

**EK481 2022 Spring**  
**Introduction to Nanotechnology and Nanomaterials**

*Description*

Nanotechnology is the field of understanding and manipulation of matter with at least one characteristic dimension measured in nanometers with novel size-dependent physical and chemical properties. The *objective* of this course is to introduce concepts and experimental methods in major developments of nanotechnology and nanomaterials, including synthesis, fabrication, characterization and applications. So students acquire the background to understand the related current research work published in literature and to establish perspectives on nanotechnology and nanoscience in general. Key nanomaterials to be covered are nanoparticles, carbon nanotubes and nanowires, graphene and other 2D nanomaterials.

*Prerequisites*

This course does not have any specific prerequisites. As a junior level course, students are expected to have an adequate mathematical background for differential equations. Students are also expected to be familiar with basic electrical knowledge such as concepts of electrical field, voltage, basic laws, and complex notation. PY 313 Modern physics is not required as a prerequisite. However, it will be easier for you if you are already familiar with some of the PY313 material.

*Lectures*

Tue and Thu 9:00-10:45 AM EPC 203

*Labs*

Location PHO 701

Register to one of following sessions

Wed 10:10-11:55 AM (C1)

Wed 12:20-2:05 PM (C2)

Fri 10:10-11:55 AM (C3)

*Instructor*

Prof. Chen Yang

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*Teaching Fellow*

Huiyi Xiong (grader) [olhuiyi@bu.edu](mailto:olhuiyi@bu.edu)

Robert Bing (lab TF for C1 and C3) [rbing@bu.edu](mailto:rbing@bu.edu)

Vien Tran (lab TF for C2) [vientran@bu.edu](mailto:vientran@bu.edu)

*Office Hour*

Tue 11:00 AM-1:00 PM PHO 829 or by email appointment (Prof. Yang)

*Course Web Site*

Blackboard (Learn.bu.edu)

*Text book*

Nanotechnology, the whole story Rogers CRC Press (recommended but not required)

(Free PDF available through BU library. Hard copy on Mugar Library Reserve or available at Barnes & Noble)

*Class Structure:*

This course will have the three components, including lectures, lab, assignment and assessment (homework, in-class quizzes, student presentations and proposals, mid-term and final exams).

**Lectures:** The lectures will be used to introduce key concepts as well as new materials. PPT and chalk/blackboard will be both used. PPT slides will be posted to Blackboard after the class. Students are encouraged to take their own notes. Active participation in the class discussion is required. Bonus points are assigned to evaluate discussion performance.

### **Labs**

There will be 4 labs. First Lab is in the week of **Feb 5**.

1. Nanostructure optical characterization (one section, 20 pts)
2. Nanostructure Scanning Electron Microscopy (one section, 20 pts)
3. Quantum dots: synthesis and absorption (one section, 20 pts)
4. Plasmonics: synthesis and characterization (three sections, 40 pts)
5. Penciled Graphene Device (one section, 20 pts)

Lab preparation: In order to be able to finish a lab in the allotted time slot, you are required to prepare for the lab by reading the Pre-Lab material, the Lab instruction and completing a pre-lab report. You will not be allowed to do the lab without a pre-lab report.

Lab work: You will work in groups of 2-3 students per group. You are expected to rotate the leader role for different labs. You should be well acquainted with the theory and procedures of the lab before the start of the lab. The labs will require efficient use of time in order to be completed in your time slot. Use a dedicated lab notebook and bring a memory stick in order to save your data.

Lab reports: After the lab each student will complete a lab report which are due **one week from the completion of the lab in class**. All lab reports are required to follow the posted lab report format, and should be typed, with accompanying data included in numbered and labeled figures plotted by scientific graphing software (for example, Origin, Igor). No hand drawn figures will be accepted. If your data was poor, you are allowed to include data from another lab group in addition to your own for comparison. The borrowed data has to be clearly labeled as borrowed (and from whom) in figure captions, figure labels and in text. Failure to acknowledge borrowed data constitutes cheating, and will be dealt with according to the BU rules on academic conduct.

Lab grades: Each lab grade will be based on your attendance/performance of the lab judged by results and observation of the TF and on the quality of your lab report submitted on time.

### **Homework, discussion board assignment, In-class quizzes, presentation and proposal**

Homework: There will be 5 homework and 20 points for each. Homework will be posted in Blackboard. It will be **due in class with dates specified in the homework assignment**.

Discussion board assignment: Short descriptive questions will be assigned and posted in the discussion board on blackboard. 2 points for each entry of answers will be given.

