

# ASEN 5014 LINEAR CONTROL DESIGN

**Course Description:** Modeling, analysis, and design of continuous-time control systems using the state space approach. Vector spaces, linear operators, and linear equation solution theory are used to describe system solutions and their stability, controllability, and observability properties. State observers and state feedback control are developed, along with an introduction to linear-quadratic optimal control. Robustness to model uncertainty is addressed.

**Instructor:**

Dale Lawrence. AERO 271, 303-492-3025.  
[dale.lawrence@colorado.edu](mailto:dale.lawrence@colorado.edu)

**Prerequisite:**

Undergraduate course in signals, systems, or controls (e.g. ASEN 2003, ASEN 3200 or equivalent)

**Textbook:**

*Modern Control Theory*, W. L. Brogan, 3<sup>rd</sup> ed. Prentice-Hall, 1991.  
ISBN 0-13-589763-7

**Class Web Page:**

<http://canvas.colorado.edu>

## Syllabus Outline

| Topics                                   | Weeks |
|------------------------------------------|-------|
| Introduction: Fundamental Questions      | 1     |
| State Space Model Construction           | 1     |
| Linear Spaces, Mappings                  | 5     |
| <b>Midterm Exam 1</b>                    |       |
| State Space System Solutions             | 3     |
| Lyapunov Stability                       | 1     |
| <b>Midterm Project 1</b>                 |       |
| Controllability and Observability        | 2     |
| State Observation and Feedback Control   | 2     |
| Optimization and Robustness              | 1     |
| <b>Project 2 (in lieu of final exam)</b> |       |

## Course Policies and Grading

**Grading:** One exam and two projects---25% each., homework---25%.

**Homework:** Group work is encouraged, although individual understanding will be necessary to do well on exams and on the project. Homework will be partially graded, solutions posted, and questions about homework are encouraged in class.

**Exam:** Take home, involving both analysis and computation. Questions are designed to measure grasp of concepts, rather than memorization or repetition of homework problems. Honor system applies. Make up exams must be arranged in advance (at least two weeks).  
**Office hours:** Regular times (to be arranged) held by instructor. Other times are available by appointment.

## Course Purpose and Learning Objectives

Linear systems are models for physical processes having dynamics. Although physical systems are usually non-linear, linear models are simpler, and can often provide reasonable approximations. They have the added benefit of a very complete theoretical understanding of their behavior and of how control can change behavior.

The purpose of this course is to provide an understanding of the theory of linear systems from the state space perspective, with specific application toward feedback control design. Although mathematics (particularly linear algebra) is the language by which the theory is described, this is not a mathematics course. The theorem/proof format is avoided in favor of an exposition of the main ideas and use of these ideas to demonstrate key theoretical results. The geometry and insight behind matrix algebra, in particular, is stressed. However, expect to learn a little math in the process. Careful use of terminology is necessary to understand the ideas, and to do well on exams. Students will select an example application for an individual final project to apply the ideas developed in class.

The understanding sought in this course is a foundation for further graduate work in various fields, particularly nonlinear dynamical systems, estimation and data analysis, and advanced control systems. It introduces standard viewpoints, methods, and terminology used in the applied and research literature. It also provides the basis for understanding how many computational analysis and design tools work.

The main learning objectives of Linear Control Design are

- Develop some expertise with the state space modeling/analysis/design approach, learning to see dynamical systems in a new way with new concepts, vocabulary, tools, and insights.
- See linear algebra in a new light, where matrices are representations of linear operators, and these operators have simple geometry and corresponding insights. This understanding is used widely (both within control and many other applications).
- Glimpse how optimization can be used to design control systems ``automatically".
- Understand how applications of this theory can be limited by inaccuracy in system models.

## **General Policies**

### **Accommodation For Disabilities**

If you qualify for accommodations because of a disability, please submit to your professor a letter from Disability Services in a timely manner (for exam accommodations provide your letter at least one week prior to the exam) so that your needs can be addressed. Disability Services determines accommodations based on documented disabilities. Contact Disability Services at 303-492-8671 or by e-mail at [dsinfo@colorado.edu](mailto:dsinfo@colorado.edu). If you have a temporary medical condition or injury, see [Temporary Injuries guidelines](#) under the Quick Links at the [Disability Services website](#) and discuss your needs with your professor.

### **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, you must let the instructors know of any such conflicts within the first two weeks of the semester so that we can work with you to make reasonable arrangements. See [campus policy regarding religious observances](#) for full details.

### **Classroom and On-Campus Behavior**

Students and faculty each have responsibility for maintaining an appropriate learning environment, not only while in class, but *also while working outside of class such as in labs and study areas*. 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 differences of race, color, culture, religion, creed, politics, veteran's status, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity and gender expression, age, disability, and nationalities. Class rosters are provided to the instructor with the student's legal name. We will gladly honor your request to address you by an alternate name or gender pronoun. Please advise us of this preference early in the semester so that we may make appropriate changes to our records. For more information, see the [policies on classroom behavior](#) and [the student code](#).

### **Discrimination and Harassment**

The University of Colorado Boulder (CU-Boulder) is committed to maintaining a positive learning, working, and living environment. CU-Boulder will not tolerate, both in-class and outside of class, acts of sexual misconduct, discrimination, harassment or related retaliation against or by any employee or student. CU's Sexual Misconduct Policy prohibits sexual assault, sexual exploitation, sexual harassment, intimate partner abuse (dating or domestic violence), stalking or related retaliation. CU-Boulder's Discrimination and Harassment Policy prohibits discrimination, harassment or related retaliation based on race, color, national origin, sex, pregnancy, age, disability, creed, religion, sexual

orientation, gender identity, gender expression, veteran status, political affiliation or political philosophy. Individuals who believe they have been subject to misconduct under either policy should contact the Office of Institutional Equity and Compliance (OIEC) at 303-492-2127. Information about the OIEC, the above referenced policies, and the campus resources available to assist individuals regarding sexual misconduct, discrimination, harassment or related retaliation can be found at the [OIEC website](#).

### **Honor Code**

All students enrolled in a University of Colorado Boulder course are responsible for knowing and adhering to [the academic integrity policy](#) of the institution. Violations of the policy may include: plagiarism, cheating, fabrication, lying, bribery, threat, unauthorized access, clicker fraud, resubmission, and aiding academic dishonesty. All incidents of academic misconduct will be reported to the Honor Code Council ([honor@colorado.edu](mailto:honor@colorado.edu); 303-735-2273). Students who are found responsible of violating the academic integrity policy will be subject to nonacademic sanctions from the Honor Code Council as well as academic sanctions from the faculty member. Additional information regarding the academic integrity policy can be found at <http://honorcode.colorado.edu>.