PHYS 293
Directed Study
Fall 2013

Instructor: Dr. Thomas Herring  Phone: 445-4277
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Office Hours: M 10:00 am – 11:00 am
T 2:30 pm – 4:00 pm
W 5:30 pm - 6:30 pm
Th 2:30 pm – 4:00 pm

Text: None – Texts specific to a subject of study will be available through the library or the instructor.

Prerequisites: PHYS 151 or PHYS 180

Meeting Times: TBA (Each student will arrange meetings with the instructor)

Grading:
Proposal  25%
Progress Reports  25%
Final Report  50%

95% – 100%  A  73% - 75%  C
90% - 94%  A-  70% - 72%  C-
86% - 89%  B+  66% - 69%  D+
83% - 85%  B  63% - 65%  D
80% - 82%  B-  60% - 62%  D-
76% - 79%  C+  Below 60%  F

Note that there is no “W” grade on the scale. A “W” will only be given when requested by a student due to extreme circumstances and at the discretion of the instructor.

Schedule: All students should meet with the instructor during the first week of classes to plan their directed study for the semester.

Proposal: The proposal is a written report detailing the plans for the course of study or project that the student is pursuing. This proposal should define goals and deadlines and should include a schedule for progress reports and a due date for the final report agreed upon with the instructor. Also, any necessary background information concerning the subject of study or the project should be thoroughly discussed. The final version of the proposal is due no later than the end of the 4th week of the semester. Students may collaborate as a group and in this case
should submit all documents as co-authored. In this case details of the division of labor must also be clearly addressed in the proposal.

**Progress Reports:** Progress reports must be submitted to the instructor at regular intervals agreed upon in the proposal document. There must be at least 4 progress reports (more is usually better) submitted between the proposal due date and the end of the 15th week of the semester. Progress reports should clearly indicate goals that have been met as indicated in the proposal as well as addressing any unforeseen problems or goals that have not been met on schedule. Students working with a mentor other than the instructor should have that mentor approve and sign their progress reports before submission. In the case of a collaborative project students should submit at least one progress report including details about the work of their collaborators.

**Final Report:** The final report due date will be agreed upon in the proposal document but can be no later than the last day of the semester. The final report should consist of a written document and/or a formal presentation as defined in the proposal. The final report should address all stated goals in the proposal and include well documented references as well as show original work from the student.

**Makeup Policy:** No late work will be accepted.

**Extra Credit:** There is no extra credit available.

**Dishonesty in Class:** I don’t anticipate any problems but here’s the policy anyway. Any dishonesty/cheating will result in an F in the course.

**Class Conduct:** Please be respectful of the learning environment, your fellow students, the instructor, and any visitors. This includes entering and leaving the room quietly (especially if arriving late or leaving early), silencing cell phones during class (just leave the room if you need to take the call), and engaging in side conversations not relevant to the course material.

**Disability Statement:** WNC supports providing equal access for students with disabilities. Susan Trist (DSS Coordinator) is available to discuss appropriate academic accommodations that students may require. Please meet with me and contact Susan (445-3278) if you might require any accommodation.

**I: Catalog Course Description**

Provides individual study conducted under the direction of a faculty member. May be repeated for up to six units.

**II: Course Objectives**

Directed Study: Physics provides the opportunity for a student to engage in study of a particular topic in physics and/or design and carry out an experimental project. Collaboration with the instructor is a critical aspect of this course. Upon completion students should have completed a course of study and/or experimental project and gained a deeper knowledge of physics and/or scientific experimental methods.

1. Design a custom course of study and/or experimental project involving physics.
2. Experience in reporting goals, progress, and results of scientific endeavors.

**III: Course Linkage**

Linkage of course to educational program mission and at least one educational program outcome.

**Program Mission for AA/AS degree:** PHYS 293 satisfies the A.A. /A.S. degree mission by providing academic knowledge and skills for successful transfer to meet higher educational goals.

**Program Student Learning Outcomes for AA/AS degree:** Students who successfully complete PHYS 293 will know the subject matter appropriate to the emphasis of the degree.