

<b>Academic Year</b>	2019/20	<b>Semester</b>	2
<b>Course Coordinator</b>	Dr Ho Shen Yong		
<b>Course Code</b>	PH1107 / PH117S <sup>1</sup>		
<b>Course Title</b>	Relativity and Quantum Physics		
<b>Pre-requisites</b>	Physics and Mathematics at A or H2 level, or equivalents		
<b>No of AUs</b>	3 AU		
<b>Contact Hours</b>	PH1107 ( 2 hr – lecture; 1 hr – tutorial)		
<b>Proposal Date</b>	3 March 2020		

### Course Aims

This course aims to equip you with the basic concepts and problem solving skills for analysing objects moving close to the speed of light and particles exhibiting quantum behaviour. You will develop physical insights and analytical skills which are important for studying relativistic problems and quantum systems. These knowledge and skills lay the foundation for subsequent higher level courses.

### Intended Learning Outcomes (ILO)

Upon the successful completion of this course, you (as a student) would be **able to**:

#### Foundation (FND):

1. apply the properties of waves to analyse interferometry in the context of measurement of the speed of light; and diffraction, interference, standing waves in quantum physics.
2. describe the key ideas in development of the atomic, nuclear and particle physics and explain how they impact our understanding of nature.

#### Special Relativity (SR) :

3. state and use Einstein's two postulates to derive Lorentz transformations, the length contraction and time dilation formulas and solve problems involving length and time measurements in different inertial reference frames.
4. use the Minkowski's space-time diagram to solve problems and resolve paradoxes in special relativity (such as the barn-pole paradox, twin paradox).
5. derive and use the formulas for relativistic momentum, kinetic energy and total energy to solve problems in high energy Physics.

#### Basic Nuclear Physics (BNP) :

6. analyse nuclear processes (such as fission, fusion and radioactive decay) and perform calculations using the mass-energy equivalence equation.
7. analyse problems involving radioactive decay (such as in radioactive dating and doses in biomedical physics).

#### Quantum Physics (QP) :

8. explain the significance of the physical phenomena related to wave-particle duality (such as photoelectric effect, Compton scattering, pair production/annihilation, electron double slit experiment, Davisson-Germer experiment) and perform calculations related to these experiments.
9. applying concepts of quantization to derive Bohr's model of the hydrogen atom and solve problems involving hydrogen-like atoms.

<sup>1</sup> PH117S is a self-paced version of the course.

10. perform calculations where quantum properties are used in technology (such as photo-multiplier, solar sail and electron microscopes).

**Basic Quantum Mechanics (BQM) :**

11. explain the terms operators, states, eigenvalues and eigenfunctions in the context of quantum mechanics (first for two state systems and then extending to systems with continuous eigenvalues) and determine expectation values and uncertainty of physical quantities.
12. determine the wave functions of a particle in a given potential wells (such as infinite potential wells, harmonic oscillator potential, finite potential wells and barriers) and cite examples of their applications in technology (such as quantum dots display, memory devices).
13. use the orthogonality property of eigenfunctions and perform basic analysis of quantum systems in superposition.
14. discuss quantum phenomena (such as quantum superposition, collapse of the wave function, quantum tunnelling and Heisenberg's uncertainty principle) and explain their conflicts with our perception of reality.
15. use the quantum numbers:  $n, l, m$  of the hydrogen atom to determine the corresponding eigenfunction (from a given table) and solve related simple problems.

**Course Content**

**Foundation (FND)**

Wave properties  
Speed of Light  
Superposition, Diffraction and Interference  
Atoms and subatomic particles

**Special Relativity (SR)**

Frames of Reference and Galilean Transformation  
Postulates of Special Relativity and Lorentz Transformation  
Length Contraction and Time Dilation  
Minkowski's Space-time diagrams  
Resolving Paradoxes  
Relativistic Momentum, Kinetic Energy and Energy

**Basic Nuclear Physics (BNP)**

Radioactive particles ( $\alpha, \beta$  particles and  $\gamma$  – radiation)  
Nuclear Fission and Fusion  
Radioactivity  
Mass-Energy Equivalence  
Medical application and Dosage

**Quantum Physics (QP)**

Blackbody Radiation  
Quantization of Physical Quantities  
Photoelectric Effect  
Compton Scattering and wavelength  
Pair Production/Annihilation  
Double Slit Experiment  
Davidsson-Germer Experiment  
Wave-Particle Duality  
Hydrogen Atom (Bohr's Model & Atomic Spectra)

