

Contact Information
Jimmie Oxley
Chemistry Department
University of Rhode Island
Kingston, RI 02881
joxley@chm.uri.edu

Propellants & Combustion

2 days 1 instructor

Overall Objectives:

The overall objective is to learn the unique aspects of energetic material combustion behavior, and to develop the fundamental knowledge and skills involved that can be applied in future multiphase combustion research regardless of specific application. This course is for those involved with the safety of explosives or applications of deflagrating of energetic materials (propellants and pyrotechnics). It is aimed at those who are working in R&D of energetic materials.

Specific objectives:

- To be introduced to energetic materials combustion issues.
- To review of thermodynamics, governing equations, combustion equations, Rankine-Hugoniot analysis, flame structure, chemistry, etc.
- To be introduced to advanced materials and applications including high nitrogen materials, experimental and modeling challenges, technical gaps and issues, micropropulsion, combustion synthesis, green energetics, etc.
- To provide the foundation of nanoscale energetic composites including their fabrication, formulation, unique challenges, characterization, propagation physics, experimental techniques (ignition and combustion), state of modeling, combustion synthesis, green energetics, research gaps and issues, etc.

Learning Objectives:

At course completion student should be able to apply combustion principles to detonation, ignition, deflagration, flame spreading, multi-phase combustion, convective combustion, deflagration-to-detonation transition (DDT), propagation physics, experimental methods, modeling approaches, oscillatory combustion, combustion instabilities, ignition, deflagration, metal combustion, thermites, intermetallics, experimental methods, and modeling approaches applicable to EMs.

Expectations of a student will depend on his/her degree level and professional position.

IMMEDIATE BENEFITS: Each student who completes this course will gain an immediate set of peers who have had the same experience. He will also know several people who are daily involved in energetic material, whom he/she can call, as required.



Prof. Steven F. Son (Citizenship: USA; Active DOE Q Clearance) is Associate Professor of Mechanical Engineering at Purdue University at West Lafayette, Indiana. He received his Ph.D. in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Illinois in 1993, after which he was a J. Robert Oppenheimer Fellow at Los Alamos National Laboratory. In 1996 he became a Technical Staff Member at Los Alamos and then a Project Leader. In 2005 he was a visiting scientist at Penn State University, and in 2006 he accepted a tenured faculty position at Purdue University. He has edited a special journal section, co-authored a book chapter, and published more than 100 technical research papers. He is currently a Member of the Combustion Institute, AIAA, and ASME. He has been a paper and grant referee for many organizations and journals, and is currently an Associate Editor for the AIAA Journal of Propulsion and Power. His expertise is in the area of multiphase combustion with an emphasis on propellant combustion, nanoscale energetic materials, heterogeneous combustion, reactive materials, combustion synthesis, and explosives safety.