

**A & AE 517: UNSTEADY AERODYNAMICS**  
**PROF. ALINA ALEXEENKO**

**Day & Time:** M, W 4:30 - 5:45 pm

**Room:** ARMS 3115

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Hours: Fridays 10 am – 12 noon or by appointment

**Recommended Texts:**

1. Bisplinghoff, R. L., Ashley, H., Halfman, R. L.: "Aeroelasticity," Addison, 1955.
2. Dowell, E. H. (editor), Curtiss, H.C., Scanlan, R. H., Sisto, F.: "A Modern Course in Aeroelasticity," Sijthoff & Noordhoff, 1978. (Available electronically).
3. Cebeci, M., Platzer, H., Chen, H., Chang, K-C., Shao, J. P., "Analysis of low-speed unsteady airfoil flows", Springer, 2004. (Available electronically).
4. Landahl, M., "Unsteady Transonic Flow", Cambridge, 1989.

**Prerequisites:** AAE334 or equivalent.

**Objectives:** Review of inviscid fluid dynamics. Linearized flow theory; indicial and harmonic responses; panel methods for unsteady airfoils and wings. Simple applications to dynamic simulation and aeroelastic stability. Nonlinear theory for transonic flow; introduction to time dependent numerical methods.

**Grading:**

Homework 40%

Midterm 30 %

Final Project 30%

**Homework**

There will be about 8 homework assignments. Some will be paper-and-pencil solution of problems, others will be computer assignments. I recommend using Matlab (available at all computer labs on campus), but you can use any programming language (Java, C, Fortran).

**Exam:** Midterm exam the week of October 5 - 9. Closed books, open notes.

**Course Projects:**

Timeline for course projects: project proposal due after October break; progress report due first week of November. Project presentations during the last week of classes. Teams of up to two. Select a problem that is interesting to you and is related to unsteady aerodynamics.

## Course Outline

I. Review and Introduction of Basic Concepts: indicial response, harmonic response,, aerodynamic damping, static and quasi-steady approximations, aerodynamic transfer functions.

### II. Review of Inviscid Fluid Dynamics

Euler's Equation

1. Material Derivatives
2. Vorticity
3. Potential Flows: Bernoulli's equation; nonlinear wave equation
4. Boundary Conditions

### III. Incompressible Potential Flow

1. Classical Hydrodynamics: apparent mass forces
2. Vortex Effects in 2D
3. Linearized Aerodynamics:
  - Thin wings
  - separation of steady and unsteady effects
  - 2D airfoils:
    - indicial response – the Wagner Problem
    - harmonic response – Theodorsen function
    - dynamic system calculations
    - numerical solution methods
  - planar wings: unsteady panel methods in 3D

### IV. Linearized Compressible Flow

1. The reduced wave equation
2. Planar wings in simple harmonic motion
  - subsonic flow: modal method, panel methods
  - supersonic flow: Mach box techniques

### I. Transonic Flow

1. Transonic non-linearities: small disturbance equation
2. Shock waves
3. Numerical solution methods