

COURSE OUTLINE: SENIOR RESEARCH PROJECT PHYSICS 4Q03 and PHYSICS 4P06

Fall 2004/ Winter 2005

Advisor: Faculty project supervisor

Course coordinator: Kari Dalnoki-Veress,
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An experimental or theoretical project will be carried out under the supervision of a faculty member. A three unit (1 semester) version of the course is available (4Q03) which can be taken during the fall or winter semester, or a six unit version which will constitute a full year course (4P06). For many students this will be an introduction to participating in doing research in Physics and Astronomy, and will introduce the basic day-to-day requirements for being a researcher. In general it is expected that the students spend the equivalent of about 1 day of work per week on the project throughout the duration of the project. Students are advised to spend more of their efforts during the beginning of the semester in order to ensure completion of the project.

Course objectives:

- 1) To experience participating in an active research environment
- 2) To contribute to a meaningful research project
- 3) To learn the basic process of doing scientific research

The course grade will be based on:

PHYSICS 4Q03 (3 units)		PHYSICS 4P06 (6 units)	
Presentation (Poster or Seminar)	20%	Poster presentation (December)	15%
Final report	25%	Seminar (April)	15%
Research progress	50%	Final report	25%
Laboratory notebook	5%	Research progress	40%
		Laboratory notebook	5%

Assistance with the preparation of the presentation (poster/seminar) can be obtained from the advisor and the course coordinator. The details and requirements for the various components of the course will be discussed during an organisational meeting which will be held during the beginning of the semester.

Academic Ethics and Collaboration:

Attention is drawn to Statement on Academic Ethics and the Senate Resolution on Academic Dishonesty as found in the Senate Policy Statements distributed at registration and available in the Senate Office. Any student who infringes one of these resolutions will be treated according to the published policy.

Academic ethics policy: <http://www.mcmaster.ca/senate/academic/acadeth.htm>

Senate resolution on academic dishonesty: <http://www.mcmaster.ca/senate/academic/academic.htm>