AE 410/CSE 461 – Computational Aerodynamics – Syllabus

F. Evrard & F. Dettenrieder

Online platform We will use Canvas for all course related content, communications, and submissions. You are encouraged to create Discussions in Canvas in order to raise questions about concepts or course assignments. The instructor and TA will moderate these discussions and answer questions in a timely manner. For personal communications with the instructor or TA, or to provide feedback on the course, please send us a direct message via the Canvas Inbox.

Link to the course homepage: https://canvas.illinois.edu/courses/43781

Course information
- Credit: 3 undergraduate hours, 3 or 4 graduate hours
- Time: 11:00 am – 12:20 pm MW
- Location: Engineering Hall 106B1
- Recordings: Available to online students on Mediaspace after each lecture.

Instructor Prof. Fabien Evrard (AE)
- Office: Talbot 317
- E-mail: fevrard@illinois.edu
- Office hours: 2:00 pm – 3:00 pm Tuesdays

Teaching assistant Fabian Dettenrieder (AE)
- Office: Talbot 327
- E-mail: dettenr2@illinois.edu
- Office hours: 12:30 pm – 1:30 pm Wednesdays (Location: Talbot 319N)

Course description We will introduce finite-difference and finite-volume methods for solving partial differential equations. Model equations closely related to the Navier-Stokes equations will be used to introduce the methods, prior to their application to compressible flow. Emphasis will be placed on developing techniques for programming and analyzing numerical schemes that can then be applied to more complex scenarios.

Learning goals At this end of this course, you will have:
- Gained a fundamental understanding of the numerical methods constituting the basis of academic and commercial aerodynamics codes.
- Gained hands-on experience by implementing these numerical methods in your favorite programming language.
- Become aware of the many challenges associated with the development and use of computational methods for aerodynamics.

Prerequisites AE 311 (incompressible flow), AE 312 (compressible flow), or their equivalents; introduction to numerical methods.

Necessary background Calculus, differential equations, linear algebra, basic programming.
**Recommended textbooks** These books cover much of the course material:
- Lomax, Pulliam, & Zingg, *Fundamentals of computational fluid dynamics*
- LeVeque, *Finite volume methods for hyperbolic problems*

**Other recommended texts** These books can provide additional information/perspective on the course:
- Tannehill, Anderson, & Pletcher, *Computational fluid mechanics and heat transfer*
- Toro, *Riemann solvers and numerical methods for fluid dynamics*
- Gustafsson, Kreiss, & Oiler, *Time dependent problems and difference methods* (advanced)

**Programming language** During this course, you will be asked to produce multiple pieces of computer code. Most examples discussed in class will use Matlab or Python, but you are free to choose to work in any other computing language, including Julia, C, C++, or Fortran. If you plan to use a different language than those listed in this paragraph, please reach out to the course instructor prior to starting your work – we will make sure that you can be supported and evaluated appropriately during the semester.

**Assignments** This course requires that you submit several Assignments through Canvas:
- 4 homework reports
- 1 take-home midterm
- 1 final project report

Homeworks will be available on Canvas about one week before the submission deadline. Late submissions of any assignment will be accepted for up to 5 days past the due date, but a 20%-per-day penalty will be applied. Submissions guidelines are provided in the Canvas Syllabus. Tentative submission deadlines are provided below. They may be subject to changes, which will be announced in class and on Canvas. Therefore, it is your responsibility to regularly check Canvas and look for course announcements.

**Tentative assignment submission deadlines:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Deadline</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Homework 1</td>
<td>February 7</td>
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<tr>
<td>Homework 2</td>
<td>February 14</td>
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<tr>
<td>Homework 3</td>
<td>February 28</td>
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<tr>
<td>Take-home midterm</td>
<td>March 8</td>
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<tr>
<td>Homework 4</td>
<td>April 10</td>
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<tr>
<td>Project</td>
<td>May 6</td>
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**Fourth credit hour requirements:** Assignments will contain questions specifically written for 4-credit-hours students. They will have to completed by 4-credit-hours students in order to obtain a full grade, however they are not required to be completed by 3-credit-hours students.

