

**Department of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering**  
**The University of Texas at Arlington**  
**Introduction to Robotics - ME 5337**

**Instructor:** Dr. P. S. Shiakolas

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**Office Hours:** TBD and by appointment.

**Prerequisites:** Graduate standing or consent of instructor

**Text:** *Introduction to Robotics: Mechanics and Control* Third (preferred) and/or Second edition by John J. Craig

**Grading Policy**

**Homework (2.5 points each):** Homework will be either analytical and/or computational. I reserved the right to inquire from you to demonstrate your work. Treat the homework as the means of practicing and understanding the concepts presented in class. Homework is due at the beginning of class at the assigned due date. Late homework will not be accepted. It is imperative that you work all assigned homework since **not** all assigned problems will be graded.

**Projects (2.5 points each):** Each project will be counted and added to your grade. The total for the class will be adjusted appropriately. Some projects utilize the robots and other resources in the MARS lab meaning that you will be required to learn the robot programming language (support will be provided). Projects will require you to complete a project report, and be able to defend/present in class and demonstrate your work. We will also have research projects on topics of interest – you will have to write a research paper and have short in class presentation. All projects will be individual unless otherwise specified. **All projects must be completed with a passing grade (> 60%) in order to get a passing grade in the course.**

**Semester Exam (25 points):** One mid-semester exam. The exam will be comprehensive and may consist of two parts (an analytical and a computational). Note that part or the whole exam may be take-home. In class exams are closed book-notes but I will provide some formulas if needed.

**Final Exam (40 points):** The final exam will be comprehensive and may consist of two parts; an analytical and a computational. The final exam will be closed book-notes but I may provide some formulas if needed. The computational part if any could be assigned the last week of the semester.

**Makeup Exam:** No makeup exams will be given unless I am notified in writing in advance and approve of it. There will be only one comprehensive makeup exam the last week of the semester if needed.

**Guaranteed Grading Scale:** The guaranteed grading scale based upon the minimum percentage number of points obtained is shown below. The required percentages will not be increased but they may be decreased based upon the overall class averages at the end of the semester. Note that in order to get a passing grade you must complete all projects. No incomplete grades will be given for projects except in cases where prior arrangements are made with me.

**90% - 100%: A, 80% - 89%: B, 70% - 79%: C, 60% - 69%: D, 0 - 60%: F**

**Assume no collaboration is allowed unless expressed permission is obtained from the instructor.**  
**Anyone collaborating on reports or an exam will be given a failing grade in the course.**

**Expectations for Out-of-Class Study:** Beyond the time required to attend each class meeting, students enrolled in this course should expect to spend at least an additional 8-9 hours per week of their own time in course-related activities, including reading required materials, completing assignments, etc.

**Drop Policy:** According to university regulations and schedule. After the late registration period, students must see their academic advisor to drop a class or withdraw. Undeclared students must see an advisor in the University Advising Center. Drops can continue through a point two-thirds of the way through the term or session. It is the student's responsibility to officially withdraw if they do not plan to attend after registering. **Students will not be automatically dropped for non-attendance.** Repayment of certain types of financial aid administered through the University may be required as the result of dropping classes or withdrawing. For more information, contact the Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships (<http://www.uta.edu/ao/fao/>).

**Email Communication:** Email communication will be through the MyMav system to your official UTA issued email account. It is your responsibility to check your account often.

**Software:** You may use any computer software that you like, but make sure that you are proficient in it for solving the assignments for this class. Limited software support will be provided for MATLAB (<http://www.mathworks.com>), SCILAB (<http://www.scilab.org>), Mathematica (<http://www.wolfram.com>) and Maple (<http://www.maplesoft.com>). **Robotics Toolbox** – There are two versions of this toolbox; one requires MATLAB and the other requires SCILAB. Note that SCILAB is a free software package similar to MATLAB.

**Miscellaneous:** If you have a disability, any religious holidays that you need to observe or anything else that might interfere with this class and you would like for me to know about it you must inform me in writing no later than the second class meeting.

**Student Support Services:** UT Arlington provides a variety of resources and programs designed to help students develop academic skills, deal with personal situations, and better understand concepts and information related to their courses. For individualized referrals, students may visit the reception desk at University College (Ransom Hall), call the Maverick Resource Hotline at 817-272-6107, send a message to [resources@uta.edu](mailto:resources@uta.edu), or view the information at [www.uta.edu/resources](http://www.uta.edu/resources).

