

Summer 2021

Survey of Medical Physics

GMS 5905; Section 1122; 1 credit

CLASS MEETING INFO

Thursdays 1:45PM – 2:50PM
Course materials on Canvas
Mock residency interviews TBA

INSTRUCTORS

Stephanie Leon, PhD; leons@radiology.ufl.edu
BC Schwarz, PhD; schwbc@radiology.ufl.edu
Guest Lectures: Lynn Rill, PhD; Manuel Arreola, PhD
Office Hours: Arrange via email

TEACHING ASSISTANTS

None

DESCRIPTION

(1 credit) This course is intended to prepare students for their future graduate studies and future medical physics career by informing students about career choices, work environments, residencies, board certification, and ethics and professionalism.

PRE-REQUISITES/CO-REQUISITES

None

OBJECTIVES

1. Students will learn about the different subspecialties of medical physics/health physics and their required qualifications, anticipated salaries, and anticipated future demand
2. Students will learn about available work environments for medical physicists and the benefits/drawbacks of each of these environments
3. Students will learn about the rules and regulations governing the profession of medical physics
4. Students will learn about medical events and errors and the basics of root cause analysis
5. Students will learn about residency and the MP-RAP
6. Students will learn about the board certification process for medical physicists and the regulating bodies for board certification
7. Students will learn about ethics and professionalism in medical physics including HIPAA privacy laws
8. Students will plan their anticipated career path in graduate school and medical physics
9. Students will create a CV to which they can add future information and accomplishments
10. Students will participate in a mock residency interview to help prepare themselves for future residency interviews
11. Students will participate in ethics and professionalism discussions
12. Students will interview current medical physicists in different work environments and present on their interviews

MATERIALS AND SUPPLY FEES

AAPM Student Member Fee (\$25 application fee); https://www.aapm.org/memb/prospect/Student_Application.asp

REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS & SOFTWARE

Registration for one medical physics listserv required (MEDPHYS for therapy; DXIMGMEDPHYS for diagnostic/nuc med)

RECOMMENDED MATERIALS

None

COURSE SCHEDULE (W = Wednesday, Th = Thursday)

05/13/21 (Th): Class introduction, review of syllabus, overview of medical physics subspecialties (SL, BCS)

Assignments: Register for at least one listserv; sign up as AAPM student member

05/20/21 (Th): Overview of medical physics subspecialties continued (SL, BCS)

Assignments: None

05/27/21 (Th): Working environments in medical physics; describe interviews project (SL)

Assignments: Students rank interviews from most interested (1) to least interested (9)

06/03/21 (Th): QMPs, rules, and regulations (SL)

Assignments: Research QMP requirements and post to discussion forum

06/10/21 (Th): ABR, ABSNM, ABMP, CHP; qualifications, process, and preparation for board certification (BCS)

Assignments: None

06/17/21 (Th): Medical physics residencies and MP-RAP; CVs and personal statements (LR, BCS)

Assignments: CV and personal statement preparation, Plan your career path

07/01/21 (Th): AAPM TG-109: Ethics and professionalism in medical physics and HIPAA (BCS)

Assignments: Reading in preparation for ethics assignment

07/08/21 (Th): Discussion of ethical dilemmas in small groups (SL, BCS)

Assignments: Summary of ethics discussion

07/15/21 (Th): Discussion of ethics with class; QA/QC, medical errors, and RCA (SL)

Assignments: Root cause analysis

07/22/21 (Th): International medical physics; role of professional societies and involvement (BCS, SL, MA)

Assignments: None

07/29/21 (Th): Student presentations and discussion of interview assignment (SL, BCS)

Assignments: None

08/05/21 (Th): Student presentations and discussion of interview assignment (SL, BCS)

Assignments: None

ATTENDANCE POLICY; CLASS EXPECTATIONS; MAKE-UP POLICY

Attendance is required during this course as it is a highly interactive course with much of the course grade dependent on group work and participation in class. Any class periods that may be missed should be brought to the attention of the instructors as far in advance as possible.

Excused absences must be consistent with university policies in the Graduate Catalog and require appropriate documentation:

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

EVALUATION OF GRADES

A list of assignments in each category is found below the table. Each assignment is weighted equally within its category.

Assignment Category	Percentage of Final Grade
Experiences	40%

Homework	50%
Participation	10%
	Total: 100%

Experiences

- Interview a medical physicist
- Mock residency interview

Homework

- Plan your career path
- Prepare your CV
- Write your personal statement
- Ethics and professionalism group work
- Root cause analysis

Participation

- Becoming an AAPM member (if not already a member)
- Active reading of at least one medical physics listserv
- Posting to the class discussion boards

GRADING POLICY

Percent	Grade
93-100	A
90-92	A-
87-89	B+
83-86	B
80-82	B-
77-79	C+
73-76	C
70-72	C-
67-69	D+
63-66	D
60-62	D-
59 & below	E

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 requesting accommodations should first register with the Disability Resource Center (352-392-8565; <https://www.dso.ufl.edu/drc>) by providing appropriate documentation. Once registered, students will receive an accommodation letter which must be presented to the instructor when requesting accommodation. Students with disabilities should follow this procedure as early as possible in the semester.

EVALUATIONS

Students are expected to provide feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing online evaluations at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu/evals>. Evaluations are typically open during the last two or three weeks of the semester, but students will be given specific times when they are open. Summary results of these assessments are available to students at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu/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://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/student->

[conduct-honor-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.

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

352-392-1575; <http://www.counseling.ufl.edu/cwc>

Sexual Assault Recovery Services (SARS)

352-392-1161; Student Health Care Center

University Police Department

352-392-1111 (or 911 for emergencies); <http://www.police.ufl.edu/>

Academic Resources

E-learning Technical Support

352-392-4357 (select option 2); learning-support@ufl.edu; <https://lss.at.ufl.edu/help.shtml>

Career Resource Center

Career assistance and counseling.

352-392-1601; Reitz Union; <https://www.crc.ufl.edu/>

Library Support

Various ways to receive assistance with respect to using the libraries or finding resources.

<http://cms.uflib.ufl.edu/ask>

Teaching Center

General study skills and tutoring.

352-392-2010 or 352-392-6420; Broward Hall; <https://teachingcenter.ufl.edu/>

Writing Studio

Help brainstorming, formatting, and writing papers.

352-846-1138; 302 Tigert Hall; <https://writing.ufl.edu/writing-studio/>

Student Complaints Campus

https://www.dso.ufl.edu/documents/UF_Complaints_policy.pdf

On-Line Students Complaints

<http://www.distance.ufl.edu/student-complaint-process>