

PHYS 1990 (Introductory Physics Seminar) Course Syllabus

University of Georgia, Fall 2021

Instructor: Dr. Craig Wiegert

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Times and Locations

Class: Tuesdays, 3:55–5:10 PM (period 6), Room 254 Physics Building

Office Hours: by appointment

Course Objectives

The purpose of this seminar is to introduce you to a wide variety of current research topics in physics and astronomy. You will learn how basic physical principles and models, the same fundamental principles that you study in introductory physics, underlie many fields of science.

Course Structure and Topics

The course will be a mixture of presentations by the instructor or guest researchers, reports by students on homework assignments, and general discussion. There will be weekly reading assignments on a variety of topics, with much of the reading material coming from recent issues of journals such as *American Scientist*, *Scientific American*, *Physics Today*, *American Journal of Physics*, and others. Students will be asked to write about and/or present on the reading.

This is a general plan for the course; deviations announced to the class by the instructor may be necessary.

Grading

This course is graded on an Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory scale. Students will earn a “Satisfactory” grade for regular attendance, active participation in discussion, and satisfactory completion of the homework assignments.

Since class participation is an integral part of the course, a student risks earning an “Unsatisfactory” grade for missing more than three of the weekly classes (for whatever reason).

Academic Honesty

The University of Georgia has a comprehensive policy on academic honesty, described in a document entitled *A Culture of Honesty*. This document is available through the Office of Instruction or online at <http://honesty.uga.edu/>. You are responsible for knowing and understanding this policy.