

EE 6971 Special Problems / EE 6991 Research Seminar (Spring 2018)

Course Syllabus

Instructor:

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Class Meeting Time: 2:00-2:50PM (Fridays)

Class Location: BB 3.03.24 (some talks may use a different location)

Office Hours: 13:00 – 14:00PM (Tuesdays and Thursdays) or by appointment.

Website: All class materials will be handled electronically through Blackboard Learn.

Course Catalog:

- **EE 6971 Special Problems. (1 to 3 hours credit.)** An organized course offering the opportunity for specialized study not normally or not often available as part of the regular course offerings. Special Problems courses may be repeated for credit when topics vary, but not more than 6 hours, regardless of discipline, may be applied to the degree.
- **EE 6991 Research Seminar. (1 hour credit.)** Organized research lectures and seminar presentations. The grade report for this course is either “CR” (satisfactory participation in the seminar) or “NC” (unsatisfactory participation in the seminar). This course may include a written component. May be repeated for credit, but not more than 1 hour will apply to the Master’s degree, regardless of discipline.

Prerequisite:

- Graduate standing or consent of instructor.

Course Contents:

- Research seminars in various ECE areas, presented by UTSA faculty and invited external speakers, e.g., professors from other universities and experts from industry.
- Talks given by UTSA Services, Offices, or staff members on specific topics, e.g., academic writing skills.
- The instructor will try to post the presentation slides, if they are available.
Agenda will be announced on BlackBoard (most updated):
Flyers will be available about one week prior to the seminars.

Evaluation Criteria

- Attendance.
 - You can miss **at most 2 talks**. However, it is highly encouraged to attend all of them.
 - If any emergency occurs, you may miss a class without penalty. You will need to submit **original** copy of proof (e.g. letter). The proof should include **contact information** (phone number or email) of the endorser.
 - In each class, an **attendance card** will be given at the beginning and should be submitted by the end of class.
 - Please be on time. **Presentations will start right away at 2PM. You will not be admitted to class after 2PM. We invite distinguished faculty and scientists in this course, and we want to ensure that their presentation goes as smoothly as possible. Your attendance will not count on that day if you arrive a minute or two late. This is non-negotiable.**
- Summary reports.
 - Each PhD student is required to submit **6 reports**, and each MS student is required to submit **3 reports**.
 - Each report should be **half page in length**, summarizing a **research talk** (not talks given by UTSA staff) that the student attended, in the student's own words. Typically, there will be at least 9 to 10 research talks (clearly indicated by the instructor) each semester. **Please plan carefully for your report submissions.**
 - The summary reports can be submitted as a single PDF file by the end of the semester. I will remind you few times during the semester about the summary reports, but you're responsible for these. PhD students should upload a single PDF file with 6 pages (1 page per presentation), and MS students should upload a single PDF file with 3 pages (per presentation). The deadline for submitting the file is April 30, 2018, midnight.
 - Each report should try to address the following questions: What's the problem the research tries to solve? What's the approach of the research? What's the novelty (difference than prior work) in the research? What's the impact of the research? Etc.
 - A report will be accepted if it follows the above requirements. For a report that is not acceptable, the instructor will reply to the student and ask for a revision; if the revised version is still not acceptable, this report will not count.
- Students are strongly encouraged to ask questions and interact with the speakers during and after the presentations.

Grading Policy:

- PhD students (registered under EE 6971) will receive a letter grade.
- MS students (registered under EE 6991) will receive a Credit/No Credit (CR/NC) grade.