

Summer 2024

## Medical Physics Career Preparation

GMS 6005; Section 2024; 1 credit

### CLASS MEETING INFO

Thursdays 1:15 PM – 2:20 PM  
Mock residency interviews TBA

### INSTRUCTORS

BC Schwarz, Ph.D.; schwbc@radiology.ufl.edu  
Emily Marshall, Ph.D.; emar0015@radiology.ufl.edu  
Guest Lectures: Lynn Rill, Ph.D.; Manuel Arreola, Ph.D.  
*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 medical physics including medical events and errors, root cause analysis, quality, and safety
4. Students will learn about the MP-RAP
5. Students will learn about the board certification process for medical physicists and the regulating bodies for board certification
6. Students will learn about ethics and professionalism in medical physics including HIPAA privacy laws
7. Students will plan their anticipated career path in graduate school and medical physics
8. Students will create a CV to which they can add future information and accomplishments
9. Students will participate in a mock residency interview to help prepare themselves for future residency interviews
10. Students will participate in ethics and professionalism discussions
11. 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](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 (Tu = Tuesday, Th = Thursday)

05/16/24 (Th): Class introduction, review of syllabus, overview of Dx and Tx physics subspecialties (BCS); overview of NMP and CHP subspecialties (EM)

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

05/23/24 (Th): Working environments in medical physics; describe interviews project (EM, BCS)

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

05/28/24 (Tu): QMPs, rules, and regulations (EM)

**Assignments:** Research QMP requirements and post to discussion forum

06/06/24 (Th): Medical physics residencies and MP-RAP; CVs and personal statements (LR, BCS)

**Assignments:** CV and personal statement preparation, establish ORCID

06/13/24 (Th): ABR, ABSNM, ABMP, CHP; qualifications, process, and preparation for board certification (BCS)

06/20/24 (Th): AAPM TG-159: Ethics and professionalism in medical physics and HIPAA (BCS)

**Assignments:** Reading in preparation for ethics assignment

06/27/24 (Th): **Summer Break – No Class**

07/04/24 (Th): **July 4<sup>th</sup> – No Class (UF Holiday)**

07/09/24 (Tu): Discussion of ethical dilemmas in small groups (SL, BCS)

**Assignments:** Summary of ethics discussion

07/18/24 (Th): Discussion of ethics with class; QA/QC, medical errors, and RCA (SL)

**Assignments:** Root cause analysis

07/25/24 (Th): Role of professional societies and involvement; international medical physics (BCS, MA)

08/01/24 (Th): Student presentations and discussion of interview assignment (SL, BCS)

08/08/20 (Th): Student presentations and discussion of interview assignment (SL, BCS)

## 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

Assignment	Total Points	Percentage of Final Grade
Interview a medical physicist	100	20%
Plan your career path	100	10%
CV and personal statement	100	20%
Mock residency interview	100	20%
Ethics and professionalism group work	100	10%
Root cause analysis	100	10%
Participation	100	10%

### Participation

Participation includes three major components: Active participation in class discussions and in-person attendance of lectures, active reading of at least one medical physics listserv (to be discussed in first few minutes of each class or posted on discussion board), and becoming an AAPM member (if not already a member)

## 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/scsr/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](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**

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](mailto: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](https://www.dso.ufl.edu/documents/UF_Complaints_policy.pdf)

**On-Line Students Complaints**

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