#### **Emergency Procedures for Disabled Personnel**

- If the disabled person cannot safely evacuate the building, one person should stay with the disabled individual while another person reports his/her location to the University Police.
- Hearing impaired and visually impaired persons need only one person each to notify them of a fire alarm or guide them to safe escape routes during an evacuation.
- After evacuating employees and students have cleared all stairways, disabled persons should be assisted to the stairwell landings to await emergency personnel. All doors to the stairwells must be kept closed during this time.
- NOTE: Environmental Health & Safety would like to offer the following reminders to those who are disabled or have special needs:
  - Take control without depending on others to take the first step.
  - Don't be afraid to let others know you need assistance.
  - Don't hesitate to communicate what your special needs are in order to make the evacuation easier and safer for you and for your assistants.
  - Communicate with those who can help as soon as you are able by dialing 3003 to campus Police.
  - Plan ahead. Be prepared. Know what you are going to do before an emergency arises. Make a plan and then test it. Determine what your alternatives are.
  - When you enter an unfamiliar building, look it over and locate the most available telephones, note horizontal exits and ramps, note exit signs and enclosed stairwells determine if landings are large enough), note rooms that would make good areas of refuge, and note the location of fire alarm pull stations.
  - Never take an elevator in a building on fire.
  - Don't delay your evacuation or communication to evacuate. Speaking with someone over the telephone will help to keep you calm.

## **Experimental Setups / Robot Programming Languages**

IBM 7535 SCARA – programmed using AML Language

Adept Robots – Viper 6-dof articulated, Cobra 4-dof SCARA, Python 3-dof cartesian

The Adept robots are programmed using Adept Ace language

## **Additional Reference Material**

M. W. Spong, Hutshinson and M. Vidyasagar, *Robot Dynamics and Control*

L. Sciavicco and B. Siciliano, *Modeling and Control of Robot Manipulators*

Lung-Wen Tsai, *Robot Analysis: The Mechanics of Serial and Parallel Manipulators*

S. Y. Nof, Editor-in-Chief, *Handbook of Industrial Robotics*

A. Tucker, Jr, Editor-in-Chief, *Computer Science and Engineering Handbook*

R. P. Paul, *Robot Manipulators: Mathematics, Programming and Control*

R. M. Murray, Z. Xi, and S. S. Sastry, *A Mathematical Introduction to Robotic Manipulation*

M. W. Spong, F.L. Lewis, and C.T. Abdallah, *Robot Control: dynamics, motion planning, and analysis*

F.L. Lewis, C.T. Abdallah, D.M. Dawson, *Control of robot manipulators*

Plethora of MATLAB books (In Science and Technology Library) and web resources

SCILAB reference material is available at SCILAB web page

Additional material will be provided as needed (either as photocopies or as PDF on the class web page).

It is your responsibility to check the class web page regularly for announcements

## **Americans with Disabilities Act**

The University of Texas at Arlington is on record as being committed to both the spirit and letter of federal equal opportunity legislation; reference Public Law 93112-The Rehabilitation Act of 1973 as amended. With the passage of new federal legislation entitled Americans with Disabilities Act – (ADA), pursuant to section 504 of The Rehabilitation Act, here is renewed focus on providing this population with the same opportunities enjoyed by all citizens. As a faculty member, I am required by law to provide “reasonable accommodation” to students with disabilities, so as not to discriminate on the basis of that disability. Student responsibility primarily rests with informing faculty at the beginning of the semester and in providing *authorized* documentation through designated administrative channels. If you require an accommodation based on disability, I would like to meet with you in the privacy of my office no later than the second class meeting to make sure that you are properly accommodated.

## **Assignment**

I encourage you to identify in the open literature topics of interest and new areas/applications of robotic technology and bring these to class. We will discuss interesting applications in class. Also, I will ask other faculty to give us guest lectures on their research in robotics as appropriate for this class.

## **Introduction to Robotics – ME 5337 Course Outline/Tentative Topics**

Introduction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Definitions, Robot Manufacturers, Traditional Applications, Classifications</li><li>• Robot types: Articulated, SCARA, Cartesian, Polar, etc.</li><li>• Robot Programming Languages</li><li>• Meso and Micro Robotics</li><li>• New Emerging Applications</li></ul>
Spatial Transformations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Homogeneous Transformations</li><li>• Reference Frames</li></ul>
Robot kinematics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Denavit-Hartenberg Parameters &amp; Other Approaches</li><li>• Kinematic Equations</li><li>• Position and Velocity</li><li>• Degrees of Freedom</li><li>• Differential Relations</li><li>• Inverse Kinematics</li><li>• Manipulator Jacobian, Static Forces</li><li>• Accuracy and Repeatability</li></ul>
Robot Dynamics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Force Acceleration Equation</li><li>• Newtonian, Lagrangian, and Other approaches</li><li>• State Variable Representation</li><li>• Dynamic Equations Representations</li></ul>
Motion Trajectory Path Planning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Joint Space</li><li>• Cartesian Space</li></ul>
Manipulator Control	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Position, Velocity</li><li>• Dynamic Characteristics</li><li>• Classical Control</li><li>• Computed Torque – Time permitting</li><li>• Digital Computed Torque – Time permitting</li><li>• Other Control Techniques – Time permitting</li></ul>
Other topics and emerging applications	<p>These topics will be introduced from available literature and time permitting or through guest lectures.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Surgical Robots</li><li>• Mobile Robots</li><li>• Biomimetic Robots</li><li>• Micro/Nano Robots</li></ul>

