Applications of Life Cycle Assessment in Biological Engineering

ABE 4932 Section: 10153
ABE 6933 Section: 10160/30654
Class Periods: MWF Period 3, 9:35 – 10:25 am
Location: Frazier Rogers Hall Rm. 211
Academic Term: Spring 2024

Instructors:
Dr. Ana Martin-Ryals
admartin@ufl.edu
(352) 294-6708

Dr. Ziynet Boz
ziynetboz@ufl.edu
(352) 294-7690

Office Hours: Friday 10:30-11:30 am or by appointment.

Course Description
This is a special topics course that will explore the topic of life-cycle assessment (LCA) in relation to biological engineering design. The course will be project based with students working in teams to identify a current challenge within water-energy-food systems and develop an engineering solution to address this challenge. A key component of this course will be applying LCA as a tool for informing the design process and evaluating the environmental impacts of engineered products and processes. Through the course, students will be introduced to additional concepts including circular economy, mass and energy balances, and life-cycle costing. Students will examine these concepts through case studies and apply them in a team design project. (3 credits.)

Course Pre-Requisites / Co-Requisites
MAC1147 Precalculus Algebra and Trigonometry

Course Objectives
After completing this course students will be able to:
- Identify global sustainability challenges within the water-energy-food nexus.
- Describe what life-cycle assessment and when/how it is applied.
- Carry-out a life-cycle assessment for a product or process using the ISO14044 framework, using SimaPro software, and including sensitivity and uncertainty analysis.
- Communicate life-cycle assessment results via oral presentation and written report.

Materials and Supply Fees - N/A

Required Textbooks and Software
There is no required textbook for this course. Access to all readings and course materials will be provided to students on Canvas. Students will be able to access the LCA software to be used in this course via the ABE virtual workstation.

Attendance Policy, Class Expectations, and Make-Up Policy
- Requirements for class attendance and make-up exams, assignments, and other work in this course are consistent with university policies. Click here to read the university attendance policies: https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-regulations/attendance-policies/ https://catalog.ufl.edu/graduate/regulations
- All assignments/class deliverables are due by 11:59 pm on the day specified for full credit. 10% deduction/day thereafter. Maximum deduction is 50%.

Course Schedule

Week	Topic	Due
1	Class Overview, Planetary Boundaries, Sustainability	--
2	Overview and Applications of LCA	Assignment 1
3	Goal, Scope & System Boundary	Assignment 2
4	Life-cycle Inventory	Quiz 1 & Assignment 3
5	Data Quality and Life-cycle Impact Assessment	Assignment 4
6	Working in SimaPro	Assignment 5
7	Sensitivity and Uncertainty Analysis	Assignment 6
8	Project Work Week	Quiz 2 & Assignment 7
9	Mid-term Project Presentations	Midterm Presentation
10	Life Cycle Costing, and Social LCA	--
11	Presenting and Communicating Results	Assignment 8
12	Project Work Week	Quiz 3 & Assignment 9
13	Project Work Week	--
14	Final Project Presentations	Final Presentation
15	Finalize Project Reports	Project Report

Evaluation of Grades

Assignment	Total Points	Percentage of Final Grade
Assignments (9)	225	45%
Quizzes (3)	75	15%
Midterm Presentation	50	10%
Final Presentation	50	10%
Final Report	100	20%
	500	100%

Grading Policy

Percent	Grade	Grade Points
93.4 - 100	A	4.00
90.0 - 93.3	A-	3.67
86.7 - 89.9	B+	3.33
83.4 - 86.6	B	3.00
80.0 - 83.3	B-	2.67
76.7 - 79.9	C+	2.33
73.4 - 76.6	C	2.00
70.0 - 73.3	C-	1.67
66.7 - 69.9	D+	1.33
63.4 - 66.6	D	1.00
60.0 - 63.3	D-	0.67
0 - 59.9	E	0.00

More information on UF grading policy may be found at:
https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx
OR
UF Graduate Catalog
Grades and Grading Policies

Students Requiring Accommodations
Students with disabilities who experience learning barriers and would like to request academic accommodations should connect with the disability Resource Center by visiting https://disability.ufl.edu/students/get-started/. 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.

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://sccr.dso.ufl.edu/process/student-conduct-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.

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 Undergraduate/Graduate Program Coordinator
• Jennifer Nappo, Director of Human Resources, 352-392-0904, jpennacc@ufl.edu
• Curtis Taylor, Associate Dean of Student Affairs, 352-392-2177, taylor@eng.ufl.edu
• Toshikazu Nishida, Associate Dean of Academic Affairs, 352-392-0943, nishida@eng.ufl.edu

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: https://registrar.ufl.edu/ferpa.html

Campus Resources:

Health and Wellness

U Matter, We Care:
Your well-being is important to the University of Florida. The U Matter, We Care initiative is committed to creating a culture of care on our campus by encouraging members of our community to look out for one another and to reach out for help if a member of our community is in need. If you or a friend is in distress, please contact umatter@ufl.edu so that the U Matter, We Care Team can reach out to the student in distress. A nighttime and weekend crisis counselor is available by phone at 352-392-1575. The U Matter, We Care Team can help connect students to the many other helping resources available including, but not limited to, Victim Advocates, Housing staff, and the Counseling and Wellness Center. Please remember that asking for help is a sign of strength. In case of emergency, call 9-1-1.

Counseling and Wellness Center: https://counseling.ufl.edu, and 392-1575; and the University Police Department: 392-1111 or 9-1-1 for emergencies.

Sexual Discrimination, Harassment, Assault, or Violence
If you or a friend has been subjected to sexual discrimination, sexual harassment, sexual assault, or violence contact the **Office of Title IX Compliance**, located at Yon Hall Room 427, 1908 Stadium Road, (352) 273-1094, title-ix@ufl.edu

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 Connections Center, Reitz Union, 392-1601. Career assistance and counseling; https://career.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://sccr.dso.ufl.edu/policies/student-honor-code-student-conduct-code/;https://care.dso.ufl.edu.

On-Line Students Complaints: *https://distance.ufl.edu/state-authorization-status/#student-complaint*.