



UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY
FACULTY OF SCIENCE
DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICS AND ASTRONOMY
COURSE OUTLINE

1. **Course:** PHYS 691 **Term:** Winter 2018
Instructor: Sarah Quirk | 403-521-3836 | CCB11 | sarah.quirk@ahs.ca | Office Hours: By appointment
Lecture Sections: T 2:30 – 3:30 | CCB19 (Multipurpose Room)
Course Website: d2l.ucalgary.ca
Departmental Office: SB 605, 403-220-5385, phasugrd@ucalgary.ca
2. **Prerequisites:** None.
3. **Grading:** The University policy on grading and related matters is described in sections [F.1](#) and [F.2](#) of the online University Calendar. This course is pass/fail. Attendance, presentations, and participation are mandatory.
4. **Missed Components of Term Work:** 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 himself/herself with these regulations. See also [Section E.6](#) of the University Calendar
5. **Scheduled out-of-class activities:** There are no scheduled activities outside of class time.
6. **Course Materials:** No Textbook. *All material will be provided in class.*
7. **Examination Policy:** No examinations for this course
8. **Course fees:** none
9. **Writing across the curriculum:** In this course, the quality of the student's writing in laboratory reports will be a factor in the evaluation of those reports. See also [Section E.2](#) of the University Calendar.
10. **Human studies statement:** Students in this course are not expected to participate as subjects or researchers. See also [Section E.5](#) of the University Calendar.
11. **OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR STUDENTS:**
 - (a) **Academic 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.
 - (b) **Assembly Points:** In case of emergency during class time, be sure to FAMILIARIZE YOURSELF with the information on [assembly points](#).

- (c) **Student Accommodations:** 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 http://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/procedure-for-accommodations-for-students-with-disabilities_0.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 and Astronomy, Dr. Ann-Lise Norman, by email (alnorman@ucalgary.ca) or by phone (403.220.5405).
- (d) **Safewalk:** Campus Security will escort individuals day or night (<http://www.ucalgary.ca/security/safewalk/>). Call 220-5333 for assistance. Use any campus phone, emergency phone or the yellow phones located at most parking lot pay booths.
- (e) **Freedom of Information and Privacy:** This course is conducted in accordance with the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FOIPPA). As one consequence, 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 also <http://www.ucalgary.ca/secretariat/privacy>.
- (f) **Student Union Information:** [VP Academic](#) Phone: 220-3911 Email: suvpaca@ucalgary.ca.
SU Faculty Rep: Phone: 220-3913 Email: science1@su.ucalgary.ca, science2@su.ucalgary.ca and science3@su.ucalgary.ca
Student Ombuds Office: 403 220-6420
Email: ombuds@ucalgary.ca; <http://ucalgary.ca/provost/students/ombuds>
- (g) **Internet and Electronic Device Information:** You can assume that in all classes that you attend, your cell phone should be turned off unless instructed otherwise. Also, communication with other individuals, via laptop computers, Blackberries or other devices connectable to the Internet is not allowed in class time unless specifically permitted by the instructor. If you violate this policy you may be asked to leave the classroom. Repeated abuse may result in a charge of misconduct.
- (h) **U.S.R.I.:** At the University of Calgary, feedback provided by students through the Universal Student Ratings of Instruction (USRI) survey provides valuable information to help with evaluating instruction, enhancing learning and teaching, and selecting courses (www.ucalgary.ca/usri). Your responses make a difference - please participate in USRI Surveys.

12. OTHER COURSE RELATED INFORMATION:

(a) Course Description

Effective Scientific Speaking courses provide instruction on preparing and presenting quality scientific oral presentations. Discussions on components of a quality presentations and exercises aimed at improving speaking skills will be taken by graduate students in their first fall terms in program. This Graduate Seminar course will be run each winter, and provide all enrolled students the opportunity to present one scientific talks, as well as to provide peer feedback to other students in the course. At the end of each Graduate Seminar term, the course instructor(s) will identify those students who have reached an acceptable level of scientific speaking competency and exempt these students from any further Physics 691 Graduate Seminar courses for their current degrees.

