

## Fall 2013 Physics 321 Quantum Mechanics

### Professor

Dr. Jared Workman

### Class Location

WS 366

### Class Hours

Tue Thu 11:00-12:15

### Text Book

Introduction to Quantum Mechanics (2nd Edition) , David Griffiths

### Course Website

<http://www.coloradomesa.edu/~jworkman/teaching/fall14/321/index321.php>. If you ever forget the link to this site go to [www.jaredworkman.com](http://www.jaredworkman.com) and scroll down to the “My Colorado Mesa University Webpage” link.

### Welcome to Physics 321, Quantum Mechanics 1

This syllabus is your guide to class policies and procedures as well as a tool for planning. Each student is encouraged to work with the instructor and their peers.

This course is going to be hard. This course is going to require a great deal of work. It will be moving quickly and you will get a lot of new math thrown at you. Quantum mechanics completely deviates from the framework of physics you have been used to up until now and incorporates a highly abstract methodology to studying the world of the tiny. I strongly encourage you not to miss any homework or classes. Feel free to drop by my office at any time for help or to express general concerns.

### Course objectives

#### **Learn (Topical Course Outline)**

- The Fundamentals of Quantum Mechanics
  - o The Wave Equation
  - o Probability Theory
  - o Linear Algebra
  - o Time dependent versus time independent solutions
  - o Rudiments of the Matrix formulation
  - o Operators
  - o 1, 2, & 3 dimensional problems
  - o The simple harmonic oscillator
  - o The hydrogen atom

#### **Goal**

1. Be able to apply the formalism of quantum mechanics to 1, 2, and three dimensional problems and solve for the system's wave function.
2. Use the solutions to determine physical/spatial/temporal quantities associated with the system.
3. Understand the probabilistic/non-deterministic nature of the solution and its physical relevance to a given system.
4. Learn new mathematical techniques and demonstrate a mastery of them in problem sets and on exams.

## **CMU Catalog Description**

*“Quantum physics foundation. Includes quantum states, measurements, and time evolution using Dirac formalism for discrete and continuous systems. Connection between Dirac formalism and wave mechanics established and Schrodinger equation solved in various context. Includes particles in piecewise square potentials, tunneling, the harmonic oscillator, angular momentum, and the hydrogen atom. Introduces linear algebra for describing quantum physics and uses techniques for solving differential equations.*

*Prerequisite: PHYS 231. ”*

## **What to look for in this syllabus**

- How to contact me
- Evaluation (grades)
- Homework
- Exams
- Topical Course Outline
- Attendance
- Resources for student assistance
- Student Conduct
- Important Dates
- Course Learning Objectives
- Student Learning Objectives
- Work Load

## **How to Contact Your Instructor**

**Visit my office:** WS 230C

**Office Hours:** Mon Tue Wed 10:00-11:00, Fri 10:00 – 12:00 or by appointment

**Leave me a message at:** (970)-248-1327

**Email me at:** <mailto:jworkman@coloradomesa.edu>

## **Evaluation**

Homework 40%

Exams 60%

Attendance – see below

## **Grading**

Grades will be assigned as follows:

Excellent	A	> 90%
Good	B	80%-90%
Average	C	70%-80%
Deficient	D	60%-70%

Failing F < 60%

A curve may be used at the end of the semester. I can be contacted at any time to give you an update of your current grade.

## Homework

- There will be roughly one assignment per week consisting of approximately 4-8 homework problems per assignment. Assignments are to be turned in during class on the date due. Late assignments will be penalized by a 10% grade reduction each day they are late.
- You are encouraged to discuss homework problems with your classmates. Working problems with your peers is an excellent learning method, however, anything turned in **must** be your own work. If you have worked with other students at the blackboard and I see identical solutions the credit will be split amongst the participants. Ex – 100 percent correct with 2 identical solutions = 50% per student, with 3 participants = 33% per student.
- Homework is worth 40% of your grade.
- There is a great deal of freely available solutions to everything in almost any book on the internet. Speaking from experience, you won't pass the tests if you copy solutions. The homework IS the place you'll really learn quantum mechanics. If you hand in obviously copied solutions the penalty for the first offense will be a zero grade and a report to the office of academic affairs, the penalty for the second offense will be failing the course. If the copying is egregious on the first offense a grade of zero may be assigned for the entire class at my discretion. If you use solutions as a guide you should come to me beforehand and have me look over the homework before handing it in.
  - Note – a very easy way for me to tell who is copying is if you skip steps that you obviously can not.
- Do not use online integrators or canned table solutions to integrals, work them out entirely, this is to help not punish you.

## Exams

There will be three exams and a final. Each exam is worth 15% of your grade. The final is worth 15%

Each exam will cover approximately one chapter with the final covering chapter 4 and earlier chapters, two of the exams will cover the material on linear algebra as well as chapters.

