Global Optimization  
ESI 6492  Class Number 26831  
**Academic Term:** Fall 2020

**Instructor:**  
Distinguished Professor Panagote (Panos) M. Pardalos, [http://www.isc.ufl.edu/pardalos/](http://www.isc.ufl.edu/pardalos/)  
Email Address: pardalos@ufl.edu  
Office Phone Number: 352-392-1464  
Office Hours: By appointment, WEIL 401

**Teaching Assistants:**  
TBA

**Course Description**  
**Catalog description:** Global optimization problems appear in a wide range of applications in operations research, economics, statistics, medicine, engineering and computer sciences. In this course we introduce the student to the main concepts and techniques of global optimization. Topics to be covered include: Properties of Nonconvex Functions, Convex Envelopes, Duality, Complexity, Applications and Software Issues, Algorithms for Quadratic Programming, Concave Minimization, D.C. Programming Lipschitz Optimization, Nonconvex Network Flow Problems and Decomposition Algorithms.

**Course Pre-Requisites / Co-Requisites**  
Linear and Nonlinear Programming, or any equivalent.

**Meeting Times and Location**  
M-W-F | Period 7 (1:55 PM - 2:45 PM), ROOM TBA

**Relation to Program Outcomes (ABET):**

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<tr>
<th>Outcome</th>
<th>Coverage*</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a. Apply knowledge</td>
<td>Medium</td>
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<tr>
<td>b1. Conduct experiments</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>b2. Statistical design of experiments</td>
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<td>c. Design</td>
<td></td>
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<td>d. Function on teams</td>
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<tr>
<td>e. Solve problems</td>
<td>High</td>
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<tr>
<td>f. Professional and ethical responsibility</td>
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<tr>
<td>g. Communicate</td>
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<td>h1. Economic impact</td>
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<td>h2. Global, societal, and environmental impact</td>
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<tr>
<td>i. Lifelong learning</td>
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<td>j. Contemporary issues</td>
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<td>k. Techniques, skills, and tools for degree program</td>
<td>High</td>
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*Coverage is given as high, medium, or low. An empty box indicates that this outcome is not part of the course.

**Course Objectives**

1) To gain an understanding and appreciation of the principles and methodologies relevant to global optimization  
2) To solve advanced problems with the sophisticated global optimization techniques
3) To build a solid theoretical background in optimization and explore the recent topics for future research and study

**Materials and Supply Fees**
No fees.

**Recommended Textbook**

**Recommended Materials**
Selected papers published in the Journal of Global Optimization will be discussed in the class or given to students for study and analysis: [www.springeronline.com/journal/10898](http://www.springeronline.com/journal/10898).

**Online Resources**
Most of the material for this class will be available on E-learning. It is therefore crucial that you know how to efficiently use E-learning.

**Course Schedule**
A tentative list of topics for the class is given next. This list might be shortened or lengthened depending on the pace of the class.

1. Fundamental Results on Convexity and Optimization
2. Quadratic Programming
3. General Concave Minimization
4. D.C. Programming
5. Lipschitz Optimization
6. Global Optimization on Networks

**Attendance Policy, Class Expectations, and Make-Up Policy**
Requirements for class attendance and make-up exams, assignments, and other work in this course are consistent with university policies that can be found at: [https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx](https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx).

**Grading Method and Policy**

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<tr>
<td>Exams</td>
<td>60%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Homework</td>
<td>30%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Class Part.</td>
<td>10%</td>
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**Late Assignments:** Assignments are late if not turned in at the first of the period due. Prior approval, or acceptable medical documentation, is necessary for late assignments to receive any credit. The three exam are tentatively scheduled as follows:

*Exam 1 date:* TBA  
*Exam 2 date:* TBA  
*Exam 3 date:* TBA
**Students Requiring Accommodations**

Students with disabilities requesting accommodations should first register with the Disability Resource Center (352-392-8565, [https://www.dso.ufl.edu/drc](https://www.dso.ufl.edu/drc)) by providing appropriate documentation. Once registered, students will receive an accommodation letter which must be presented to the instructor when requesting accommodation. Students with disabilities should follow this procedure as early as possible in the semester.