Course Outcomes

All PHAS students enrolled in the first year of their program (MSc or PhD) are expected to attend all seminars and give one seminar per semester. Students in second and subsequent years of their program are strongly encouraged to attend and give seminars. Trainees in the Post-doctoral Certificate Program in Radiation Oncology are also expected to attend and give seminars.

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

- Write an abstract that is concise, informative, and relates well to their presentation.
- Recognize the content and scope differences between a long presentation and a conference-style presentation and demonstrate that they incorporated feedback from the first presentation in the second presentation
- Critique presentations and abstracts while providing appropriate feedback
- Produce an effective document related to the selected 'workshop' topic.

General expectations include:

- Each presenter should ensure that their supervisor is invited the week that they will be presenting their conference style talk.
- Please note: presenters should arrive 5 minutes before the start of class to set up their presentations and obtain the necessary audio-visual equipment prior to class. If using the projector, the remote control and a video cable are needed. You may use your own computer but please allow for audiovisual set up time.
- Each student is expected to write an abstract, give a presentation, and have at least one question ready for the presenter.
- Measurable outcomes include: incorporating feedback from first presentation to second presentation (as appropriate);

Twenty-minute presentation

Students are expected to give a presentation focusing on their main research topic. The presentation should be 20 minutes. The talk should focus on one key aspect of the research the student is doing. It should include a description and explanation of the key research methodologies and a summary of important results (if any so far). Some background information on the key concepts used by the student in his/her research should be introduced early in the presentation.

There will be a 10 min question period immediately following the presentation. Each student is expected to have at least one question for the speaker. The question can be directly related to the research work presented or about the background of the project.

Each speaker should send a brief abstract to the instructor 1 week before his or her presentation. The abstract should be 100 words maximum. The abstract should be written as a single paragraph and can be structured as follow: background, aim or objectives, methods, predictions and actual results, conclusion and importance of this work. A good short reference on how to write an abstract is: <http://blogs.mcgill.ca/gradlife/2013/02/13/how-to-write-a-conference-abstract-or-how-not-to-write-one/>

Each presentation will be evaluated by the medical physicists present at the talk via an evaluation form. The evaluations will be gathered by the course instructor and a summary of the feedbacks from the evaluation form will be given to the presenter within 2 weeks of presenting.

Workshop/Poster Presentation

Poster presentations are used widely at conferences and help generate discussion on the research topic. This assignment should summarize the presenter's research in a visually engaging manner. It must highlight the context, methods and results of the research. The poster should be able to present the work visually in a logical manner on its own without any explanation from the presenter. In addition, a short informal speech should be prepared to guides the viewers interested in listening to the presenter. Other workshop topics may include (depending on class interest): CVs, interview preparation, reference letter writing.

This short guide by NYU may be used as a resource to aid in the preparation of the poster.

<http://guides.nyu.edu/posters>

Each poster presentation will be evaluated by the other presenters via an evaluation form. The evaluations will be gathered by the course instructor and a summary of the feedbacks from the evaluation form will be given to the presenter within 2 weeks of presenting.

Eight-minute conference style presentation

Students are expected to prepare a presentation with content and style based on strict conference requirements. The presenter may choose to use this as an opportunity to practice for an invitation or expected invitation to a conference. The presentation should last 8 minutes. It will be followed by a 2 minute question period.

An abstract that follows submission requirements of the conference should be submitted to the instructor one week prior to the presentation.

Each presentation will be evaluated by the medical physicists present at the talk via an evaluation form. The evaluations will be gathered by the course instructor and a summary of the feedbacks from the evaluation form will be given to the presenter within 2 weeks of presenting.

(b) Syllabus

Class Schedule

Each Thursday from 2:30 - 3:30 am in the MPR, Medical Physics, TBCC Basement.

<i>Lecture</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Speaker</i>
1	18-Jan	Course Introduction and Expectations
2	25-Jan	EW/ZA
3	1-Feb	SW/AF
4	8-Feb	SK/SN
5	15-Feb	LS/RF
	22-Feb	Reading Week – No presentations
6	1-Mar	AG/TM
7	8-Mar	Workshop
8	15-Mar	Workshop
9	22-Mar	SW/AF/ZA
10	29-Mar	SN/LS/SK
11	5-Apr	AG/TM/RF
12	12-Apr	Wrap-up