

PHYS 596: Graduate Physics Orientation

General Information

◆ Class Times

The class will meet on Fridays, 11:00 a.m.–12:50 p.m. ATTENDANCE IS REQUIRED.

For most class meetings, we will meet in Room 144 Loomis. For some special classes, we may meet elsewhere, such as the Physics Interaction Room.

◆ Course Website

<http://courses.physics.illinois.edu/phys596/fa2014/index.html>

◆ Instructors

	Office	e-mail
Lance Cooper	218 MRL (Research); 227B Loomis (Administrative)	slcooper@illinois.edu

◆ Course Goals

The goals of this course are: (i) to expose you to the range of research activities available in the department and (ii) to give you basic instruction on the important communications, teamwork, leadership, and organizational skills that will help you both as graduate research assistants and as future scientists.

◆ Textbook

No textbook is required for this course. Lecture notes are posted on the course website. Some scientific papers published in the peer-reviewed literature will be assigned; all are available free of charge online through the University's library subscription.

Recommended reading:

Vernon Booth, *Communicating in Science: Writing a scientific paper and speaking at scientific meetings*, 2nd ed. (Cambridge, Cambridge University Press, 1993).

◆ Assignments

Assignments include both written work and oral presentations. Detailed instructions for each assignment, along with its due date and point value, are posted at

<http://courses.physics.illinois.edu/phys596/fa2014/Assignments.html>

◆ Grading

Your final grade will be based on both class attendance and completion of the group assignments. Late submission of assignments, unexcused absences, and failure to participate in class may contribute to lowering of your grade. There are no formal exams for this course, and no final will be given.

◆ Class Administration

Any concerns, questions, or comments about the administration of the course should be directed to Professor Cooper. Please e-mail us if you'd like to schedule an appointment to meet regarding the class. If you send e-mail to the instructors regarding the class, please put "Phys 596" in the subject line.