

## **Nanoscale Transport**

ECH 6275/ ECH 4905 (3 credits)

**Class Periods:** M | Period 3 – 4 (9:35 AM - 11:30 AM) and W | Period 3 (9:35 AM - 10:25 AM)

**Location:** WEIL 0238

**Academic Term:** Fall 2024

### **Instructor**

Sergey Vasenkov

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Office: 320 Black Hall

Office Hours: TBD (2 hours weekly)

### **Course Description**

This course focuses on concepts and approaches used to analyze, describe, and quantify mass transport on small length scales when the relevant transport rates can be a function of the displacement length scale. Students learn how to approach such nanoscale transport problems using random walk and other formalisms. Several case studies including diffusion in cell membranes, nanoporous membranes, and catalysts will be considered in detail.

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

N/A

### **Course Objectives**

The goal is to provide students with the knowledge and skills allowing them to formulate ideas, explore these ideas, and solve problems related to transport on small length scales, including nanoscale. By the end of this course, students will be able to:

- Develop understanding of the relationship between normal (i.e., Fickian) mass diffusion and mass diffusion on small length scales;
- Develop a description of mass diffusion in the framework of the random walk approximation;
- Apply knowledge of the origins and types of anomalous diffusion to solve problems;
- Develop skills that allow analyzing and formulating ideas related to nanoscale transport; and
- Develop presentation skills.

### **Materials and Supply Fees**

N/A

### **Required Textbooks and Software**

N/A

### **Recommended Materials**

- 1) Jörg Kärger, Douglas M. Ruthven, Doros N. Theodorou (2012), Diffusion in Nanoporous Materials, 2 Volume Set: Wiley-VCH Verlag GmbH & Co. KGaA, doi:10.1002/9783527651276
- 2) Oliver C. Ibe (2013), Elements of Random Walk and Diffusion Processes: Wiley Publishing, doi:10.1002/9781118618059
- 3) Ben-Avraham, D., & Havlin, S. (2000), Diffusion and Reactions in Fractals and Disordered Systems. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, doi:10.1017/CBO9780511605826
- 4) Rudnick, J., & Gaspari, G. (2004), Elements of the Random Walk: An introduction for Advanced Students and Researchers. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, doi:10.1017/CBO9780511610912
- 5) Regier, M.; Schuchmann, H. P. Monte carlo simulations of observation time-dependent self-diffusion in porous media models. Transport in Porous Media 2005, 59, 115-126.
- 6) Oliver C. Ibe (2013), Elements of Random Walk and Diffusion Processes: Wiley Publishing, doi:10.1002/9781118618059

## Course Schedule

- Week 1: Review of normal (i.e., Fickian) diffusion with examples
- Week 2: Relationship between transport diffusion and self-diffusion
- Week 3: Presentation of diffusion as a random walk
- Week 4: Introduction to anomalous diffusion
- Week 5: Continuous-time random walk (CTRW) approach
- Week 6: Lévy walks
- Week 7: Introduction to fractals
- Week 8: Diffusion in fractal systems, percolation
- Week 9: Examples of percolation
- Week 10: Probability density distribution in fractal systems
- Week 11: Lateral diffusion in cell membranes
- Week 12: Diffusion in porous materials
- Week 13: Single-file diffusion
- Week 14: Experimental techniques to study diffusion on small length scales
- Week 15: Computational approaches to study diffusion on small length scales

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

Excused absences must be in compliance with university policies in the Graduate Catalog (<http://gradcatalog.ufl.edu/content.php?catoid=10&navoid=2020#attendance>) and require appropriate documentation. Additional information can be found here: <https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-regulations/attendance-policies/>

## Evaluation of Grades

Grades will be based on in-class quizzes and two projects.

| Assignment   | Percentage of Final Grade |
|--|---------------------------|
| Quizzes (2-3)  | 30%                       |
| Project 1: Presentation of a review of a published research article related to molecular/ion transport on small length scales and participation in discussions of such reviews | 30%                       |
| Project 2: Preparation of an NSF-style proposal related to molecular/ion transport on small length scales  | 40%                       |

- Students have a choice of working on projects in groups of two students or individually.
- The project descriptions are posted at least one month before the deadlines.
- Grading rubrics for Project 1:
  1. Quality of a written summary
  2. Overall quality of presentation
  3. Substantive critique of the presented work and/or suggestions for improvements are provided
  4. Responses to questions are clear
  5. Participation in discussion of presentations of other students.
- Grading rubrics for Project 2:
  1. Introduction of the research area
  2. Research goals/hypotheses
  3. Proposed studies and research methods/techniques
  4. Expected results and relevance to research goals/hypotheses.

## Grading Policy

The grades will not be curved.

| Percent     | Grade |
|-------------|-------|
| 100 - 90    | A     |
| 89.9 - 85.0 | A-    |
| 84.9 - 80.0 | B+    |
| 79.9 - 75.0 | B     |
| 74.9 - 70.0 | B-    |
| 69.9 - 65.0 | C+    |
| 64.9 - 58.0 | C     |
| 57.9 - 50.0 | C-    |
| 49.9 - 45.0 | D+    |
| 44.9 - 40.0 | D     |
| 39.9 - 35.0 | D-    |
| 34.9 - 0    | 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 who experience learning barriers and would like to request academic accommodations should connect with the Disability Resource Center (352-392-8565, <https://www.dso.ufl.edu/drc>). 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.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.

### ***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](mailto:jpennacc@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)

### ***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:**

If you or a friend is in distress, please contact [umatter@ufl.edu](mailto:umatter@ufl.edu) or 352 392-1575 so that a team member can reach out to the student.

**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 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.

<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://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>.