

## **Syllabus for PHY 599: Graduate Seminar Fall 2021**

### **Each Student presents a Seminar on a topic in**

Nuclear Physics, Neutrino Physics, Particle Physics, or Astrophysics (you can find a list of suggested topics under the "Documents" tab on Blackboard)

### **Schedule:**

- Thursday 4:45-6:05pm, starting from Aug 26th

### **Where:**

- Lecture will be held **in-person** in P116 (Physics Building)
- Please follow COVID-19 guidelines for Fall 2021 (masks are mandatory)

### **Learning Objectives:**

- Obtain experience in giving oral presentations.
- Learn some of what is happening in these fields.
- Learn about research activities at Stony Brook.

### **Expectations:**

- Each student will give one 15-20 minute talk (depending on class enrollment), with 5-10 additional minutes to allow for questions and discussion during and after the talk.
- Pick a topic for your talk - this can be a topic from the list of suggestions, or a topic of your own choosing. In the latter case, it is up to the instructors to decide whether the topic is appropriate. The topic cannot be your own research topic. E-mail the instructors with your choice of topic and date of presentation. Both are first-come, first-serve.
- Research your topic. Be sure to make use of the resources given below. You are encouraged to consult in advance with the listed faculty experts for your topic.
  - Instructors or experts should be consulted on the organization, layout, and content of your presentation at any time, but you will be solely responsible for the final product.
  - Make sure that all material is properly cited! Any incidence of plagiarism will automatically result in a course grade of "Q". See this guide, the Academic Integrity Policy and its FAQ.

- Make sure you have a goal with the presentation: present the essential (new) physics, provide connections (previous data/theory), present the underlying concepts, and give a compact summary.
- Your fellow students must be able to learn something (new) from your presentation: make sure you start at a general level of knowledge.
- You are strongly encouraged to arrange a practice talk in front of fellow students a few days preceding their presentation. Practice the presentation: diction, attitude, position, volume, speed, and timing are just as important as your slides!
- You are required to provide an electronic version of the talk in PDF *by noon on the day of the presentation*.
- Make sure to stay close to the allotted time, but don't exceed the time limit. Be aware that if you speak for significantly longer than the allotted time, you may be interrupted and not be allowed to finish your presentation. This is a constraint that is consistent with the practices at many conferences.
- Make sure your talk is not too short.
- Do not include long and complex derivations; provide the essence or the outline of derivations if needed.
- Students must turn in an electronic abstract at least one week preceding the talk. You are encouraged to discuss your abstract with an instructor or faculty expert first.
- Prepare an APS formatted abstract with the proper references. Note that one may now go to the APS website and submit an abstract to the "Test" meeting. To do this, go to the abstract submission page, click "Start Abstract Submission," select TEST meeting, and follow the instructions. If you go all the way through and submit, you can then select "view submission file" to see the LaTeX. You may then use that file to produce an abstract for the class. (Here is an example LATEX source that will build with `apsab.sty`)
- Scheduled talks may not be postponed.
- Students must attend all talks; attendance will be taken.
- Students are required to ask questions and are encouraged to give criticisms of talks.

Active participation will be part of the grade. *If not enough questions are asked, we will call on those students who have participated least in class to ask a question.*

### **Grade:**

- Physics content and accessibility of the presentation: 50%
- Presentation quality of the presentation and quality of the Abstract: 30%
- Active participation in class discussion 20%. Do not expect a grade A if you don't participate in class (i.e. if you don't ask questions during other students' talks).
- Attendance will be taken. Unexcused absences will result in a lower grade.

- Any excuses (medical or otherwise) are to be discussed with the instructors and documented in a timely manner.

**Course materials:**

- for electronic article access, try the university license to APS Journals (Physical Review);
- most (if not all) articles are also available through the electronic preprint archive (arXiv);
- for searching published work in astronomy, the ADS abstract service is excellent;
- for particle and nuclear physics, the web sites of large experiments can be helpful in finding publications;
- for advanced search options in particle and nuclear physics papers, use INSPIRE-HEP database. Contact your local faculty experts for specific recommendations of scientific articles on your topic of choice.

**Student Accessibility Support Center (SASC) Statement:**

If you have a physical, psychological, medical, or learning disability that may impact your course work, please contact the Student Accessibility Support Center, Stony Brook Union Suite 107, (631) 632-6748, or at [sasc@stonybrook.edu](mailto:sasc@stonybrook.edu). They will determine with you what accommodations are necessary and appropriate. All information and documentation is confidential.

**Academic Integrity Statement:**

Each student must pursue his or her academic goals honestly and be personally accountable for all submitted work. Representing another person's work as your own is always wrong. Faculty is required to report any suspected instances of academic dishonesty to the Academic Judiciary. Faculty in the Health Sciences Center (School of Health Technology & Management, Nursing, Social Welfare, Dental Medicine) and School of Medicine are required to follow their school-specific procedures. For more comprehensive information on academic integrity, including categories of academic dishonesty please refer to the academic judiciary website at [http://www.stonybrook.edu/commcms/academic\\_integrity/index.html](http://www.stonybrook.edu/commcms/academic_integrity/index.html)

**Critical Incident Management Statement:**

Critical Incident Management: Stony Brook University expects students to respect the rights,

privileges, and property of other people. Faculty are required to report to the Office of Student Conduct and Community Standards any disruptive behavior that interrupts their ability to teach, compromises the safety of the learning environment, or inhibits students' ability to learn. Until/unless the [latest COVID guidance](#) is explicitly amended by SBU, during Fall 2021 "disruptive behavior" will include refusal to wear a mask during classes.

### **Religious Observances:**

See the policy statement regarding religious holidays at

[https://www.stonybrook.edu/commcms/provost/faculty/handbook/academic\\_policies/religious\\_holidays\\_policy](https://www.stonybrook.edu/commcms/provost/faculty/handbook/academic_policies/religious_holidays_policy)

Students are expected to notify the course professors by email of their intention to take time out for religious observance. This should be done as soon as possible but definitely before the end of the `add/drop' period. At that time they can discuss with the instructor(s) how they will be able to make up the work covered.