**Basic Quantum Mechanics (BQM)**

Eigenvalues, Eigenfunctions and Operators  
Two level systems  
Schrodinger's Equation and Wave function  
Probability (Density)  
Infinite and Finite Potential Well (Particle in a Box)  
Quantum Harmonic Oscillator  
Potential Barrier/Step  
Expectation Value and Uncertainty  
Heisenberg's Uncertainty Principle  
Commuting Operators  
Hydrogen Atom  
Quantum Numbers, Degeneracy

**Assessment (includes both continuous and summative assessment)**

Component	Course LO Tested	Related Programme LO or Graduate Attributes	Weighting	Team / Individual	Assessment Rubrics
1. Final Examination	All	Competence (1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6) Creativity (1, 2) Communication (1, 2)	50%	Individual	Point-based marking (not rubric-based)
2. CA1: In class participation	All	Competence (1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6) Creativity (1, 2) Communication (2)	10%	Individual	Point-based marking (not rubric-based) Using student response system such as Learning Catalytics
3. CA2: Online Assignment	All	Competence (1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6) Communication (2)	10%	Individual	Point-based marking (not rubric-based) using Mastering Physics.
4. CA3: Assignment	FND 1-2 SR 3-5  BNP 6-7 QP 8-10	Competence (1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6) Creativity (1, 2) Communication (1, 2, 3) Character (1, 2, 3)	10%	Pairs or in groups of three	Two assignments Open-ended marking scheme* [requirements will be communicated to students together with the assignment questions]
5. CA4: Quiz 1	FND 1-2 SR 3-5	Competence (1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6) Communication (1, 2)	10%	Individual	Point-based marking (not rubric-based)
6. CA5: Quiz 2	BNP 6-7 QP 8-10	Competence (1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6) Communication (1, 2)	10%	Individual	Point-based marking (not rubric-based)
Total			100%		

\*You would be expected to synthesise the physics concepts learnt in the course to propose scientifically valid approaches to given situations or problems.

### Formative feedback

You will receive formative feedback is given through discussion within tutorial lessons as well as interactive, computer- based hints and pointers in the Mastering Physics online assignment and resource system.

Formative feedback is also given via the student response applications (such as Learning Catalytics) where students you are required to answer on your mobile devices questions posted during lecture/tutorial. Feedback is always provided for student's your response to each question. Two assignments will be given to help you consolidate your learning. They will be marked and feedback will be provided on your learning.

Finally, feedback is also given after each Quiz on the common mistakes and level of difficulty of the problems. Past Quiz questions are also made available for you.

### Learning and Teaching approach

Approach	How does this approach support students in achieving the learning outcomes?
Problem solving (tutorial and lecture)	Develop competence and perseverance in solving physics problems
Peer Instruction (during lecture)	Develop communication skills and competence in physics.
Use of Learning Catalytics (tutorial and lecture)	The students are able to see how well their peers answer questions and thus understand their relative progress in comprehension.
Assignment	The two assignments comprise non-standard problems that will allow students to both learn together with their group members and exercise their creativity in problem solving.

### Reading and References

1. University Physics with Modern Physics, 14th Edition, Hugh Young and Roger Freedman, Pearson (2015) ISBN-13: 978-0133977981.
2. Giancoli: Physics for Scientists and Engineers with modern Physics, 4th Edition, Pearson. ISBN-13: 978-0131495081
3. R Knight: Physics for Scientists and Engineers: A Strategic Approach with Modern Physics and Mastering Physics, 3rd Edition, Pearson. ISBN-13: 978-0133942651
4. Physics for Scientists and Engineers, 8th Edition, R A Serway and J W Jewett Jr, Brooks Cole (2009). ISBN-13: 978-1439048443
5. Leo Sartori: Understanding Relativity: A simplified Approach to Einstein's Theories, University of California Press (1996). ISBN-13: 978-0520200296
6. Albert Einstein: Relativity: The Special and General Theory. ISBN-13: 978-0517884416

7. Julian Schwinger: Quantum Mechanics, Springer (2001). ISBN-13: 978-3540414087
8. Berthold-Georg Englert: Lectures on Quantum Mechanics (Basic Matters), World Scientific Publication Company (2006). ISBN-13: 978-9812567901

### Course Policies and Student Responsibilities

#### *Absence Due to Medical or Other Reasons*

If you are sick and unable to attend your class / Mid-terms quizzes, you have to:

1. Send an email to the instructor regarding the absence and request for a replacement class and make-up mid-terms.
2. Submit the original Medical Certificate\* or official letter of excuse to administrator.
3. Attend the assigned replacement class (*subject to availability*) and make-up mid-terms.

