	<b>Grade</b>	<b>Grade Points</b>
90.0 - 100.0	A	4.00
80.0 - 89.9	B	3.00
70.0 - 79.9	C	2.00
60.0 - 69.9	D	1.00
0 - 59.9	E	0.00

More information on UF grading policy may be found at:

<http://gradcatalog.ufl.edu/content.php?catoid=10&navoid=2020#grades>

### **Students Requiring Accommodations**

Students with disabilities who experience learning barriers and would like to request academic accommodations should connect with the disability Resource Center by visiting <https://disability.ufl.edu/students/get-started/>. It is important for students to share their accommodation letter with their instructor and discuss their access needs, as early as possible in the semester.

### **Course Evaluation**

Students are expected to provide professional and respectful feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing course evaluations online via GatorEvals. Guidance on how to give feedback in a professional and respectful manner is available at <https://gatorevals.ua.ufl.edu/students/>. Students will be notified when the

evaluation period opens, and can complete evaluations through the email they receive from GatorEvals, in their Canvas course menu under GatorEvals, or via <https://ufl.bluer.com/ufl/>. Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/public-results/>.

### ***University Honesty Policy***

UF students are bound by The Honor Pledge which states, “We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honor and integrity by abiding by the Honor Code. On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: “On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment.” The Honor Code (<https://sccr.dso.ufl.edu/policies/student-honor-code-student-conduct-code/>) specifies a number of behaviors that are in violation of this code and the possible sanctions. Furthermore, you are obligated to report any condition that facilitates academic misconduct to appropriate personnel. If you have any questions or concerns, please consult with the instructor or TAs in this class.

### ***Commitment to a Safe and Inclusive Learning Environment***

The Herbert Wertheim College of Engineering values broad diversity within our community and is committed to individual and group empowerment, inclusion, and the elimination of discrimination. It is expected that every person in this class will treat one another with dignity and respect regardless of gender, sexuality, disability, age, socioeconomic status, ethnicity, race, and culture.

If you feel like your performance in class is being impacted by discrimination or harassment of any kind, please contact your instructor or any of the following:

- Your academic advisor or Graduate Program Coordinator
- Robin Bielling, Director of Human Resources, 352-392-0903, [rbielling@eng.ufl.edu](mailto:rbielling@eng.ufl.edu)
- Curtis Taylor, Associate Dean of Student Affairs, 352-392-2177, [taylor@eng.ufl.edu](mailto:taylor@eng.ufl.edu)
- Toshikazu Nishida, Associate Dean of Academic Affairs, 352-392-0943, [nishida@eng.ufl.edu](mailto:nishida@eng.ufl.edu)

### ***Software Use***

All faculty, staff, and students of the University are required and expected to obey the laws and legal agreements governing software use. Failure to do so can lead to monetary damages and/or criminal penalties for the individual violator. Because such violations are also against University policies and rules, disciplinary action will be taken as appropriate. We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to uphold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honesty and integrity.

### ***Student Privacy***

There are federal laws protecting your privacy with regards to grades earned in courses and on individual assignments. For more information, please see: <https://registrar.ufl.edu/ferpa.html>

### ***Campus Resources:***

## *Health and Wellness*

### **U Matter, We Care:**

Your well-being is important to the University of Florida. The U Matter, We Care initiative is committed to creating a culture of care on our campus by encouraging members of our community to look out for one another and to reach out for help if a member of our community is in need. If you or a friend is in distress, please contact [umatter@ufl.edu](mailto:umatter@ufl.edu) so that the U Matter, We Care Team can reach out to the student in distress. A nighttime and weekend crisis counselor is available by phone at 352-392-1575. The U Matter, We Care Team can help connect students to the many other helping resources available including, but not limited to, Victim Advocates, Housing staff, and the Counseling and Wellness Center. Please remember that asking for help is a sign of strength. In case of emergency, call 9-1-1.

**Counseling and Wellness Center:** <http://www.counseling.ufl.edu/cwc>, and 392-1575; and the University Police Department: 392-1111 or 9-1-1 for emergencies.

### **Sexual Discrimination, Harassment, Assault, or Violence**

If you or a friend has been subjected to sexual discrimination, sexual harassment, sexual assault, or violence contact the **Office of Title IX Compliance**, located at Yon Hall Room 427, 1908 Stadium Road, (352) 273-1094, [title-ix@ufl.edu](mailto:title-ix@ufl.edu)

### **Sexual Assault Recovery Services (SARS)**

Student Health Care Center, 392-1161.

**University Police Department** at 392-1111 (or 9-1-1 for emergencies), or <http://www.police.ufl.edu/>.

## *Academic Resources*

**E-learning technical support**, 352-392-4357 (select option 2) or e-mail to [Learning-support@ufl.edu](mailto:Learning-support@ufl.edu).  
<https://lss.at.ufl.edu/help.shtml>.

**Career Resource Center**, Reitz Union, 392-1601. Career assistance and counseling. <https://www.crc.ufl.edu/>.

**Library Support**, <http://cms.uflib.ufl.edu/ask>. Various ways to receive assistance with respect to using the libraries or finding resources.

**Teaching Center**, Broward Hall, 392-2010 or 392-6420. General study skills and tutoring.  
<https://teachingcenter.ufl.edu/>.

**Writing Studio, 302 Tigert Hall**, 846-1138. Help brainstorming, formatting, and writing papers.  
<https://writing.ufl.edu/writing-studio/>.

**Student Complaints Campus:** <https://care.dso.ufl.edu>.

**On-Line Students Complaints:** <http://www.distance.ufl.edu/student-complaint-process>.

## *Change Log*

- 20200829: transfer to new template
- 20200818: updated HWCOE standard wording
- 20200811: added online privacy statement
- 20200809: Initial draft