Syllabus

MSE 595 – MSE Colloquium Spring 2022

Time: Mondays 4-5 pm (first colloquium on Jan 24, 2022)

Website: Canvas

Colloquium Committee: Prof. Hua Wang, Prof. Antonia Statt, and Prof. Yingjie Zhang

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Course Description

We are very pleased to welcome a diverse range of researchers to deliver a series of exciting and stimulating talks. For both faculty and students, the colloquium series is a terrific opportunity to gain exposure to new cutting edge research, and we hope that you enjoy it.

Timing and Location

Please note that the Colloquium is a hybrid course. Some talks will be in-person, and some will be virtual in synchronous Zoom sessions. It is your responsibility to check carefully each week whether the seminar will be in-person or not. Please also monitor closely for changes in campus policies, we will communicate important changes to the Colloquium due to COVID-19 via your official Illinois email. Attendance is required.

Colloquia take place either virtually via Zoom every Monday at 4-5 pm or in-person every Monday at 4-5 pm in MSEB 100. An optional, additional 30 min (5-5:30 pm) is also allocated for extended discussions with the speaker after each virtual colloquium. A speaker list will be provided on the Canvas course space as well as on the MatSE webpage.

Following University policy, all students are required to engage in appropriate behavior to protect the health and safety of the community. Students are also required to follow the campus COVID-19 protocols.

Attendance and Swiping In

In-person colloquium: Registered students (only) are expected to attend each in-person seminar. Attendance will be taken using a card reader through which students will swipe their I-cards upon entry. Please be sure to arrive ~10 minutes before the seminar to leave sufficient time to swipe in. It is the student’s own responsibility to assure that their swipe was registered by verifying that their name appears on the terminal. Students who forget their I-cards or have problems with the card reader should write their name on the piece of paper next to the card reader. A missed day counts as one absence, and lateness counts for half an absence.

Virtual colloquium: Registered students (only) are expected to attend each virtual seminar via UIUC zoom (Please log in with your Illinois account). Attendance list will be downloaded from zoom after each seminar. Zoom provides duration, start and end time of each participant. If you are logged in throughout 4:01 pm – 4:50 pm, you will be given one full attendance. If you are late or leave early, but are logged in for 30 min during this period, you will be given 0.5 attendance. If you are logged in for less than 30 min, you will be given 0 attendance.

Absences
Students are permitted 5 absences for the semester. You do NOT need to ask for permission or excuses for up to 5 absences. Beyond 5 absences, you will not be given credit for this course (no excuses will be permitted).

In an extremely rare case, if the student’s first 5 absences are all because of the quarantine due to a positive COVID-19 test or close contact with someone tested positive, and an additional absence is needed for legitimate conflicts, please email Prof. Wang to make a request with all the supporting documents.

**Engagement and Technology**

Students are expected to be fully engaged during the talks, and are encouraged to ask questions of the speaker. Out of courtesy and respect to our invited guests, the use of laptops, cellphones, tablets, etc. is prohibited. The use of such devices reflects poorly on the department, and students engaging in these activities will be penalized one absence.

Virtually, however, to ensure the quality of the virtual colloquium, everyone will be muted upon entrance. If you have questions, please type in via zoom "chat" or use the “raise hand” feature. The host will narrate your questions to the colloquium speaker or call on you to unmute yourself. Once your question has been answered and you have follow-up question(s), feel free to unmute yourself and discuss with the speaker directly. After 5 pm, if you still have questions, feel free to unmute yourself and engage in discussions with the speaker directly.

When we meet in person, we expect everyone to follow department, university, and state guidelines regarding COVID-19 precautions and safety. This includes wearing a mask (when indoors at all time. This is in accordance with CDC guidance and University policy and expected in this class. When gathering attendance, we may ask students in the classroom to show their Building Access Status in the Safer Illinois app or the Boarding Pass, please make sure you arrive ~10 minutes early.