Instructors:

Dr. Jonathan Fiene (Lead)
Lecturer and Director of Laboratory Programs, MEAM (fiene@me.upenn.edu)
Dr. Edward Steager
GRASP Research Staff (esteager@seas.upenn.edu)
Rebecca Stein
GRASP Associate Director, Research and Educational Outreach (restein@seas.upenn.edu)
David Simpson
MEAM MSE Student (dsimp@seas.upenn.edu)

Course Description: The purpose of this course is to provide an introduction to robotics technology. The course ties together engaging classroom discussions on a variety of topics including sensing, actuation, control, and embedded programming with a rigorous series of laboratory exercises and projects to provide hands-on experience with mechanical prototyping methods, electronic circuits, robotic systems, and much more.

Course Materials: All lectures, assignments and labs will be available online. The SAAST Robotics website (https://alliance.seas.upenn.edu/~medesign/wiki/index.php/Courses/SAAST) will have general course information and Blackboard (https://courseweb.library.upenn.edu/) will be used to post grades.

Assignments: Assignments will reinforce lecture material. All assignments will be done individually unless otherwise specified.

Assignment 1: Mechanical Design- SolidWorks and the Laser Cutter
Assignment 2: Basic Circuits- LEDs and Phototransistors
Assignment 3: Introduction to the microcontroller
Assignment 4: Controller Design- Preliminary Project Plan
Assignment 5: Controller Realization
Assignment 7: Robot Test (Group)
Assignment 8: Poster (Group)

Quizzes: The quizzes will cover material discussed in the lectures and will be given without notice.

Final Project: Students will be split into groups of three for the final project. Each group will design and build three robots to work cooperatively to solve a challenge.

Grading Policy
Individual Assignments: 50%
Team Assignments: 15%
Quizzes: 10%
Final Project: 25%