



## COURSE OUTLINE

### 1. **Course:** PHYS 691.12, Grad Seminar MSc Students I - Winter 2020

Seminar 01: W 13:00 - 13:50 in ST 055

<b>Instructor</b>	<b>Email</b>	<b>Phone</b>	<b>Office</b>	<b>Hours</b>
Dr David Knudsen	knudsen@ucalgary.ca	403 220-5385	SB 605	by appointment

#### **(a) Course Description**

Physics 691 is a required, multi-component, program of courses for all graduate students in the Department of Physics and Astronomy, designed to assist students in improving their scientific and oral and written communication skills. Each student must complete a minimum of three terms of Physics 691 during their graduate program, although a normal load is four terms, and additional terms may be required of students as needed.

In the Seminar component of P691 (.12/.22/.14/.24), students will develop a 20 minute colloquium-level talk that should be attended by their supervisor, or senior member of their research group. Initially, students will present a "prep talk", focussed on identifying the key elements of their planned colloquium. Following the prep talk, the students will submit an abstract for their colloquium talk. All students will evaluate their peers' colloquium presentations, using bubble-sheet scoring on a set of fixed questions about the presentation. Students will also be required to identify additional questions they have about the talks they listened to in order to practice thinking of questions for talks outside their specialization.

#### **(b) Course Learning Incomes**

This is a required course for incoming graduate students in Physics and Astronomy. Students will have at least an undergraduate degree, and therefore some experience with oral and written presentations.

#### **(c) Course Learning Outcomes**

By the end of the course, the students will be expected to be able to:

1. Practice active listening, and improve their ability to ask reasonable questions on presentations by their peers.
2. Differentiate between the content required for a seminar, colloquium, or public lecture.
3. Design and present a 20 minute talk at colloquium level that is understandable by their peers from different disciplines.

#### **(d) Syllabus (Schedule is tentative)**

Lecture 1 - January 15: Introduction to the course; Prep talk sign up.

Lecture 2 - January 22: Student Prep talks.

Lecture 3 - January 29: Student Prep talks.

Lecture 4 - February 5: Student Prep talks and Colloquium Talk sign up.

Lecture 5 - February 12: Student Colloquium Talks

*February 19: Reading Week (16 - 22 no classes)*

Lecture 6 - February 26: Student Colloquium Talks

Lecture 7 - March 4: Student Colloquium Talks

Lecture 8 - March 11: Student Colloquium Talks

Lecture 9 - March 18: Student Colloquium Talks

- Lecture 10 - March 25: Student Colloquium Talks
- Lecture 11 - April 1: Student Colloquium Talks
- Lecture 12 - April 8: Student Colloquium Talks
- Lecture 13 - April 15: Student Colloquium Talks & Wrap Up Discussion

**Course Site:**

D2L: PHYS 691.12 S01-(Winter 2020)-Grad Seminar MSc Students I

**Note:** Students must use their U of C account for all course correspondence.

2. **Requisites:**

See section [3.5.C](#) in the Faculty of Science section of the online Calendar.

3. **Grading:**

The University policy on grading and related matters is described in [F.1](#) and [F.2](#) of the online University Calendar. This is a PASS/FAIL course. In determining the overall grade in the course the following weights will be used:

**1. Attendance.** *More than 2 unexcused absences will result in a fail.*

**2. Participation in class activities and discussion.** ALL questions on the peer evaluations for the colloquium talks must be answered. Partial answers or incomplete forms will be marked as a zero (0). *Three zeros (not including those accrued with an absence) will result in a fail.*

**3. Demonstrated effort for final presentation.** *Supervisors or senior group members of the student are expected to attend the student's colloquium presentation.*

This course has a registrar scheduled final exam.

There is no final exam in this course.

4. **Missed Components Of Term Work:**

In the event that a student misses the midterm or any course work due to illness, supporting documentation, such as a medical note or a statutory declaration will be required (see [Section M.1](#); for more information regarding the use of statutory declaration/medical notes, see [FAQ](#)). Absences must be reported within 48 hrs.

The regulations of the Faculty of Science pertaining to this matter are found in the Faculty of Science area of the Calendar in [Section 3.6](#). It is the student's responsibility to familiarize themselves with these regulations. See also [Section E.3](#) of the University Calendar.

5. **Scheduled Out-of-Class Activities:**

There are no scheduled out of class activities for this course.

6. **Course Materials:**

There are no additional course materials required for this course.

7. **Examination Policy:**

No aids are allowed on tests or examinations.

Students should also read the Calendar, [Section G](#), on Examinations.

8. **Approved Mandatory And Optional Course Supplemental Fees:**

There are no mandatory or optional course supplemental fees for this course.

9. **Writing Across The Curriculum Statement:**

For all components of the course, in any written work, the quality of the student's writing (language, spelling, grammar, presentation etc.) can be a factor in the evaluation of the work. See also Section [E.2](#) of the University Calendar.

## 10. Human Studies Statement:

Students will not participate as subjects or researchers in human studies.

See also [Section E.5](#) of the University Calendar.

## 11. Reappraisal Of Grades:

A student wishing a reappraisal, should first attempt to review the graded work with the Course coordinator/instructor or department offering the course. Students with sufficient academic grounds may request a reappraisal. Non-academic grounds are not relevant for grade reappraisals. Students should be aware that the grade being reappraised may be raised, lowered or remain the same. See [Section I.3](#) of the University Calendar.

