



UNIVERSITY OF
CENTRAL FLORIDA

OSE 4721 - Biophotonics

Section: 0001

Optics and Photonics

Course Information

Term: Spring 2026

Class Meeting Days: T|F

Class Meeting Time: 03:00PM - 04:15PM|03:00PM - 04:15PM

Class Meeting Location: CROL A214|CROL A214

Modality: P

Credit Hours: 3.00

Instructor Information

Name: Kyu Young Han

Title: Associate Professor

Office Location: A334

Office Hours

Wednesday 12-1pm

Email: kyhan@creol.ucf.edu

Course Description

OSE 4721 OPT-OPT 3(3, 0)Biophotonics: PR: OSE 3052 or PHY 4424 or EEL 4440

This course is an introduction to photobiology (interaction of light with biological

matter), tissue optics, light-induced cellular processes, optical biosensors, and cellular and molecular imaging. Fall

Biophotonics is a multidisciplinary field where light-based methods are utilized to reveal biological mechanisms and diagnose/treat diseases. This course introduces the basics of biology, chemistry and photonics, and provides the most relevant and important application examples selected from literatures. For examples, it includes how to sense and quantify biomolecules and viruses, how to image cells and tissues, and how to manipulate tissues with light. No prior knowledge is required to take the course; however, basic knowledge of optics will be helpful.

Student Learning Outcomes

After successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

- Understand contemporary topics in biophotonics.
- Apply their knowledge of optics and photonics to address challenges in biological sciences and biomedical research.

Required Course Materials and Resources

Lecture notes will be provided.

Recommended Course Materials

Title: Introduction to Biophotonics

Authors: Paras N. Prasad

Title: Biophotonics: Concepts to Applications

Authors: Gerd Keiser

Title: Fundamentals of Biomedical Optics

Authors: Caroline Boudoux

Course Assessment and Grading Procedure

Attendance: 10%

Quizzes: 20%

Assignments: 20%

Midterm exam: 20%

Final exam: 20%

Presentation: 10%

Grading Scale

Letter Grade	Percentage
A	90-100%
A-	80-89%
B+	70-79%
B	60-69%
B-	50-59%
C+	40-49%
C	30-39%
C-	20-29%
F	<20%

Policies for Course Grade

Makeup Work Policy

If a student cannot take an exam on the scheduled date, the student must notify the instructor no less than 24 hours before and no more than 48 hours after the scheduled date. **There is no makeup for Quizzes.**

Missed/Late Assignments

If students are late for turning in their assignments, points will be deducted.

Attendance

Attendance will be checked every class. 10 min late will be considered as a tardy.

Disability Access & Accommodations

The University of Central Florida is committed to providing equal access to all students with disabilities (ADHD, learning disabilities, Autism, chronic medical conditions, physical disabilities, etc.). To receive consideration for reasonable disability-related course accommodations, disabled students must contact Student Accessibility Services (SAS) and complete the steps required for SAS to review accommodation requests. More information can be found on the UCF [Student Accessibility Services](#) website under the Start Here tab or by contacting SAS directly (Ferrell Commons 185; sas@ucf.edu; Phone - 407-823-2371).

Approved accommodations are shared with course instructors via the SAS Course Accessibility Letter. Implementing certain accommodations may require discussion about specific considerations of the course design, course learning objectives, and the individual academic and course challenges experienced by the student. While students with disabilities or chronic health needs are also encouraged to discuss any course concerns with professors in addition to contacting SAS, professors are not required to facilitate disability-related adjustments to the course unless the professor has received a Course Accessibility Letter from SAS that outlines approved accommodations.

Academic Integrity

Students should familiarize themselves with UCF's Code of Conduct at Student Conduct and Integrity Office. According to Section 1, "Academic Misconduct," students are prohibited from engaging in:

1. Academic misconduct is defined as any submitted work or behavior that obstructs the instructor of record's ability to accurately assess the student's understanding or completion of course materials or degree requirements (e.g., assignment, quiz, and/or exam). Examples of academic misconduct include but are not limited to: plagiarism, unauthorized assistance to complete an

academic exercise; unauthorized communication with others during an examination, course assessment, or project; falsifying or misrepresenting academic work; providing misleading information to create a personal advantage to complete course/degree requirements; or multiple submission(s) of academic work without permission of the instructor of record.

2. Any student who knowingly helps another violate academic behavior standards is also in violation of the standards.
3. Commercial Use of Academic Material. Selling of course material to another person and/or uploading course material to a third-party vendor without authorization or without the express permission of the University and the instructor of record. Course materials include but are not limited to class notes, the instructor of record's slide deck, tests, quizzes, labs, instruction sheets, homework, study guides, and handouts.
4. Soliciting assistance with academic coursework and/or degree requirements. The solicitation of assistance with an assignment, lab, quiz, test, paper, etc., without authorization of the instructor of record or designee is prohibited. This includes but is not limited to asking for answers to a quiz, trading answers, or offering to pay another to complete an assignment. It is considered Academic Misconduct to solicit assistance with academic coursework and/or degree requirements, even if the solicitation did not yield actual assistance (for example, if there was no response to the solicitation).

