Physics 360/460 – Seminar

Wittenberg University
Spring 2009
Jeremiah Williams

http://www4.wittenberg.edu/academics/phys/seminar/

Contact Information:

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Class Schedule:

Class Meetings: W 3:00 – 4:00 AM Sci 319

Course Goals:

1. To develop the skills required to make clear presentations on technical topics.
2. To learn to use reference materials pertinent to physics.
3. To get a feel for what is currently interesting and important in physics/engineering, including societal, ethical, and career issues.

Course Policies:

Attendance: This is a seminar, so participation (filling out feedback forms, asking questions of speakers, etc.) and attendance are mandatory and directly contribute to your course grade.

Grade Determination: The course grade will be determined using the following scheme. Your score for the presentation will be partially based on the feedback forms.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Attendance and participation</th>
<th>30%</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Presentations</td>
<td>70%</td>
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Accommodations: Any student with a documented disability who needs to arrange reasonable accommodations must contact each instructor at the beginning of the semester and provide a self-identification letter. To obtain this letter, contact Melinda J. Finkle, the Academic Services Coordinator, at 937-327-7924 in room 206 Recitation Hall
**Ground Rules for Presentations:**

- Each person will make at least one presentation this semester.
- Presentations will normally be 20 minutes (2 per class period) with additional time allotted for questions.
- Feedback from the audience to the presenter will be summarized by the department and discussed with the speaker the day after the talk.
- You must consult with me or another faculty member no later than one week before a presentation about your topic. Additionally, you are required to give a dry run of your talk to a faculty member (preferably the same one you consulted about the topic with!) no later than the Monday before your talk. The dry run must be given in BDK 319. You are responsible for setting up a time for your dry run.
- Sources for talks must be from peer-reviewed journals or magazines generally regarded as authoritative (*i.e.* American Journal of Physics, Review of Scientific Instruments, Science, Physics World, Scientific American, *etc.*), unless you have the prior agreement of a Physics Department.
- Seniors will give two talks, one early in the semester and one at the end of the semester. The first talk, which should last at least 30 minutes with additional time for questions, will provide an opportunity to update the department on the status of your senior research project. The second talk, which should take fifty minutes with additional time for questions, will provide an opportunity to summarize your senior research.

As always, this syllabus is subject to change.