- a. **Term Work:** The student should present their rationale as effectively and as fully as possible to the Course coordinator/instructor within **ten business days** of either being notified about the mark, or of the item's return to the class. If the student is not satisfied with the outcome, the student shall submit the Reappraisal of Graded Term work form to the department in which the course is offered within 2 business days of receiving the decision from the instructor. The Department will arrange for a reappraisal of the work within the next ten business days. The reappraisal will only be considered if the student provides a detailed rationale that outlines where and for what reason an error is suspected. See sections [I.1](#) and [I.2](#) of the University Calendar
- b. **Final Exam:** The student shall submit the request to Enrolment Services. See [Section I.3](#) of the University Calendar.

## 12. Other Important Information For Students:

- a. **Mental Health** The University of Calgary recognizes the pivotal role that student mental health plays in physical health, social connectedness and academic success, and aspires to create a caring and supportive campus community where individuals can freely talk about mental health and receive supports when needed. We encourage you to explore the mental health resources available throughout the university community, such as counselling, self-help resources, peer support or skills-building available through the SU Wellness Centre (Room 370, MacEwan Student Centre, [Mental Health Services Website](#)) and the Campus Mental Health Strategy website ([Mental Health](#)).
- b. **SU Wellness Center:** The Students Union Wellness Centre provides health and wellness support for students including information and counselling on physical health, mental health and nutrition. For more information, see [www.ucalgary.ca/wellnesscentre](http://www.ucalgary.ca/wellnesscentre) or call [403-210-9355](tel:403-210-9355).
- c. **Sexual Violence:** The University of Calgary is committed to fostering a safe, productive learning environment. The Sexual Violence Policy (<https://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/sexual-violence-policy.pdf>) is a fundamental element in creating and sustaining a safer campus environment for all community members. We understand that sexual violence can undermine students' academic success and we encourage students who have experienced some form of sexual misconduct to talk to someone about their experience, so they can get the support they need. The Sexual Violence Support Advocate, Carla Bertsch, can provide confidential support and information regarding sexual violence to all members of the university community. Carla can be reached by email ([svsa@ucalgary.ca](mailto:svsa@ucalgary.ca)) or phone at [403-220-2208](tel:403-220-2208).
- d. **Misconduct:** Academic misconduct (cheating, plagiarism, or any other form) is a very serious offence that will be dealt with rigorously in all cases. A single offence may lead to disciplinary probation or suspension or expulsion. The Faculty of Science follows a zero tolerance policy regarding dishonesty. Please read the sections of the University Calendar under [Section K](#). Student Misconduct to inform yourself of definitions, processes and penalties. Examples of academic misconduct may include: submitting or presenting work as if it were the student's own work when it is not; submitting or presenting work in one course which has also been submitted in another course without the instructor's permission; collaborating in whole or in part without prior agreement of the instructor; borrowing experimental values from others without the instructor's approval; falsification/ fabrication of experimental values in a report. **These are only examples.**
- e. **Assembly Points:** In case of emergency during class time, be sure to FAMILIARIZE YOURSELF with the information on [assembly points](#).
- f. **Academic Accommodation Policy:** Students needing an accommodation because of a disability or medical condition should contact Student Accessibility Services in accordance with the procedure for accommodations for students with disabilities available at [procedure-for-accommodations-for-students-with-disabilities.pdf](#).

Students needing an accommodation in relation to their coursework or to fulfill requirements for a graduate degree, based on a protected ground other than disability, should communicate this need, preferably in writing, to the Associate Head of the Department of Physics & Astronomy, Dr. David Feder by email

phas.ahugrd@ucalgary.ca or phone 403-220-8127. Religious accommodation requests relating to class, test or exam scheduling or absences must be submitted no later than **14 days** prior to the date in question. See [Section E.4](#) of the University Calendar.

- g. **Safewalk:** Campus Security will escort individuals day or night (See the [Campus Safewalk](#) website). Call [403-220-5333](#) for assistance. Use any campus phone, emergency phone or the yellow phones located at most parking lot pay booths.
- h. **Freedom of Information and Privacy:** This course is conducted in accordance with the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FOIPP). Students should identify themselves on all written work by placing their name on the front page and their ID number on each subsequent page. For more information, see [Legal Services](#) website.
- i. **Student Union Information:** [VP Academic](#), Phone: [403-220-3911](#) Email: [suvpaca@ucalgary.ca](mailto:suvpaca@ucalgary.ca). SU Faculty Rep., Phone: [403-220-3913](#) Email: [sciencerep@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:sciencerep@su.ucalgary.ca). [Student Ombudsman](#), Email: [ombuds@ucalgary.ca](mailto:ombuds@ucalgary.ca).
- j. **Internet and Electronic Device Information:** Unless instructed otherwise, cell phones should be turned off during class. All communication with other individuals via laptop, tablet, smart phone or other device is prohibited during class unless specifically permitted by the instructor. Students that violate this policy may be asked to leave the classroom. Repeated violations may result in a charge of misconduct.
- k. **Surveys:** At the University of Calgary, feedback through the Universal Student Ratings of Instruction ([USRI](#)) survey and the Faculty of Science Teaching Feedback form provides valuable information to help with evaluating instruction, enhancing learning and teaching, and selecting courses. Your responses make a difference - please participate in these surveys.
- l. **Copyright of Course Materials:** All course materials (including those posted on the course D2L site, a course website, or used in any teaching activity such as (but not limited to) examinations, quizzes, assignments, laboratory manuals, lecture slides or lecture materials and other course notes) are protected by law. These materials are for the sole use of students registered in this course and must not be redistributed. Sharing these materials with anyone else would be a breach of the terms and conditions governing student access to D2L, as well as a violation of the copyright in these materials, and may be pursued as a case of student academic or [non-academic misconduct](#), in addition to any other remedies available at law.

Electronically Approved - Jan 30 2020 10:49

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**Department Approval**