Responses to Academic Dishonesty, Plagiarism, or Cheating

Students should also familiarize themselves with the procedures for academic misconduct in UCF's student handbook, [The Golden Rule](#). UCF faculty members have a responsibility for students' education and the value of a UCF degree, and so seek to prevent unethical behavior and respond to academic misconduct when necessary. Penalties for violating rules, policies, and instructions within this course can range from a zero on the exercise to an "F" letter grade in the course. In addition, an Academic Misconduct report could be filed with the Office of Student Conduct and Academic Integrity, which could lead to disciplinary warning, disciplinary probation, or deferred suspension or separation from the University through suspension, dismissal, or expulsion with the addition of a "Z" designated on one's transcript.

Being found in violation of academic conduct standards could result in a student having to disclose such behavior on a graduate school application, being removed from a leadership position within a student organization, the recipient of scholarships, participation in University activities such as study abroad, internships, etc.

Let's avoid all of this by demonstrating values of honesty, trust, and integrity. No grade is worth compromising your integrity and moving your moral compass. Stay true to doing the right thing: take the zero, not a shortcut.

Title IX

Title IX prohibits sex discrimination, including sexual misconduct, sexual violence, sexual harassment, and retaliation. If you or someone you know has been harassed or assaulted, you can find resources available to support the victim, including confidential resources and information concerning reporting options at [Let's Be Clear](#) and [UCF Cares](#).

For more information on access and community engagement, Title IX, accessibility, or UCF's complaint processes contact:

- Title IX – ONAC – [Office of Nondiscrimination & Accommodations Compliance](#) & askanadvocate@ucf.edu
- Disability Accommodation – Student Accessibility Services – [Student Accessibility Services](#) & sas@ucf.edu
- [Access and Community Engagement](#) (including the Ginsberg Center for Inclusion and Community Engagement, Military and Veteran Student Success, and HSI Initiatives)
- UCF Compliance and Ethics Office – [Compliance, Ethics, and Risk Office](#) & complianceandethics@ucf.edu
- The [Ombuds Office](#) is a safe place to discuss concerns.

Reporting an Incident or Issue

If you believe you have experienced discrimination by any faculty or staff member, contact the Office of Nondiscrimination & Accommodations Compliance via the [ONAC website](#) or at 407-823-1336. You can also choose to report using the UCF Integrity Line either anonymously or as yourself at 1-855-877-6049 or by using the [online form](#). UCF cares about you and takes every report seriously. For more information see the [Reporting an Incident or Issue Webpage](#).

Deployed Active-Duty Military Students

Students who are deployed active-duty military and/or National Guard personnel and require accommodation should contact their instructors as soon as possible after the semester begins and/or after they receive notification of deployment to make arrangements.

Campus Safety

At UCF's Public Safety and Police, safety is the top priority. Emergencies on campus are rare, but if one should arise, it's important to be familiar with some basic safety and security concepts.

- In an emergency, always dial 911.
- Every UCF Classroom has an Emergency Procedure Guide posted on a wall near the door, which will show you how to respond to a variety of situations. This guide can also be found online [here](#).
- In the event of an active threat, remember **AVOID, DENY, DEFEND**. Choose the best course of action and act immediately. Watch the video [here](#) to learn more.
 - **AVOID**. Pay attention to your surroundings and have an exit plan. Get as much distance and as many barriers between you and the threat as quickly as possible.
 - **DENY**. When avoiding is difficult or impossible, deny the threat access to you and your space. Lockdown by creating barriers, turning the lights off

and remaining quiet and out of sight. Make sure your phone is silenced, but do not turn it off.

- **DEFEND.** When you are unable to put distance between yourself and the threat, be prepared to protect yourself. Commit to your actions, be aggressive and do not fight fairly. Do whatever it takes to survive.
- For emergencies on campus, UCF will utilize the [UCF Alert](#) system. All UCF students, faculty, and staff are automatically enrolled to receive these email and text alerts, however, it's a good idea to frequently ensure your [contact information is up to date](#).

Financial Aid Accountability

All instructors are required to document students' academic activity at the beginning of each course. In order to document that you began this course, please complete this activity by the end of the first week of classes or as soon as possible after adding the course. Failure to do so may result in a delay in the disbursement of your financial aid.

Class Schedule

Week	Topic
1	Overview of Biophotonics
2	Basics of light-matter interactions in molecules, cells and tissues
3	Biosensing #1: DNA
4	Biosensing #2: Proteins
5	Biosensing #3: RNA
6	Biosensing #4: Other physiologically important markers Midterm Exam
7	Bioimaging #1: Non-fluorescence-based microscopy
8	Bioimaging #2: Fluorescence-based microscopy
9	Bioimaging #3: Super-resolution microscopy & non-linear microscopy
10	Spring break
11	Bioimaging #4: Image analysis (+ ML/DL)

Week	Topic
12	Diagnosing diseases with light
13	Treatment of diseases with light
14	Student presentation #1 Student presentation #2
15	Study day Final Exam
16	