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PHSX 391.01: Research Initiation

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Course Information

- Supervisor Name: Andrew Ware
- Office: CHCB 130
- Email: andrew.ware@umontana.edu
- Seminars: Friday 3:00-3:50pm in CHCB 231
- Office Hours: M 1 – 2 pm, W 1 – 2 pm, R 8 – 9 am, & F 10 – 11 am & by appointment
- Website: umonline.umn.edu

Overview

This one-credit seminar course is intended as an introduction to independent research for junior-level physics majors. This course will connect student researchers with faculty mentors and help prepare students for PHSX 499 Senior Capstone Seminar.

Learning Objectives

After completing this course, you should:

Be connected with a research mentor...

- To help you choose a research topic in physics and astronomy
- To help you find a question of scientific interest on that topic

Be able to ...

- Begin independent research on your topic of choice
- Be able to write a descriptive and appropriate abstract describing that research
- Prepare slides for a talk describing your research
- Take the necessary steps to prepare for your senior seminar

Seminars

Seminars will cover the topics of choosing a research mentor and a research topic, writing scientific abstracts, and preparing slides for a scientific presentation. There will also be talks given by senior physics majors or faculty as examples on how to give a talk.

Seminar Dates

January 21	February 18	March 18	April 22
January 28	February 25	April 1	April 29
February 4	March 4	April 8	May 6
February 11	March 11	April 15	

Grading

Credit based on the completion of the requirements.

[This course can be taken for credit/no-credit only]

Course Guidelines and Policies

Student Conduct Code

The Student Conduct Code at the University of Montana embodies and promotes honesty, integrity, accountability, rights, and responsibilities associated with constructive citizenship in our academic community. This Code describes expected standards of behavior for all students, including academic conduct and general conduct, and it outlines students' rights, responsibilities, and the campus processes for adjudicating alleged violations. [Full student conduct code.](#)
http://www.umt.edu/vpsa/policies/student_conduct.php

Course Withdrawal

Students may use Cyberbear to drop courses through the first 15 instructional days of the semester. Beginning the 16th instructional day of the semester through the 45th instructional day, students use paper forms to drop, add and make changes of section, grading option or credit. PHSX 101 can only be taken as credit/no-credit.

Accessibility Statement

The University of Montana assures equal access to instruction through collaboration between students with disabilities, instructors, and the Office for Disability Equity (ODE). If you anticipate or experience barriers based on disability, please contact the ODE at: (406) 243-2243, ode@umontana.edu, or visit www.umt.edu/disability for more information. Retroactive accommodation requests will not be honored, so please, do not delay. As your instructor, I will work with you and the ODE to implement an effective accommodation, and you are welcome to contact me privately if you wish.