ASEN 6015: SPACE VEHICLE GUIDANCE AND CONTROL
FALL 2020

Instructor: Jay McMahon, Office: AERO 461, email: jay.mcmahon@colorado.edu

Lectures: T-Th 10:05 - 11:20 AM, AERO 114
COVID Note: As per the CU plan, the course will start with an in-person component for those who wish to attend. This means I will be lecturing live in the classroom at the given time. Hopefully this will allow for useful in person discussion as we historically have. However, attendance in-person is not required. All lectures will be recorded and available through the course Canvas site, and all assignments will be distributed and turned in via Canvas.

Course Web Site: Canvas (https://canvas.colorado.edu)

Office Hours: TBD

Final Exam Period: Sunday, December 13, 7:30 - 10:00 PM


References: There are a number of books that are good references on a variety of subjects covered in this course:

- Stengel, R. F., Optimal Control and Estimation, Dover, 1994
- Wie, B., Space Vehicle Guidance, Controls, and Astrodynamics, AIAA, 2015
- Ben-Asher, J. Z., Optimal Control Theory with Aerospace Applications, AIAA Education Series, 2010

Goal: To introduce the concept of guidance, derive commonly used guidance laws for aerospace vehicles, and learn how to analyze the performance of guidance systems.

Overview: The course gives a comprehensive view of guidance systems used in space vehicles, and methods for analyzing the performance of these systems. The types of guidance systems that will be covered are launch vehicle ascent, intercept/rendezvous, interplanetary, orbit station-keeping,
atmospheric re-entry, lander, and low-thrust. The mathematical foundation of these systems will be derived and discussed. Real world applications will be presented by reviewing selections from published literature. Course work will emphasize the analysis of the guidance system performance to achieve stated goals.

**Grading:** I use the standard 100 point system for grading. I reserve the right to define the final numeric ranges for each letter grade, although they typically match the standard scale (and won’t be higher than) where an A is 90-100, a B is 80-89, etc. I will assign ±’s to the letter grades at the end of the course as I find appropriate. The grade breakdown for this course is:

- Homework - 50%
- Midterm - 20%
- Project - 30%

**Homework Policy:** I plan to have 6 homework sets in this course. Typically 2 weeks will be given for each assignment to be completed. Homework sets will generally involve simulations to be created. Any programming language can be used to create these programs. All assignments, including any code written, will be submitted through the course web site.

There may also be some journal papers assigned as pre-class readings so we can discuss the papers in class. These papers will be posted on the course web page or will be available through the library.

**Exams:** There will be a take-home midterm exam and no final exam. If you have exam grading issues, you must see me within 2 weeks of having the exam returned to you. See policies below for issues with schedule, although given the take-home nature I don’t think there will be issues.

**Project:** There will be one significant semester project for the course. This project will involve more detailed simulation and analysis than a typical homework assignment. The details will be discussed during the semester. A professionally formatted technical report will be required for the project, and there will be a presentation of results to the class at the end of the semester.

**Web Page:** This semester we will be using Canvas, CU Boulder’s learning management system. We will be using Canvas for posting all class information (assignments, notes, slides); work will also be turned in and returned through this site. There will also be a discussion board that will be used (see next section).

To access Canvas, go to: https://canvas.colorado.edu. Log-in using your CU login name and IdentiKey password.

Once you log-in, click on ASEN6015 to go into our course.

Make the most out of Canvas by downloading the Canvas Student App to view your grades, view course materials, submit assignments, take quizzes, and more.

Subscribing to notifications to be reminded of due dates, receive announcements, and grades.

Browsing the Canvas Guides or help videos for information on how to use Canvas. If you run into any problems, click the Help Icon within Canvas to report a problem or chat 24x7 with Canvas Support.

For additional assistance, contact the IT Service Center at help@colorado.edu or 303-735-4357.