**Course Evaluation**

Students are expected to provide feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing online evaluations at [https://evaluations.ufl.edu/evals](https://evaluations.ufl.edu/evals). Evaluations are typically open during the last two or three weeks of the semester, but students will be given specific times when they are open. Summary results of these assessments are available to students at [https://evaluations.ufl.edu/results/](https://evaluations.ufl.edu/results/).

**University Honesty Policy**

UF students are bound by The Honor Pledge which states, “We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honor and integrity by abiding by the Honor Code. On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: “On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment.” The Honor Code ([https://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/student-conduct-honor-code/](https://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/student-conduct-honor-code/)) specifies a number of behaviors that are in violation of this code and the possible sanctions. Furthermore, you are obligated to report any condition that facilitates academic misconduct to appropriate personnel. If you have any questions or concerns, please consult with the instructor or TAs in this class.

**Software Use**

All faculty, staff, and students of the University are required and expected to obey the laws and legal agreements governing software use. Failure to do so can lead to monetary damages and/or criminal penalties for the individual violator. Because such violations are also against University policies and rules, disciplinary action will be taken as appropriate. We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to uphold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honesty and integrity.

**Student Privacy**

There are federal laws protecting your privacy with regards to grades earned in courses and on individual assignments. For more information, please see: [http://registrar.ufl.edu/catalog0910/policies/regulationferpa.html](http://registrar.ufl.edu/catalog0910/policies/regulationferpa.html)

**Campus Resources:**

**Health and Wellness**

- **U Matter, We Care:**
  If you or a friend is in distress, please contact umatter@ufl.edu or 352 392-1575 so that a team member can reach out to the student.

- **Counseling and Wellness Center:** [http://www.counseling.ufl.edu/cwc](http://www.counseling.ufl.edu/cwc), and 392-1575; and the University Police Department: 392-1111 or 9-1-1 for emergencies.

- **Sexual Assault Recovery Services (SARS)**
  Student Health Care Center, 392-1161.
Academic Resources

**E-learning technical support**, 352-392-4357 (select option 2) or e-mail to Learning-support@ufl.edu. 
https://lss.at.ufl.edu/help.shtml.

**Career Resource Center**, Reitz Union, 392-1601. Career assistance and counseling.
https://www.crc.ufl.edu/.

**Library Support**, http://cms.uflib.ufl.edu/ask. Various ways to receive assistance with respect to using the libraries or finding resources.

**Teaching Center**, Broward Hall, 392-2010 or 392-6420. General study skills and tutoring.
https://teachingcenter.ufl.edu/.

**Writing Studio, 302 Tigert Hall**, 846-1138. Help brainstorming, formatting, and writing papers.
https://writing.ufl.edu/writing-studio/.

**Student Complaints Campus**: https://www.dso.ufl.edu/documents/UF_Complaints_policy.pdf.


**Teaching Improvement**
We are interested in being the best instructors possible. In particular, we would like to know of the problems you face during the semester as soon as they occur. It is a waste for us to learn at the end of the semester that we were not speaking sufficiently loud to be heard, that our handwriting was not readable, that nobody understood the pictures that were drawn on the board or that the software used for the class was very difficult to use. We want you to feel free to make suggestions to improve the content of the class, its exposition and our instructing skills. You can address these suggestions directly to us (in a polite manner) or anonymously by leaving comments in the instructor mailbox. We will consider carefully all these suggestions and if necessary, we will address them in class.

**Feedback**
If you foresee any problem with adhering to the guidelines set in this syllabus, please discuss them with the instructor as soon as possible. The sooner problems are discussed, the more likely it is that they can be solved.