

The University of Texas at El Paso
Department of Kinesiology
KIN 4313 – Biomechanics
CRN: 20997
Fall 2023

General Information

Instructor:	Jeff Eggleston, Ph.D.
Office:	Larry K. Durham 102C
Email:	jdeggleston@utep.edu
Office Hours:	By appointment only
Course Textbook:	No text required
Teaching Assistant:	Gabby Moreno (agmoreno3@miners.utep.edu)

Course Description

KIN 4313 is a core course in each of the Kinesiology major degree plans. The course provides a mechanical analysis of the internal and external force acting on the human body and the effects of these forces. Emphasis will be placed on the development of skills to analyze movement both qualitatively and quantitatively.

Course materials will be presented in a semi-structured asynchronous manner, meaning you will need to view the lectures and take quizzes on your own time throughout the weeks in the semester. Exams will be administered on specific dates (noted below) online via Blackboard. Please make sure you note these dates and make yourself available for approximately 90 minutes. I will be available to meet virtually should any student need clarification on material, have questions regarding content, or if they would simply like to chat about biomechanics; an appointment will need to be scheduled for virtual meetings outside of regularly schedule office hours. I will hold virtual office hours every other Friday, via zoom, starting on January 27th, for students to ask questions without scheduling an appointment.

Laboratory

Labs begin the second week of the semester. You will need similarly access to internet accessible device(s) for lab as you do for lecture.

Technology Requirements

Because this course is being delivered through Blackboard, a stable internet connection is imperative: if internet may be an issue, you can following this [link](#) to Technology Support to checkout a hotspot. Please ensure your UTEP email account is working and that you have access to it: this will be our primary means of communication. Google Chrome and Mozilla Firefox are the best browsers for Blackboard.

You will need to have access to a computer/laptop/tablet to view all assignments, quizzes, and material. While you can complete exams and quizzes with a tablet or phone, it is highly encouraged that students use a computer/laptop to complete these assessments. Your device will also need a microphone in the event you attend office hours, and other Microsoft Office Programs.

If you encounter technical issues, I am happy to help you troubleshoot many issues. However, you can also contact the [UTEP Help Desk](#) for more complicated issues.

Additional Resources

Throughout the semester additional readings and information will be posted on Blackboard.

Learning Objectives

By the end of this course, students should be able to:

1. Describe human motion using appropriate, well-defined terminology;

2. Understand and apply Newton's Laws of Motion to identify causes of human motion;
3. Demonstrate a conceptual and computational proficiency with the above objectives;
4. Demonstrate an understanding of the real-world applications of the course materials.

Office Hours

I will be available on zoom from 12-1pm every other Friday, starting January 27th, for office hours. Students do not need to schedule an appointment to meet unless it falls outside of that time. I will be available to answer any questions students have, ranging from material concepts to mathematical examples or go over quiz/exam questions. Students are not required to attend office hours, but it is highly encouraged to aid in understanding material and concepts.

Link: <https://utep-edu.zoom.us/j/87068529557?pwd=cjkza29QbXREOW0vWVZoR1ZMcExuQT09>

Password: M34Ki3e6

Course Evaluation

Exams	15% (each)
Laboratory Grade	20%
Journal Entries/Discussion Boards	10%
Quizzes	10%

Due to the weights of the categories above, you cannot simply compute your grade by the number of points you have received. For your actual grade, refer to the 'Weighted Total' column in the Full Grade Center on Blackboard.

Exams: There will be four exams for this course. Each exam will be worth 100 points each. Exams will be administered via Blackboard and **will be available for 24 hours on the specified dates (below). Students will have 1 attempt and will have 1 hour and 20 minutes to complete each exam**; please plan accordingly. Once students begin an exam, they must finish it. Students are allowed to use class notes while taking exams but any suspicion of utilizing any outside resources (Google, colluding with other students, etc.) will result in a referral to the Office of Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution to investigate for academic dishonesty.

Exam Schedule

Exam I	Friday, February 3rd
Exam II	Friday, March 10th
Exam III	Friday, April 7th
Exam IV	Thursday, May 4th

Attendance & Participation Policy

There are no scheduled virtual meetings for this course, however there are optional virtual office hour meetings students can attend. Student participation is determined by completing various online activities such as the discussion board interactions, quizzes, and exams.