**Asynchronous Discussion:**

Especially this semester with the remote support, outside of class discussion will be very important. The primary way we will do this is through the Discussion Board on Canvas. This should be the primary forum for questions and discussion in the course. For questions or comments about class material, theory, homework etc, PLEASE post here first as opposed to emailing me.
The second method to start discussion is through a Google Form “Comment Box”, which will be accessible via Canvas. This interface allows students to submit anonymous comments, which I can address in class or via the Canvas Discussion Board as necessary.

Finally, if there are any personal questions, email me and PLEASE put “ASEN 6015” at the start of the subject line so that I don’t miss it!
CAMPUS SYLLABUS STATEMENTS

CLASSROOM BEHAVIOR:
Both students and faculty are responsible for maintaining an appropriate learning environment in all instructional settings, whether in person, remote or online. Those who fail to adhere to such behavioral standards may be subject to discipline. Professional courtesy and sensitivity are especially important with respect to individuals and topics dealing with race, color, national origin, sex, pregnancy, age, disability, creed, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, veteran status, political affiliation or political philosophy. For more information, see the policies on classroom behavior and the Student Code of Conduct.

REQUIREMENTS FOR COVID-19:
As a matter of public health and safety due to the pandemic, all members of the CU Boulder community and all visitors to campus must follow university, department and building requirements, and public health orders in place to reduce the risk of spreading infectious disease. Required safety measures at CU Boulder relevant to the classroom setting include:

- maintain 6-foot distancing when possible,
- wear a face covering in public indoor spaces and outdoors while on campus consistent with state and county health orders,
- clean local work area,
- practice hand hygiene,
- follow public health orders, and
- if sick and you live off campus, do not come onto campus (unless instructed by a CU Healthcare professional), or if you live on-campus, please alert CU Boulder Medical Services.

Students who fail to adhere to these requirements will be asked to leave class, and students who do not leave class when asked or who refuse to comply with these requirements will be referred to Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution. For more information, see the policies on COVID-19 Health and Safety and classroom behavior and the Student Code of Conduct. If you require accommodation because a disability prevents you from fulfilling these safety measures, please see the “Accommodation for Disabilities” statement on this syllabus. Before returning to campus, all students must complete the COVID-19 Student Health and Expectations Course. Before coming on to campus each day, all students are required to complete a Daily Health Form.

Students who have tested positive for COVID-19, have symptoms of COVID-19, or have had close contact with someone who has tested positive for or had symptoms of COVID-19 must stay home and complete the Health Questionnaire and Illness Reporting Form remotely. In this class, if you are sick or quarantined, you can simply attend the course remotely as discussed above. If being sick affects your ability to complete your work according to class deadlines, please let me know via email so I can accommodate you.

ACCOMMODATION FOR DISABILITIES:
If you qualify for accommodations because of a disability, please submit your accommodation letter from Disability Services to your faculty member in a timely manner so that your needs can be addressed. Disability Services determines accommodations based on documented disabilities in the academic environment. Information on requesting accommodations is located on the Disability Services website. Contact Disability Services at 303-492-8671 or dsinfo@colorado.edu for further assistance. If you have a temporary medical condition, see Temporary Medical Conditions on the Disability Services website.
PREFERRED STUDENT NAMES AND PRONOUNS:
CU Boulder recognizes that students’ legal information doesn’t always align with how they identify. Students may update their preferred names and pronouns via the student portal; those preferred names and pronouns are listed on instructors’ class rosters. In the absence of such updates, the name that appears on the class roster is the student’s legal name.

HONOR CODE:
All students enrolled in a University of Colorado Boulder course are responsible for knowing and adhering to the Honor Code. Violations of the policy may include: plagiarism, cheating, fabrication, lying, bribery, threat, unauthorized access to academic materials, clicker fraud, submitting the same or similar work in more than one course without permission from all course instructors involved, and aiding academic dishonesty. All incidents of academic misconduct will be reported to the Honor Code (honor@colorado.edu; 303-492-5550). Students found responsible for violating the academic integrity policy will be subject to nonacademic sanctions from the Honor Code as well as academic sanctions from the faculty member. Additional information regarding the Honor Code academic integrity policy can be found at the Honor Code Office website.