In-class quizzes will be given in the class periodically. This is to encourage engagement of all students during lecture time and to establish conceptual understanding of the topics.

Article presentation: Each student is required to give a 20 min presentation (including a 5 min Q&A) based on a research article assigned in advance. The order of the presentation follows the alphabetical order of students' last names. Presentation dates will be scheduled and PDF of articles will be posted on Blackboard a week before the presentation date.

Proposal presentation: Together with a partner, each student is required to write a final proposal related to the topics discussed in the class, i.e. nanotechnology and nanomaterials. A half page abstract of the proposal (5 pts) is due on **Apr 19 in class**. Presentations on the proposals shall be given in **the weeks of Apr 19, Apr 26 and May 03**, depending on total number of students. A 3 page written proposal including figures

is due on **May 3**. The evaluation of the proposal is based on the abstract, full proposal as well as the performance of the proposal presentation.

**Midterm** The midterm will be a closed book in-class exam on **March 15**.

**Final exam:** Final will be closed book and cumulative.

*Late submission and absence policy*

Late submission of homework and lab reports after the one week deadline but within two weeks will result in 50% partial credit. No homework or lab reports will be accepted after more than two weeks. Late submission of in-class quizzes, exams, presentation, proposal abstract or full proposal is NOT accepted.

There is no make-up in-class quizzes, exams or labs. Unexcused absences for in-class quizzes, exams or labs will be assigned a zero score. Excused absence according to University policy needs approval by Prof. Yang in advance. Such circumstance will result in an excused grade, which will be replaced by an average grade in the same category in the end of the semester. **Missing the final exam cannot be excused** and will result in an “incomplete”.

*Grading:*

Homework	100 pts
Lab	120 pts
Article presentation	20 pts
Proposal abstract, paper and presentation	70 pts
In class quiz and discussion board assignment	40 pts
Mid-term	100 pts
Final	150 pts
<b>Total</b>	<b>600 pts</b>
Active participation in the class	bonus points

*Grade scale:*

A	510	(85% of 600)
A-	480	(80%)
B+	450	(75%)
B	420	(70%)
B-	390	(65%)
C+	360	(60%)
C	330	(55%)
C-	300	(50%)
D	240	(40%)
F	< 240	

We implement the above absolute grading scale in the class. You are encouraged to check your total points on blackboard and to estimate your grade at any point during the course. It also provides an incentive for working together, rather than competing for grades.

*Academic conduct*

Discussion with your peers of concepts covered in lectures, homework and labs are encouraged. However, homework solutions and reports need to be fully done by yourself. Copying homework or lab-reports is considered cheating.

Please see the university policy on proper academic conduct and what constitutes academic misconduct. In the case of academic misconduct in this class, established academic discipline procedures will be followed.

<http://www.bu.edu/ceit/university-policies/academic-conduct/>

### *Copyright Laws and Protection*

The syllabus, course descriptions, lab handout, homework and exams created for this course, and all class lectures, are copyrighted by the course instructors. The materials and lectures may not be reproduced in any form or otherwise copied, displayed or distributed, nor should works derived from them be reproduced, copied, displayed or distributed without the written permission of the instructors. Infringement of the copyright in these materials, including any sale or commercial use of notes, summaries, outlines or other reproductions of lectures, constitutes a violation of the copyright laws and is prohibited. Please note in particular that distributing, receiving, selling, or buying class notes, lecture notes or summaries, lab reports or related materials, or similar materials both violates copyright and interferes with the academic mission of the College, and is therefore prohibited in this class and will be considered a violation of the student code of responsibility that is subject to academic sanctions.

### *COVID-19 Responsibilities and Regulations*

We are all in this together, and we are committed to offering the best learning experience possible given the need for safety. To do this, we need your help. We must all be responsible and respectful. Faculty and teaching fellows will wear masks during class and other meetings to protect you and themselves; and we expect you to do the same. If you show up without a mask, you will be asked to leave. We also require that you follow the safety practices recommended by the CDC outside the classroom, including all state and university guidelines regarding sheltering in place while feeling ill, testing, quarantining, social contacts, and gatherings.

### *Reference books*

Stuart Lindsay, *Introduction to Nanoscience*, Oxford

John H. Davies, *The Physics of Low Dimensional Semiconductors: An Introduction*, Cambridge (1998)

Oxtoby, *Principles of Modern Chemistry* Chap 4 (provides some simple math description for QM)

Shankar, *Principles of Quantum Mechanics* Chap 3-5