## Introduction to Robotics – ME 5337

### Academic Dishonesty

It is the philosophy of The University of Texas at Arlington that academic dishonesty is a completely unacceptable mode of conduct and will not be tolerated in any form. All persons involved in academic dishonesty will be disciplined in accordance with University regulations and procedures. Discipline may include suspensions or expulsion from the University. “Scholastic dishonesty includes but is not limited to cheating, plagiarism, collusion, the submission for credit of any work or materials that are attributable in whole or in part to another person, taking an examination for another person, any act designed to give unfair advantage to a student or the attempt to commit such acts.” (Regents’ Rules and Regulations, Part One, Chapter VI, Section 3, Subsection 3.2, Subdivision 3.22)

### University of Texas at Arlington Honor Code

The University of Texas at Arlington Honor Code can be found at <http://www.uta.edu/conduct/>.

I pledge, on my honor, to uphold UT Arlington's tradition of academic integrity, a tradition that values hard work and honest effort in the pursuit of academic excellence.

I promise that I will submit only work that I personally create or that I contribute to group collaborations, and I will appropriately reference any work from other sources. I will follow the highest standards of integrity and uphold the spirit of the Honor Code.

### College of Engineering Ethics

The college of engineering ethics tutorial is at <http://library.uta.edu/plagiarism/index.html>.

You are required to go through the tutorial and sign and return the attached sheet indicating you carefully went over the material, you understand the implications of the presented material and that you will abide and follow the instructions. You must return this at the second class meeting. You will not be allowed in the class if you do not return this form.

By signing below, I affirmed that I have gone through the college of engineering ethics tutorial and that I will follow the instructions, guidance and rules given in the tutorial.

Name (Block letters)

Student ID

Date

Signature

# THINK SAFETY FIRST RULES FOR THE MARS LAB

IN ADDITION TO THE SAFETY LECTURE,  
THESE RULES MUST BE FOLLOWED WHILE IN THE ROBOTICS LAB

ONLY AUTHORIZED USERS ARE ALLOWED IN THE LAB and  
POWER ON AND USE THE ROBOTIC DEVICES

- SOME OF THE ROBOTS DO NOT HAVE VISUALS (LIGHTS) INDICATING THAT THE ROBOT MOTOR POWER IS ON, ALWAYS BE ALERT AND STAY OUTSIDE THE ROBOT WORKSPACE IF THE POWER IS ON
- ONLY AUTHORIZED USERS ARE ALLOWED TO POWER ON THE ROBOTS AUTHORIZATION CAN ONLY BE GIVEN BY Dr. SHIAKOLAS
- FOR SAFETY REASONS YOU MUST OPERATE THE ROBOTS AT SLOW SPEEDS AND YOU MUST ALWAYS HAVE A TEAM MEMBER PRESENT WHILE POWER IS ON
- ALWAYS HOLD THE TEACH PENDANT AND STAY CLOSE TO THE EMERGENCY BUTTON WHILE THE ROBOT POWER IS ON
- IF A ROBOT IS IN A COLLISION COURSE OR ABOUT TO DAMAGE ANY EQUIPMENT DO NOT TRY TO STOP IT BY GRASPING IT - GET OUT OF THE WAY! /
- USE THE EMERGENCY STOP BUTTON ON THE TEACH PENDANT
- IF YOU INTENTIONALLY DAMAGE ANY ROBOTS OR OTHER EQUIPMENT YOU WILL BE GIVEN A FAILING CLASS GRADE AND REPORTED TO THE UNIVERSITY ADMINISTRATION
- THE MARS LAB IS USED BOTH FOR RESEARCH AND TEACHING. DO NOT DISTURB ANY EXPERIMENTAL SETUPS IN THE LAB - YOU CAN GET MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE EXPERIMENTS/RESEARCH PERFORMED BY CONSULTING THE RESEARCHERS. IF YOU DISTURB ANY EXPERIMENTAL TESTBEDS YOU WILL BE GIVEN A FAILING GRADE IN THE CLASS.
- IT IS A PRIVILEGE AND NOT A RIGHT TO USE THE MARS LAB. IF YOU DO NOT FOLLOW THE RULES, YOU WILL BE DENIED ACCESS WHICH WILL AUTOMATICALLY YIELD TO A FAILING CLASS GRADE
- Dr. SHIAKOLAS, THE MAE DEPARTMENT AND THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT ARLINGTON AND UT SYSTEM ARE NOT TO BE HELD LIABLE FOR ANY INJURIES DUE TO NEGLIGENCE AND/OR BY NOT FOLLOWING COMMON SENSE SAFETY RULES

## WHEN IN DOUBT ASK

I HAVE READ, UNDERSTOOD AND I WILL STRICTLY ADHERE TO THE ABOVE RULES

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