SEXUAL MISCONDUCT, DISCRIMINATION, HARASSMENT AND/OR RELATED RETALIATION:
The University of Colorado Boulder (CU Boulder) is committed to fostering an inclusive and welcoming learning, working, and living environment. CU Boulder will not tolerate acts of sexual misconduct (harassment, exploitation, and assault), intimate partner violence (dating or domestic violence), stalking, or protected-class discrimination or harassment by members of our community. Individuals who believe they have been subject to misconduct or retaliatory actions for reporting a concern should contact the Office of Institutional Equity and Compliance (OIEC) at 303-492-2127 or cureport@colorado.edu. Information about the OIEC, university policies, anonymous reporting, and the campus resources can be found on the OIEC website. Please know that faculty and instructors have a responsibility to inform OIEC when made aware of incidents of sexual misconduct, dating and domestic violence, stalking, discrimination, harassment and/or related retaliation, to ensure that individuals impacted receive information about options for reporting and support resources.

RELIGIOUS HOLIDAYS:
Campus policy regarding religious observances requires that faculty make every effort to deal reasonably and fairly with all students who, because of religious obligations, have conflicts with scheduled exams, assignments or required attendance. In this class, I will attempt to accommodate any conflicts with exam times if you let me know at least 2 weeks in advance. See the campus policy regarding religious observances for full details.

Classroom Behavior: Students and faculty each have responsibility for maintaining an appropriate learning environment. Those who fail to adhere to such behavioral standards may be subject to discipline. Professional courtesy and sensitivity are especially important with respect to individuals and topics dealing with race, color, national origin, sex, pregnancy, age, disability, creed, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, veteran status, political affiliation or political philosophy. Class rosters are provided to the instructor with the student’s legal name. I will gladly honor your request to address you by an alternate name or gender pronoun. Please advise me of this preference early in the semester so that I may make appropriate changes to my records. For more information, see the policies on classroom behavior and the Student Code of Conduct.
Planned List of Topics
(roughly in order; subject to change at the whim of Prof. McMahon)

- **Introduction of the GNC System**
- **Review**
  - Dynamics, linear control theory
- **Performance Analysis Methods**
  - Introduction to Stochastic Systems
  - Monte-Carlo simulations, sensitivity analysis, method of adjoints
- **Velocity-Correlated/Intercept Guidance**
  - Proportional navigation.
  - Lambert guidance and Q-guidance.
  - Applications to missiles, rendezvous and intercept problems
- **Interplanetary $\Delta V$ Guidance**
  - Mid-course corrections and B-plane targeting. Applications: Moon, Mars and any interplanetary missions
- **Optimal Control Theory**
  - Derivation of linear quadratic control and Hamiltonian optimal control from a calculus of variations perspective.
- **Launch Vehicle Ascent Guidance**
  - Optimal and near-optimal solutions. Applications: Space shuttle, Apollo, IUS, current launch vehicles
  - First stage launch vehicle control
- **Station-keeping**
  - GEO satellite orbit maintenance strategies
  - Asteroid hovering guidance
  - Low-thrust Lyapunov guidance
- **Entry Guidance**
  - Bank-angle control for guided reentry. Applications: space shuttle re-entry, Mars landing, Orion re-entry targeting.
- **Powered Descent Guidance**
  - Final approach guidance and targeting for landing vehicles. Applications: OSIRIS-REx, Mars landers, Apollo.
- **Low-thrust vehicle Guidance** (time permitting)
  - Guidance considerations for low-thrust systems using electric propulsion or solar sails
- **Advanced Topics** (time permitting)
  - Stochastic optimal control
  - Adaptive control