

## Physics 499—Senior Thesis—Fall 2015

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**Homework assignments are to be emailed to the instructors by the due date and time noted on the instructions.**

Date	Writing Workshop (257 LLP) (Usually 2:00–2:45 p.m., unless noted otherwise)	In Class Activities (222 LLP) (Usually 2:50–4:50 p.m. unless noted otherwise)	Homework Due Today
Aug 28	“Four-letter Words (FLWs)”	Course Introduction and Expectations (BLD) 2-min. student presentations on their projects Grad-School Timeline (cme) Planning Scientific Papers and Your Thesis (BLD)	0_ “What I did this summer”
Sept 4	“Questionable Qualifiers”	The Business of Funding Research—Proposals (BLD) Writing a Project Summary (cme) Evaluating NSF project outcomes reports (team activity)	1_ Preliminary outline of your thesis/tech report
Sept 11	“Introductory Commas”	Evaluating Figures—and Making Better Ones (BLD) Effective Posters (cme) Crafting a 2-min Poster “Talk” (BLD)	2_ Project summary— uploaded to and reviewed through Peerceptiv
Sept 18	“Homophones”	Writing a Statement of Purpose & Diversity Statement (cme) Writing & Asking For Letters of Recommendation (cme) What Graduate Admissions Committees Look For (SLC)	No homework assignment— Physics GRE tomorrow
Sept 25	<b>No WW—Go directly to 222 LLP at 2:00 p.m.</b>	Constructing a Logical Argument (BLD) Review/evaluate poster drafts	3_ “Storyboard” of poster
Oct 2	<b>No WW—Go directly to 222 LLP at 2:00 p.m.</b>	Practice Poster Session	4_ Scientific poster talks & nearly final poster
 <b>MON Oct 5</b>	<b>Printing Deadline—Final Version of Poster</b>	<b>Email to Celia by 8:00 a.m.—No Extensions, No Kidding!</b>	5_ Final version of poster
Oct 9	“Verbs”	Getting Started—The Background & Introduction Section (BLD) Collaborative Writing (cme)	6_ Statement of Purpose
<b>MON Oct 12</b>	PHYS 499 Poster Session; 5:00 p.m. to ??, Loomis Laboratory of Physics	Come to the foyer of Loomis (between 151 and 141) by 4:30 to hang your poster—refreshments will be served	7_ Poster presentation

Oct 16	“Shooting for Shorth”	Poster Debriefing & “Best Poster” Award (BLD) The “Results” Section (BLD) Revising and Editing Your Work (cme)	8_B&I section—uploaded to and reviewed through Peerceptive
Oct 23	<b>No WW—Go directly to 222 LLP at 2:00 p.m.</b>	Ethics II: Class discussion of case studies (BLD/cme)	No homework assignment—Physics GRE tomorrow
Oct 30	“Parallel Construction”	The “Methods” Section (BLD) Proposals II (BLD) Eliminating Fluff in Scientific Writing (cme)	9_Results section
Nov 6	“Wimpy Words”	The “Discussion” and “Conclusions” Sections (BLD) Latin Terms in Scientific Writing (cme)	10_Methods section
Nov 13	“Revising”	The “References” Section (BLD) The “Acknowledgments” Section (cme) Abstract Review (cme)	11_Discussion and Conclusions sections
Nov 20	“Putting It All Together”	Presenting a 12-min APS-style Talk (BLD)	12_References, acknowledgments, abstract
<b>Nov 27</b>	<b>THANKSGIVING BREAK—NO CLASS</b>		
Dec 4	<b>No WW; go directly to 222 LLP at 2:00 p.m.</b>	Final Research Talks, 10-min APS-style	13_Final research talk
<b>MON Dec 14</b>	<b>Senior Thesis Due—5:00 p.m.—No extensions will be granted—don’t even <i>think</i> about asking</b>		<b>14_Senior Thesis</b>

In addition to the homework assignments listed in the table, students are required to submit four “colloquium reviews” during the semester. Written instructions for each homework assignment are provided on the course website.

General course information and a table of assignments and their corresponding point values are also provided on the course website.