Journal Entries will be completed on Blackboard and are meant to serve as a platform to share questions or interests regarding the topics covered. There are two discussion boards per module, and with four (4) modules, that totals eight (8) discussion boards that need to be completed. Discussion boards for Modules 2 and 3 will require students to post to the discussion board and reply to two (2) peers' posts; failure to post and reply will result in a score of zero (0) for the respective discussion board. Each module will also contain discussion boards allowing students to articulate things from each module they found interesting, confusing, and how the information can be useful in real life. Each discussion board contact specific instructions.

Quizzes: There are six (6) total quizzes that are designed to determine if students are fully understanding course material. Quizzes should be viewed as another opportunity for students to determine their competence and proficiency on the related topics. Quiz content will range from verbal understanding (short answer questions) to

mathematical computations (computational proficiency) of the covered material. Quizzes will be administered via Blackboard are due by 11:59pm at the following dates:

Module 1:

- Syllabus Quiz – February 2nd
- Intro to Biomechanics Quiz – February 2nd

Module 2:

- Linear Kinematics Quiz – Marth 9th
- Angular Kinematics Quiz – Marth 9th

Module 3:

- Linear Kinetics Quiz – April 6th

Module 4:

- Angular Kinetics Quiz – May 3rd

Extra Credit: Students can earn 5 points of extra credit by participating in a research study during the semester. Students will only receive credit for participating in one study. To earn extra credit, students must write a short paragraph detailing what they were asked to do in the study (i.e. VO₂max test, glucose test, hypoxia, etc.), why they were asked to perform any tasks, what the purpose of the study was (students need to ask the research personnel they are working with for this), and how the information from the study could be used. As an alternative to participating in a research study, students may choose a research paper from the 'Literature' file in the Extra Credit link on Blackboard and write a 1-page summary of their selected paper. In their summary, students need to include information such as the paper's purpose, how the paper addresses a gap in the current literature, research procedures (how did the authors collect/obtain data), the statistical outcomes of the paper, and finally how the information is useful to the broader population. Extra credit submissions need to be uploaded to Blackboard by **May 4th @ 11:59pm**. Extra credit points will be added to students' lowest exam grade and will be manually entered at the end of the semester.



Grading Policy

- A ≥ 90.0%
- B 80.0%-89.9%
- C 70.0%-79.9%
- D 60.0%-69.9%
- F <59.9%

Grades will not be rounded. For instance, if you have earned a 78.6%, you will earn a C; your percentage will not be rounded to a B.

The last day to **drop this course is March 30th, 2023** without receiving a 'W' or failing grade.

The 'Life Happens Clause'

The Life Happens Clause is referring to the fact that life happens to each of us throughout the course of a semester and you may not be able to take a quiz or exam on time. Specifically, you can invoke this clause **once** during the semester by simply emailing me within one day of any quiz or exam and state that you would like to invoke the clause. If you do this, you will receive a 2-day extension on any quiz or exam with no questions asked (i.e. you

do not have to tell me why, just state you would like to invoke the clause). You will still need to schedule a make-up date/time with me for the missed activity.

Course Content

See the class schedule for approximate dates for each covered topic.

Course Communication

Since this is an online course, we will not be meeting face-to-face, however, there are still many ways we can communicate:

- **Virtual Office Hours:** I will hold open virtual office hours every other Friday from 12 – 1pm MST. Students do not need to schedule a meeting if they plan to meet with me during this time. Here is the zoom link: <https://utep-edu.zoom.us/j/87068529557?pwd=cjkza29QbXREOW0vWVZoR1ZMcExuQT09>
- **Email:** UTEP email is the best way to contact me. I will respond to your email within 24 hours of receipt, unless you email over the weekend, then my response time may increase to 48 hours. When emailing, please put the course number in the subject line. Also make sure you include your first and last name in the body of your email
- **Discussion Board:** If you have a question about content, you can also post it to the Help Board Discussion Boards in Blackboard. You have the ability to post questions anonymously in the Help Boards, if needed. If another student posts a question you can answer, feel free to respond
- **Announcements:** Please check Blackboard at least every other day throughout the semester to check for announcements. Announcements will be used to share updates to the schedule, new material or general topics

Alternate Means of Submitting Work in Case of Technical Issues

I highly encourage students to submit their work relatively early to avoid any technological glitches. I also highly encourage students to save your work in a separate document as a backup. Even if technology crashes you can still submit your backup document for credit. If you experience issues submitting your work in Blackboard, contact the UTEP Help Desk.

