Can classes or courses be subject to export controls?

Information concerning general scientific, mathematical, or engineering principles commonly taught in schools, college, and universities, as listed in course catalogs or part of established teaching laboratory curricula is not subject to export control.

Exceptions to that general rule pertains to high level encryption software, and access to and instruction related to ITAR controlled defense articles as part of a university course if foreign nationals are involved. Such activities may require a license. Even if no foreign nationals are associated with the class, it is important that all faculty, staff and students associated with the class understand the applicable export controls in order to prevent inadvertent violations.

Depending on the topic, workshops and classes other than catalog-listed courses, for example, those developed for a specific audience, interest group, departmental seminar, government agency or private company, may be subject to export controls. It is the responsibility of the instructor or presenter to ensure that their presentation doesn’t violate U.S. export controls by disclosing controlled technology of technical data or providing a defense service to a foreign person(s) without the appropriate license or other government approvals.