



Syllabus

SIE 695A: Doctoral Colloquium/Department Seminar Department of Systems & Industrial Engineering University of Arizona

Spring 2026

Course Description

(1 unit) Doctor colloquium and department seminar. *SIE PhD students are required to take at least two and no more than three units of SIE 695A.*

Time and Location: Thursday 2:00PM-3:15PM, ENGR 301

Speakers are asked to stay and talk with students until 3:30PM. Some special seminars that may be held using Zoom, and the Zoom information will be provided. Online students will have recorded videos available to view.

Instructor: Dr. Neng Fan

Office: ENGR 312

Office Hours: Th 11:00AM-12:00PM or by appointment

Email: nfan@arizona.edu

Course Objectives and Expected Learning Outcomes

The Department Seminar is a weekly meeting where notable researchers present their work to SIE faculty and students. It is intended to engage the research community in interesting and relevant topic and help PhD students learn about broad research topics in our profession. At the end of this course, SIE Graduate Student will:

1. Have been exposed to a wide variety of SIE related research topics, and
2. Understand potential career opportunities (e.g., academia, research, industry)

Course Communications

Course website: <https://d2l.arizona.edu> All announcements, videos and assignments will be distributed through D2L. For online students, the zoom link will be shared with you. The lectures will be recorded, and Online Students will be required to watch the Panopto Video. The recordings are available to in-person students, but not as a substitute for attendance in person.

Assignments

1. **Research Statement:** Prepare a 1-2 page statement of your research interests. What are your interests? What is your research area? Who is your advisor? What are your goals? Do you plan to seek a faculty position? National Laboratory? Industry? Other?
2. **Engagement:** In-Person student: Attendance and engagement with speakers, faculty, and fellow students is highly emphasized. **All on-campus in-person students are required to attend the seminars in person (Please SIGN-IN in classroom)**, except when the seminar is only available via zoom, and asking questions is encouraged. Many of our seminars will include participation in “meet the candidate” sessions that are normally scheduled following the seminar.

Online student: Since online student may not be live in the classroom and will review the recording, they are **required to FULLY watch the seminar recordings and augment their reflection**

with a short literature search that summaries related research by the speaker. This is expected to be less than one page and included with the Seminar Reflection.

3. **Seminar Reflection:** For each seminar, a reflection statement is required. Each reflection should provide an overview about the speaker and the topic (not a copy of the abstract, but a summary in your own words about what was presented); identify any specific information that you found relevant to your research, and other observations of interest. Each reflection should be approximately 1/2 to 1 page in length and submitted to the course D2L site before the start of the seminar the following week. **[This rule is strictly enforced].**

4. **Curriculum Vitae:** Prepare a curriculum vitae (CV) using the format required for promotion and tenure at the University of Arizona: <https://facultyaffairs.arizona.edu/promotion/2025-2026-promotion-dossier-templates-and-guides-tenure-track-and-continuing-status-track>

Assessments, Grading Scale and Policies (Pass/Fail)

- Research Statement: 10%
- Engagement: 40%
- Reflections: 40%
- Curriculum Vitae: 10%

To pass this course, 80% completion is required.

Dispute of Grade Policy: For questions on grades, you have to email the instructor within one week of grades posted. Students registered this course for honors credits should email the instructor to set up an appointment to discuss the additional requirements. University policy on grading: <https://catalog.arizona.edu/policy/courses-credit/grading/grading-system>

Nondiscrimination and Anti-harassment Policy

The University of Arizona is committed to creating and maintaining an environment free of discrimination. In support of this commitment, the University prohibits discrimination, including harassment and retaliation, based on a protected classification, including race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, disability, veteran status, sexual orientation, gender identity, or genetic information. For more information, including how to report a concern, please see: <http://policy.arizona.edu/human-resources/nondiscrimination-and-anti-harassment-policy>

University Policies

All university policies related to the syllabus are available at: <https://academicaffairs.arizona.edu/syllabus-policies>

Subject to Change Notice

Information contained in the course syllabus, other than the grade and absence policies, may be subject to change with reasonable advance notice, as deemed appropriate by the instructor of this course.

Student Resources

University of Arizona's Basic Needs Resources page: <https://caps.arizona.edu/basic-needs>

UA Academic policies and procedures: <http://catalog.arizona.edu/policies>

Student Assistance and Advocacy information: <https://deanofstudents.arizona.edu/support/student-assistance>

Use of Generative AI

In this course, generative artificial intelligence/large-language-models tools, such as ChatGPT, Dall-e, Bard, Bing, may be used for exploring a topic area or research from a speaker with appropriate acknowledgment and citation, but not for Reflections. The Reflections are your own words about what you learned and observed during the seminar. Since the AI didn't attend the seminar and since it isn't customized to have your knowledge and opinions, it can't generate a reflection for you. If you are in doubt

as to whether you are using generative AI tools appropriately in this course, I encourage you to discuss your situation with me.

Be aware that many AI companies collect information; do not enter confidential information as part of a prompt. LLMs may make up or hallucinate information. These tools may reflect misconceptions and biases of the data on which they were trained and the human-written prompts used to steer them. You are responsible for checking facts, finding reliable sources for, and making a careful, critical examination of any work that you submit.

Please use the following guidelines for acknowledging/citing generative AI using either MLA (<https://style.mla.org/citing-generative-ai/>) or APA (<https://apastyle.apa.org/blog/how-to-cite-chatgpt>) styles to be consistent with your other citations.