**Grading scheme** We will employ the following grading scheme:

**Grade repartition:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Weight</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Homeworks/mini-codes</td>
<td>40%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Take-home midterm</td>
<td>25%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Project</td>
<td>35%</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Grade conversion:**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Total Grade</th>
<th>Total Grade</th>
<th>Total Grade</th>
<th>Total Grade</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>≥ 98</td>
<td>A+</td>
<td>(88, 90)</td>
<td>B+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(92, 98)</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>(82, 88)</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(90, 92)</td>
<td>A–</td>
<td>(80, 82)</td>
<td>B–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>(70, 72)</td>
<td>C–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>(60, 62)</td>
<td>D–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>&lt; 60</td>
<td>F</td>
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<tr>
<th>Total Grade</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>≥ 88</td>
<td>A+</td>
<td>(78, 80)</td>
<td>C+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(90, 88)</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>(72, 78)</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(90, 90)</td>
<td>A–</td>
<td>(70, 72)</td>
<td>C–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>(60, 62)</td>
<td>D–</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
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<td>&lt; 60</td>
<td>F</td>
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Dispute process: Grade disputes on any assignment or exam will follow this process:

1. You must wait 24 hours after receiving your graded item before contacting us. During this time, please carefully consider what the dispute is and why you believe an error has been made. You will have no more than two weeks, starting from the day the item is returned, to bring any dispute to our attention. Disputes after the two week window will not be considered.
2. Contact your TA first and discuss the dispute with them. If you reach an agreement, then the dispute is resolved.
3. If you and the TA do not reach agreement, then the three of us (you, the TA, and the instructor) will meet face-to-face.

Student code and academic integrity The University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign Student Code will be followed at all times during this course. We invite you to read through Article 1, Part 4: Academic Integrity in particular. Every student is expected to review and abide by this academic integrity policy, and it is your responsibility to read it to avoid putting yourself in a position that may result in you failing this course. If you are ever in doubt about what constitutes plagiarism, cheating, or any other breach of academic integrity in the context of this course, do not hesitate to contact the instructor.

You are expected to produce your own work in all assignments. You may collaborate with a peer, but your assignment must be written by you only. Assignments will be checked for plagiarism. If your work closely matches someone else’s, it will be flagged and investigated.

Absence policies

Feeling sick before class? If you feel ill or are sick with a potentially contagious illness, you should not attend class and will be considered to have an excused absence. Please contact the instructor via Canvas about making up the work. We will do our best to accommodate such unfortunate instances and make sure you stay on track with the course.

Other health-related issues: Similarly, if you cannot attend class or complete assignments due to health-related issues, including but not limited to feeling ill, caring for a sick family member, or having unexpected child-care obligations, you should inform your instructor and are also encouraged to copy your academic advisor.

Absence letters: Conditions under which an absence letter from the Office of the Dean of Students may be requested are defined in Article 1, Part 5 of the Student Code.

Anti-Racism and inclusivity The Grainger College of Engineering is committed to the creation of an anti-racist, inclusive community that welcomes diversity along a number of dimensions, including, but not limited to, race, ethnicity and national origins, gender and gender identity, sexuality, disability status, class, age, or religious beliefs. The College recognizes that we are learning together in the midst of the Black Lives Matter movement, that Black, Hispanic, and Indigenous voices and contributions have largely either been excluded from, or not recognized in, science and engineering, and that both overt racism and micro-aggressions threaten the well-being of our students and our university community.

The effectiveness of this course is dependent upon each of us to create a safe and encouraging learning environment that allows for the open exchange of ideas while also ensuring equitable opportunities and respect for all of us. Everyone is expected to help establish and maintain an environment where students, staff, and faculty can contribute without fear of personal ridicule, or intolerant or offensive language. If you witness or experience racism, discrimination, micro-aggressions, or other offensive behavior, you are encouraged to bring this to the attention of the course director if you feel comfortable. You can report these behaviors to the Bias Assessment and Response Team (BART). Based on your report, BART members will follow up and reach out to students to make sure they have the support they need to be healthy and safe. If the reported behavior also violates university policy, staff in the Office for Student Conflict Resolution may respond as well and will take appropriate action.

