

University of Florida
Department of Civil and Coastal Engineering

CGN 4905/6905
ADVANCED TRAFFIC SIMULATION

Course Description: This course addresses both the fundamentals and component algorithm details of microscopic traffic simulation. Specifically, this course will examine topics such as simulation fundamentals (e.g., discrete time/event processes, stochastic processes), roadway network structure, vehicle/driver characteristics, vehicle-movement algorithms (e.g., car following, lane changing), performance measures and calculation methods, and more. This is a 3-credit course.

Background and Course Objectives: Advances in computing capabilities over the years have resulted in traffic simulation, particularly microscopic simulation, to become one of the primary tools used for transportation engineering analyses. Consequently, infrastructure investment decisions, ranging from hundreds of thousands to hundreds of millions of dollars are often based on simulation results. Thus, it is essential that simulation users fully understand its technical underpinnings and limitations to be able to apply it effectively. With this understanding, one will be able to properly specify and setup microscopic simulations, as well as critically review and reconcile simulation results in the context of the inputs and avoid misuse, or even abuse, in the application of traffic simulation.

Pre-requisite: TTE 4004, or engineering graduate student, or permission of instructor

Instructor: Dr. Scott Washburn
Department of Civil and Coastal Engineering
580-A Weil Hall
Email: swash@ce.ufl.edu
Web site: <https://swash.essie.ufl.edu/>
Office Hours: Wednesdays 9:30 – 11:00, Thursdays, 10:30 – 12:00, or by appointment

Course Website: <http://elearning.ufl.edu/>

Meeting Times:

- Tuesdays, Periods 2-3 (8:30 – 10:25 AM); Actual start time will be 8:45 AM
- Thursdays, Period 3 (9:35 – 10:25 AM)

Meeting Location:

- Turlington Hall (TUR) 2354
- <https://campusmap.ufl.edu/#/index/0267>
- 29.6489754182173, -82.34411583026517

Topics Covered:

- Roadway network structure
- Computational methods for generating random numbers
- Driver characteristics modeling
- Vehicle performance characteristics modeling
- Vehicle movement algorithms
- Modeling signal control devices (e.g., signalized intersections and freeway ramp metering)
- Performance measures and calculation methods
- Verification, calibration, and validation

Reference Material:

- SwashSim Wiki (provided at no cost): <https://swashsim.miraheze.org/>

Software Requirements/Recommendations:

- SwashSim simulation program (provided at no cost): <https://github.com/swash17/SwashSim>

Computer Requirements: <https://www.eng.ufl.edu/students/resources/computer-requirements/>

Class Attendance: There is no specific attendance policy. However, students are strongly encouraged to attend all class meetings, as this will certainly improve your likelihood for success in this course. Also note the assignment scoring process, described below. Requirements for class attendance and make-up exams, assignments, and other work in this course are consistent with university policies. Click here to read the university attendance policies: <https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-regulations/attendance-policies/>

Class Demeanor and Etiquette: This should follow the rules of common sense. Students are encouraged to participate in class discussion and to initiate such discussion whenever they feel that they or the class could benefit from a dialog with the instructor. Other actions that disturb the class are *strongly* discouraged. Use of a laptop for class-related activities will often be necessary. However, laptops/tablets/cell phones should not be used for non-class activities (e.g., engaging in chat room discussions, E-mail, or surfing the web). ***Cell phones and pagers should be turned off or muted*** (if you need it for potential emergency notification, please alert me to this prior to the start of class). There is no official dress code for this class, but please dress appropriately (i.e., use common sense).

Grading: Your grade in this course will be based on the following components:

Component	#	Total Points	% of Total Points
Assignments	9	360	75
Project	1	120	25
Total		480	100

The points for each individual assignment will vary, but will average 40 points. Each assignment will be scored according to the following rubric.

Score/Percentage	Level of Effort/Completeness
4	Meets all expectations
3	Mostly meets expectations
2	Partially meets expectations
1	Minimal effort
0	No effort

The grading criteria for the project will be based on a continuous scale.

Submission due date/time

- On the day that an assignment is due, I will review and score it during the class period (usually Tuesday).
- A final opportunity for assignment review and scoring will be available during my office hours period following the class period due date.

Grading Scale

- Grades will be given at the end of the semester based only on the work completed during the semester.

Total Points Earned	Percentage of Available Points	Final Grade	Grade Points
451 - 480	≥ 94.0 %	A	4.00
432 - 450	90.0 - 93.9 %	A-	3.67
413 - 431	86.0 - 89.9 %	B+	3.33
394 - 412	82.0 - 85.9 %	B	3.00
374 - 393	78.0 - 81.9 %	B-	2.67
355 - 373	74.0 - 77.9 %	C+	2.33
336 - 354	70.0 - 73.9 %	C	2.00
317 - 335	66.0 - 69.9 %	C-	1.67
298 - 316	62.0 - 65.9 %	D+	1.33
278 - 297	58.0 - 61.9 %	D	1.00
259 - 277	54.0 - 57.9 %	D-	0.67
0 - 258	< 54.0 %	E	0.00

More information on UF grading policy may be found at:

<https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx>

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

Class Policy on Student Collaboration: It is acceptable to work with other classmates, and even recommended, to assist your learning of the material required to complete the assignments. It is NOT acceptable to copy another person's or group's assignment solution(s). Every student (or team in the case of team assignments) is responsible for turning in an individual/team assignment that represents their own work. Collaboration during quizzes/exams is strictly prohibited.