Incomplete Grade Policy

Incomplete grades may be requested by students, but only in exceptional circumstances and if you have completed at least half of the course requirements. Please contact me immediately if you believe an incomplete is warranted. If I approve of the incomplete, we will establish a contract of the work that needs to be completed with appropriately defined deadlines.

Accommodations Policy

The University is committed to providing reasonable accommodations and auxiliary services to students, staff, faculty, job applicants, applicants for admissions, and other beneficiaries of University programs, services and activities with documented disabilities in order to provide them with equal opportunities to participate in programs, services, and activities in compliance with sections 503 and 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990 and the Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments Act (ADAAA) of 2008. Reasonable accommodations will be made unless it is determined that doing so would cause undue hardship on the University. Students requesting an accommodation based on a disability must register with the [UTEP Center for Accommodations and Support Services](#) (CASS). Contact CASS at 915-747-5148 or email them at cass@utep.edu, or apply for accommodations online via the [CASS portal](#).

COVID-19 Accommodations

Students are not permitted on campus when they have a positive COVID-19 test, exposure or symptoms. If you are not permitted on campus, you should contact me as soon as possible so we can arrange necessary and appropriate accommodations.

Scholastic Integrity

Academic dishonesty is prohibited and is considered a violation of the UTEP Handbook of Operating Procedures. It includes, but is not limited to, cheating, plagiarism, and collusion. Cheating may involve copying from or providing information to another student, possessing unauthorized materials during a test, or falsifying research data on laboratory reports. Plagiarism occurs when someone intentionally or knowingly represents the words or ideas of another as one's own. Collusion involves collaborating with another person to commit any academically dishonest act. Any act of academic dishonesty attempted by a UTEP student is unacceptable and will not be tolerated. All suspected violations of academic integrity at The University of Texas at El Paso must be reported to the [Office of Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution](#) (OSCCR) for possible disciplinary action. To learn more, please visit [HOOP: Student Conduct and Discipline](#).

Class Recordings

The use of recordings will enable you to have access to class lectures, group discussions, and so on in the event you miss a synchronous or in-person class meeting due to illness or other extenuating circumstance. Our use of such technology is governed by the Federal Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) and UTEP's acceptable-use policy. A recording of class sessions will be kept and stored by UTEP, in accordance with FERPA and UTEP policies. Your instructor will not share the recordings of your class activities outside of course participants, which include your fellow students, teaching assistants, or graduate assistants, and any guest faculty or community-based learning partners with whom we may engage during a class session. **You may not share recordings outside of this course.** Doing so may result in disciplinary action.

Plagiarism Detecting Software

Some of your course work will be submitted through SafeAssign, a plagiarism detection software. SafeAssign is used to review submissions for originality and to determine whether information used in the submission was cited properly. Not citing others' information may result in disciplinary action.

Copyright Statement for Course Materials

Copyright law protects all materials in this course. The course materials are only for the use of students who are currently enrolled in the course and only for the purposes of this course. No materials from this course should be disseminated.

Course Resources

UTEP provides students a variety of services and support:

Technology Support and Resources:

- [Help Desk](#)

Academic Resources:

- [UTEP Library](#)
- [University Writing Center \(UWC\)](#)
- [Math Tutoring Center](#)
- [History Tutoring Center](#)
- [RefWorks](#)

Individual Resources:

- [Military Student Success Center](#)
- [Center for Accommodation and Support Services](#)
- [Counseling and Psychological Services](#)

Changes to this syllabus – The course schedule may be altered by the instructor, with sufficient notice being provided to students.

Campus Safety and Emergencies Notifications: Information Technology at UTEP provides emergency notification via your mobile phone. Visit <http://www.utep.edu/it> for more information and registration. Check the UTEP website for health-related information and updates.