The Final Exam will be held from 10:00-11:50, Tuesday, December 9<sup>th</sup>

## Attendance

This is up to you. I highly encourage you to come as this is not generally good self study material. Like the homework, attendance is a key factor in passing a course of this difficulty but you are far enough along in your studies that I don't penalize you for attendance.

## Reading Schedule

We will cover the first four chapters of the book as well as the appendix on linear algebra.

## Resources for Students

**Your instructor:** I am here to help you learn; please let me know if you are having trouble with anything! My contact information is at the top of the syllabus, or you can talk to me after class or during my office hours.

**The Course Website:** Contains all class information and several helpful (and some just fun) links.

**Tutorial Learning Center:** HH113 <http://www.coloradomesa.edu/tutoring/index.html>

**Students With Disabilities:** Students with disabilities have certain privileges extended to them including but not limited to extended exam time. It is your responsibility to contact the EAS (Educational Access Services) At Houston Hall, Room 108, 1-970.248.1856 <http://www.coloradomesa.edu/eas/links.html> and bring me the necessary forms for any special dispensations received.

## **Class Policies**

All students expected to follow the Student Code of Conduct. Violations of the Student Code of Conduct may result in disciplinary action. The code of conduct is here here [http://www.coloradomesa.edu/academics/policies/academic\\_integrity.html](http://www.coloradomesa.edu/academics/policies/academic_integrity.html). Some specific items that are important in this class are:

1. Don't call me mister, it's Dr. Workman.
2. Create and sustain a respectful and quiet learning environment. Allow your fellow students to learn and the instructor to teach. Disrespectful, disruptive or abusive behavior toward an individual or group is unacceptable. If you disrupt your classmates I will dis-enroll you from the course.
3. Due to the rapid pace of this course, late work is generally not accepted. In the event of illness, family emergency or other special circumstances, you must contact me BEFORE the deadline to make arrangements for late work or early tests. At the instructor's discretion, you may then turn in the work within 1 week of the deadline.
4. I encourage participation, ask questions, email me, ask for reading material for your own edification after the course is over, provide me with feedback. I am not directly grading you on participation but it will play a factor in the end of the semester grade. This is an interesting topic and I want you to be involved in learning it.
5. Turn off your cell phone.
6. No smart phones, ipads, earphones, etc during class time, no texting or web browsing. You all get one freebie phone ring then I may ask you to leave. I reserve the right to temporarily or permanently remove a student for the continued disruptive use of electronic equipment.
7. Laptops are fine for note taking but please do not web surf during class. If I find you surfing the web you forfeit your laptop privileges. Students using laptops are required to sit at the front of the class.
8. I will turn any students I find cheating, copying each other's work, or plagiarizing material over to the department chair, no exceptions. If you are unsure if something is prohibited, ask me. You are encouraged to work together but please do not hand in identical assignments, they will not be accepted.
9. Please arrive to class on time and wait until class is over to leave. I will remove students who regularly arrive late from the course.
10. It is your responsibility to learn of any missed work.
11. Don't talk during class, raise your hand whenever you want to but don't talk. I reserve the right to require you to leave the class for the day or completely dis-enroll you from the course for talking during lecture.

## **Important dates:**

<http://www.coloradomesa.edu/registrar/dates.html>

## **Course Learning Objectives**

1. Demonstrate an understanding of the foundations of quantum mechanics including the probabilistic formulation, wave mechanics, operators, normalization, spin, angular momentum, and algebraic methods.

2. Solve Schrodinger's equation in one, two and three dimensional regimes.
3. Apply formula to generate special functions and temporal evolution of expectation values.
4. Utilize the methods of linear algebra in the solution and examination of solutions to problems in quantum mechanics.
5. Apply both the wave mechanics and algebraic formulations of quantum mechanics to physical systems.

### **Student Learning Outcomes**

The physics program has several learning outcomes that will be attained by graduates of the program; this course contributes to the attainment of these two objectives

- 1) Articulate the knowledge base and show fluency with the ideas and techniques of the major fields of physics (classical mechanics, electromagnetism, statistical physics and quantum theory).
- 2) Translate physical problems into mathematical problems, solve these using appropriate mathematics and extract physically meaningful statements from the solutions.

### **Work Load:**

An undergraduate student should expect to spend on this course a **minimum** of two hours outside the classroom for every hour in the classroom. The outside hours may vary depending on the number of credit hours or type of course. More details are available from the faculty member or department office and in CMU's Curriculum Policies and Procedures Manual. In reality you should expect to spend a great deal more than this minimum outside of class.

### **Disclaimer:**

The instructor reserves the right to modify the schedule. It is tentative based on class progress.