Course Audio/Video Recordings for Remote/Virtual Instruction: If the need arises for our class modality to shift to remote/virtual, online class sessions through Zoom or similar may be recorded (audio and video). Students who participate with their computer camera (aka "webcam") enabled 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 the class session 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. Regarding the sharing or distribution of class audio/video material, see the section on 'In-Class Recording' below.

University Policies

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/process/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.

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
- Jennifer Nappo, Director of Human Resources, 352-392-0904, jpennacc@ufl.edu
- Curtis Taylor, Associate Dean of Student Affairs, 352-392-2177, taylor@eng.ufl.edu
- Toshikazu Nishida, Associate Dean of Academic Affairs, 352-392-0943, nishida@eng.ufl.edu

Students Requiring Accommodations: Students with disabilities who experience learning barriers and would like to request academic accommodations should connect with the Disability Resource Center. Click <https://disability.ufl.edu/students/get-started/> to get started with the Disability Resource Center. 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.

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: <http://registrar.ufl.edu/catalog0910/policies/regulationferpa.html>

Software Use: All faculty, staff and student 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.

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.aa.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.bluera.com/ufl/>. Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/public-results/>.

In-Class Recording: Students are allowed to record video or audio of class lectures. However, the purposes for which these recordings may be used are strictly controlled. The only allowable purposes are (1) for personal educational use, (2) in connection with a complaint to the university, or (3) as evidence in, or in preparation for, a criminal or civil proceeding. All other purposes are prohibited. Specifically, students may not publish recorded lectures without the written consent of the instructor.

A “class lecture” is an educational presentation intended to inform or teach enrolled students about a particular subject, including any instructor-led discussions that form part of the presentation, and delivered by any instructor hired or appointed by the University, or by a guest instructor, as part of a University of Florida course. A class lecture does not include lab sessions, student presentations, clinical presentations such as patient history, academic exercises involving solely student participation, assessments (quizzes, tests, exams), field trips, private conversations between students in the class or between a student and the faculty or lecturer during a class session.

Publication without permission of the instructor is prohibited. To “publish” means to share, transmit, circulate, distribute, or provide access to a recording, regardless of format or medium, to another person (or persons), including but not limited to another student within the same class section. Additionally, a recording, or transcript of a recording, is considered published if it is posted on or uploaded to, in whole or in part, any media platform, including but not limited to social media, book, magazine, newspaper, leaflet, or third party note/tutoring services. A student who publishes a recording without written consent may be subject to a civil cause of action instituted by a person injured by the publication and/or discipline under UF Regulation 4.040 Student Honor Code and Student Conduct Code.

COVID-19

- You are expected to wear approved face coverings at all times during class and within buildings even if you are vaccinated.
- If you are sick, stay home and self-quarantine. Please visit the [UF Health Screen, Test & Protect website](#) about next steps, retake the questionnaire and schedule your test for no sooner than 24 hours after your symptoms began. Please call your primary care provider if you are ill and need immediate care or the UF Student Health Care Center at 352-392-1161 (or email covid@shcc.ufl.edu) to be evaluated for testing and to receive further instructions about returning to campus.
- If you are withheld from campus by the Department of Health through Screen, Test & Protect, you are not permitted to use any on-campus facilities. Students attempting to attend campus activities when withheld from campus will be referred to the Dean of Students Office.
- UF Health Screen, Test & Protect offers guidance when you are sick, have been exposed to someone who has tested positive or have tested positive yourself. Visit the [UF Health Screen, Test & Protect website](#) for more information.
- Please continue to follow healthy habits, including best practices like frequent hand washing. Following these practices is our responsibility as Gators.

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 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: Visit <https://counseling.ufl.edu> or call 352-392-1575 for information on crisis services as well as non-crisis services.

Student Health Care Center: Call 352-392-1161 for 24/7 information to help you find the care you need, or visit <https://shcc.ufl.edu>.

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

Sexual Assault Recovery Services (SARS)

Student Health Care Center, 392-1161.

UF Health Shands Emergency Room / Trauma Center: For immediate medical care call 352-733-0111 or go to the emergency room at 1515 SW Archer Road, Gainesville, FL 32608; <https://ufhealth.org/emergency-room-trauma-center>.

University Police Department: Visit <https://police.ufl.edu> or call 352-392-1111 (or 9-1-1 for emergencies).

COVID-19:

<https://coronavirus.ufl.edu/>

<https://coronavirus.ufhealth.org/>

<https://coronavirus.ufhealth.org/screen-test-protect-2/frequently-asked-questions/covid-19-exposure-and-symptoms-who-do-i-call-if/>

Academic Resources

E-learning technical support: Contact the UF Computing Help Desk at <https://helpdesk.ufl.edu/> at 352-392-4357 or via e-mail at helpdesk@ufl.edu.

Career Connections Center: Reitz Union Suite 1300, 352-392-1601. Career assistance and counseling services, <https://career.ufl.edu/>.

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

Teaching Center: Broward Hall, 352-392-2010 or to make an appointment 352-392-6420. General study skills and tutoring, <https://teachingcenter.ufl.edu>.

Writing Studio: 2215 Turlington Hall, 352-846-1138. Help brainstorming, formatting, and writing papers. <https://writing.ufl.edu/writing-studio>

Student Complaints On-Campus: Visit <https://sccr.dso.ufl.edu/policies/student-honor-code-student-conduct-code> for more information.

On-Line Student Complaints: Visit <https://distance.ufl.edu/getting-help/student-complaint-process/> for more information.