Course Change Request

New Course Proposal

Date Submitted: 02/22/18 5:28 pm

Viewing: PHYS 391 : Special Topics in Physics

Last edit: 02/23/18 12:51 pm

Changes proposed by: prubin

Are you completing this form on someone else's behalf?

No

Effective Term: Fall 2018

Subject Code: PHYS - Physics

Course Number:

In Workflow

1. **Registrar-Courses:Repeatable-RT**
2. **PHYS UG Committee**
3. **PHYS Chair**
4. **SC Curriculum Committee**
5. SC Associate Dean
6. Assoc Provost-Undergraduate
7. Registrar-Courses
8. Banner

Approval Path

1. 02/23/18 8:48 am Tory Sarro (vsarro): Approved for Registrar-Courses:Repeatable-RT
2. 03/12/18 10:44 am Philip Rubin (prubin): Approved for PHYS UG Committee
3. 03/12/18 12:09 pm Paul So (paso): Approved for PHYS Chair

Bundled Courses:

Equivalent Courses:

Catalog Title: Special Topics in Physics

Banner Title: Special Topics in Physics

Will section titles vary by semester? Yes

Credits: 1-4

Schedule Type: Lecture -Repeatable within the Term

Hours of Lecture or Seminar per week: 1-4

Repeatable: May be repeated within term (RT)

Max Allowable Credits: 9

Default Grade Mode: Undergraduate Regular

Recommended Prerequisite(s):

Recommended Corequisite(s):

Required Prerequisite(s) / Corequisite(s) (Updates only):

Registrar's Office Use Only - Required Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s):

And/Or	(	Course/Test Code	Min Grade/Score	Academic Level	)	Concurrency?

Registration Restrictions (Updates only):

Registrar's Office Use Only - Registration Restrictions:

Field(s) of Study:

Class(es):

Level(s):

Degree(s):

School(s):

Catalog Description:

Special topics in physics not covered in fixed-content courses. Notes: This course does not satisfy elective-category requirements for the physics or astronomy majors.

Justification:

A special topics course that does not satisfy elective-category requirements for the physics or astronomy majors.

Does this course cover material which crosses into another department? No

Learning Outcomes:

Attach Syllabus (PDFs only)

blank391syllabus.pdf

Additional Attachments (PDFs only)

Staffing:

Can be offered by any Department faculty member.

Relationship to Existing Programs:

No impact on any program.

Relationship to Existing Courses:

Same as PHYS 390 except, unlike the case of PHYS 390, it will not satisfy elective-category requirements for the physics or astronomy majors.

Additional Comments:

Reviewer Comments

Key: 15859

PHYS 391 – Special Topics in Physics Dummy Syllabus

Instructor:	Phil Rubin
Office:	PH 253
Phone:	703.993.3815 (least effective)
E-mail:	prubin@gmu.edu (most effective)
Office Hours:	Monday and Wednesday 10:30-12:00
Website:	`http://physics.gmu.edu/~rubinp/courses/390/`

Please note:

- All e-mail communication from the instructor concerning this course will be to GMU accounts only.
- If you are a student with a disability and require academic accommodations, please see me and contact the Office of Disability Resources at 703.993.2474. All academic accommodations must be arranged through that office.

Course Goals:

1. To learn some physics
2. To demonstrate proficiency

Expectations

- Safety [2 quizzes: 10%]
- Research [20% (draft required)]
- Technique [20% (draft required)]
- Presentations [10%]
- Final Exam [40%]

Grading:

A+=100-96.67	A=96.66-93.33	A-=93.32-90
B+=89.99-86.67	B=86.66-83.33	B-=83.32-80
C+=79.99-76.67	C=76.66-73.33	C-=73.32-70
	D=69.99-60	
	F<60	

Course Activities

1. Orientation
2. Safety: Lecture notes and supplemental readings are available on-line. Quizzes will be offered at the beginning of each class meeting beginning with the second meeting until everyone reaches the required level. Scores (fractions of correct answers) of each individual's completed quizzes are multiplied each time another quiz is taken, and account for 10% of the final grade.
3. Research: Plan, design, and cost-out (money and time) your research. **The final draft is due by the end of class on Monday, 5 March. Presentations will be given on Wednesday, 7 March.**
4. Techniques: Describe a solution to a problem. The description should an elucidation of the problem, how your solves the problem, a schematic and/or simulation of the solution leading to a prediction, an explanation of how to implement the solution. **The final draft of the technique is due on Monday 9 April. Presentations will be given on Wednesday, 11 April.**

Note that due dates are firm. **A full-grade deduction will be made for each day (or part thereof, beginning at 17:00 on the due date) a paper is late. No excuses.**

Notebooks: Complete records of all activities must be kept as evidence for the veracity of reported results. These records should be permanent and referable in case questions arise either later in an investigation or subsequent to publication in any form. Typically, a notebook, of the sort without loose paper, such as a bound composition notebook is preferred. A spiral notebook is acceptable, but a three-ring binder is not. Pages in the notebook should be numbered consecutively, either by the manufacturer or by hand, and never removed from the notebook. Entries should **never be erased or blacked/whited out**. A single line through a mistake is all that is necessary. The notebook is often left at the site of a running experiment, so that there is no chance that it can be lost or damaged during transport. **You must be able to produce such a record for the work you present in this course or else face a grade of zero (0) for the work reported.**

Disruptive Behavior: Misbehavior of any sort, including cell-phone use, unauthorized computer use, and eating or drinking in the laboratory or classroom, will not be tolerated. Such actions are grounds for dismissal from the classroom and the grading of a zero (0) on the assignment due that day. All safety procedures–presented and tested at the beginning of the semester–must be followed. Willful disregard of safety procedures will result in dismissal from the course and an F grade in it. Cell phones must be **turned off** before entering the classroom and laboratory and remain off and out of sight.

Honor Code Violations: Science is impossible when dishonesty, in any manifestation, exists. It's the worst possible conduct a scientist can display. Dishonesty of any sort (cheating, plagiarism, lying, stealing), will be reported to the honor council for further disciplinary action. **Don't cheat.**

> The GMU Honor Code: `http://www.gmu.edu/catalog/9798/honorcod.html#code`