

**ECE 6744/ ME 6544/AOE 6744: Linear Control Theory
Course Syllabus**

Instructor: Mazen Farhood
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Meeting Time: Tuesdays and Thursdays, 3:30 to 4:45 PM

Meeting Place: Whittemore 277

Office Hours: Tuesdays 5:00 to 6:30 PM and Thursdays 5:00 to 6:30 PM

Grader: TBA

Description: This course covers optimal controller and observer design for multi-input, multi-output linear systems. Major course topics include a review of linear system theory, linear-quadratic optimal control theory, linear-quadratic Gaussian (optimal controller/observer) theory, and methods for ensuring robustness to model uncertainty and time delays.

References: Texts Focusing on Linear Optimal Control

P. Dorato, C. T Abdallah, and V. Cerone. *Linear Quadratic Control: An Introduction*, Krieger Publishing.

B. D. O. Anderson and J. B. Moore. *Linear Optimal Control*, Prentice Hall, Englewood Cliffs, NJ, 1971.

R. W. Brockett. *Finite Dimensional Linear Systems*, John Wiley and Sons, New York, NY, 1970.

H. Kwakernaak and R. Sivan. *Linear Optimal Control Systems*, John Wiley and Sons, New York, NY 1972.

More General Texts on Optimal Control

A. E. Bryson, Jr. and Y.-C. Ho. *Applied Optimal Control: Optimization, Estimation, and Control*, (Revised Printing) Taylor and Francis, New York, NY 1975.

R. F. Stengel. *Optimal Control and Estimation*, Dover, New York, NY 1986.

Grade:	20%	Homework
	30%	Midterm Exam
	30%	Final Exam
	20%	Final Project

Final Project: The final project must be related to the course and is subject to the instructor's approval. A one-page proposal describing the project topic and scope is due on [Friday, March 4](#). A written paper describing the project is to be submitted on [Friday, April 29](#). You may apply the techniques discussed in this course to an interesting control problem of your choosing or present a detailed survey paper describing a special topic in optimal control theory.

Course Topics:

- I. Linear System Theory
 - A. Linear Algebra
 - i. Vector spaces and norms
 - ii. Linear maps; range and null space
 - iii. Existence and uniqueness of solutions to linear algebraic equations
 - iv. The eigenvalue problem
 - v. Symmetric matrices and quadratic forms
 - vi. Similarity transformations and the Jordan form
 - B. Linear ODEs
 - i. Linearization of nonlinear ODEs
 - ii. The state transition matrix
 - iii. Stability of equilibria
 - C. Control and Estimation
 - i. Controllability, stabilizability, and modal decomposition (The Cayley-Hamilton Theorem)
 - ii. Observability, detectability, and modal decomposition
 - iii. Stabilization by pole placement
 - iv. State estimation by pole placement
- II. The Linear-Quadratic Controller
 - A. Derivation of the LQ controller by dynamic programming
 - i. Solution for time-varying systems
 - ii. Solution for time-invariant systems
 - iii. Steady-state (infinite horizon) solution for time-invariant systems (The Linear-Quadratic Regulator)
 1. Penalty matrix selection
 2. Guaranteed degree of stability
 - iv. LQ optimal trajectory tracking
 - B. Derivation of the LQ controller from least squares theory
 - i. Least squares optimization in Euclidean space; the pseudoinverse
 - ii. Least squares optimization in function space
 - C. Robustness of the LQR state feedback controller
 - i. Nyquist plots
 - ii. Stability (gain and phase) margins
- III. State Estimation
 - A. Introduction to stochastic systems
 - B. The Kalman-Bucy filter
 - C. Special Topic: The extended Kalman-Bucy filter and adaptive identification
- IV. Combined State Estimation and Feedback Control
 - A. The LQG controller and the separation principle
 - B. Loss of robustness and loop transfer recovery