Disability-related accommodations To obtain disability-related academic adjustments and/or auxiliary aids, students with disabilities must contact the course instructor and the Disability Resources and Educational Services (DRES) as soon as possible. To contact DRES, you may:
If you are concerned you have a disability-related condition that is impacting your academic progress, there are academic screening appointments available that can help diagnosis a previously undiagnosed disability. You may access these by visiting the DRES website and selecting “Request an Academic Screening” at the bottom of the page.

**Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA)** Any student who has suppressed their directory information pursuant to Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) should self-identify to the instructor to ensure protection of the privacy of their attendance in this course. See [https://registrar.illinois.edu/academic-records/ferpa/](https://registrar.illinois.edu/academic-records/ferpa/) for more information on FERPA.

**Religious observances** Illinois law requires the University to reasonably accommodate its students’ religious beliefs, observances, and practices in regard to admissions, class attendance, and the scheduling of examinations and work requirements. You should examine this syllabus at the beginning of the semester for potential conflicts between course deadlines and any of your religious observances. If a conflict exists, you should notify your instructor of the conflict and follow the procedure at [https://odos.illinois.edu/community-of-care/resources/students/religious-observances/](https://odos.illinois.edu/community-of-care/resources/students/religious-observances/) to request appropriate accommodations. This should be done in the first two weeks of classes.

**Sexual misconduct reporting obligation** The University of Illinois is committed to combating sexual misconduct. Faculty and staff members are required to report any instances of sexual misconduct to the University’s Title IX Office. In turn, an individual with the Title IX Office will provide information about rights and options, including accommodations, support services, the campus disciplinary process, and law enforcement options.

A list of the designated University employees who, as counselors, confidential advisors, and medical professionals, do not have this reporting responsibility and can maintain confidentiality, can be found here: [https://wecare.illinois.edu/resources/students/#confidential](https://wecare.illinois.edu/resources/students/#confidential).

Other information about resources and reporting is available at [https://wecare.illinois.edu/](https://wecare.illinois.edu/).

**Mental health** Significant stress, mood changes, excessive worry, substance/alcohol misuse or interferences in eating or sleep can have an impact on academic performance, social development, and emotional wellbeing. The University of Illinois offers a variety of confidential services including individual and group counseling, crisis intervention, psychiatric services, and specialized screenings which are covered through the Student Health Fee. If you or someone you know experiences any of the above mental health concerns, it is strongly encouraged to contact or visit any of the University’s resources provided below. Getting help is a smart and courageous thing to do for yourself and for those who care about you.

- Counseling Center (217) 333-3704
- McKinley Health Center (217) 333-2700
- National Suicide Prevention Lifeline (800) 273-8255
- Rosecrance Crisis Line (217) 359-4141 (available 24/7, 365 days a year)

If you are in immediate danger, call 911.

**Community of care** As members of the Illinois community, we each have a responsibility to express care and concern for one another. If you come across a classmate whose behavior concerns you, whether in regards to their well-being or yours, we encourage you to refer this behavior to the Student Assistance Center (217-333-0050 or [http://odos.illinois.edu/community-of-care/referral/](http://odos.illinois.edu/community-of-care/referral/)). Based on your report, the staff in the Student Assistance Center reaches out to students to make sure they
have the support they need to be healthy and safe. Further, as a Community of Care, we want to support you in your overall wellness. We know that students sometimes face challenges that can impact academic performance (examples include mental health concerns, food insecurity, homelessness, personal emergencies). Should you find that you are managing such a challenge and that it is interfering with your coursework, you are encouraged to contact the Student Assistance Center (SAC) in the Office of the Dean of Students for support and referrals to campus and/or community resources.

Acknowledgements We thank Prof. D. Bodony and B. Vollmer for their help in preparing the material for this course.