\* The medical certificate mentioned above should be issued in Singapore by a medical practitioner registered with the Singapore Medical Association.

### Academic Integrity

Good academic work depends on honesty and ethical behaviour. The quality of your work as a student relies on adhering to the principles of academic integrity and to the NTU Honour Code, a set of values shared by the whole university community. Truth, Trust and Justice are at the core of NTU's shared values.

As a student, it is important that you recognize your responsibilities in understanding and applying the principles of academic integrity in all the work you do at NTU. Not knowing what is involved in maintaining academic integrity does not excuse academic dishonesty. You need to actively equip yourself with strategies to avoid all forms of academic dishonesty, including plagiarism, academic fraud, collusion and cheating. If you are uncertain of the definitions of any of these terms, you should go to the [academic integrity website](#) for more information. Consult your instructor(s) if you need any clarification about the requirements of academic integrity in the course.

### Course Instructors

Instructor	Office Location	Phone	Email
Dr. Ho Shen Yong	SPMS-PAP-03-07	+65 65927816	hosy@ntu.edu.sg

### Planned Weekly Schedule

Week	Topic	Course LO	Readings/ Activities
1	Review of concepts in waves 1 (superposition, interferometry, speed of light; diffraction, interference and standing waves)	FND 1	Lectures, Tutorials, Learning Catalytics, Mastering Physics online assignment
2	Review of concepts in waves 2	FND 1	
	Development of the atomic, nuclear and particle physics	FND 2	
3	The Two Postulates of Special Relativity and their Implications.	SR 1	

	Time Dilation and Length Contraction		
4	Minkowski's Space-time diagrams Paradoxes in Special Relativity	SR 2	
5	Relativistic Momentum and Energy, Mass Energy Relation	SR 3	
	Mass Defect and Nuclear Processes	BNP 1	
6	Radioactive decay and applications of Nuclear Physics Biological Effects of Radioactivity	BNP 2	Mid-term Quiz 1 (Evening)
7	Particle nature of light. Wave nature of particles.	QP 8	Assignment 1 due
8	Quantization. Bohr's model of the atom.	QP 9	Lectures, Tutorials, Learning Catalytics, Mastering Physics online assignment
	Application of Quantum Physics in Technology	QP 10	
9	Basic concepts in Quantum Mechanics I (using two state systems).	QP 11	
10	Potential Wells (Infinite potential wells, harmonic oscillator potential, finite potential wells and barriers) and their applications	QP 12	
11	Basic concepts in Quantum Mechanics 2	QP 11, 13	Mid-term Quiz 2 (Evening)
12	Quantum Superposition and other quantum phenomena (Collapse of the wave function and Heisenberg's uncertainty principle)	QP 13, 14	Assignment 2 due
	The Hydrogen atom 1	QP 15	
13	The Hydrogen atom 2	QP 15	Lectures, Tutorials, Learning Catalytics, Mastering Physics online assignment
	Revision		

**What we want our graduates from Physics and Applied Physics to be able to do:**

Upon the successful completion of the PHY, APHY and PHMA programs, graduates should be able to:

<b>Competency</b>	1	demonstrate a rigorous understanding of the core theories and principles of physics involving (but not limited to) areas such as classical mechanics, electromagnetism, thermal physics and quantum mechanics  [PHMA only] demonstrate a rigorous understanding of the core theories and principles of mathematical sciences involving (but not limited to) areas such as analysis, algebra and statistical analysis
	2	read and understand undergraduate level physics content independently;
	3	make educated guesses / estimations of physical quantities in general;
	4	apply fundamental physics knowledge, logical reasoning, mathematical and computational skills to analyse, model and solve problems;
	5	develop theoretical descriptions of physical phenomena with an understanding of the underlying assumptions and limitations;
	6	critically evaluate and distinguish sources of scientific/non-scientific information and to recommend appropriate decisions and choices when needed;
	7	demonstrate the ability to design and conduct experiments in a Physics laboratory, to make measurements, analyse and interpret data to draw valid conclusions.
<b>Creativity</b>	1	propose valid approaches to tackle open-ended problems in unexplored domains;

	2	offer valid alternative perspectives/approaches to a given situation or problem.
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<b>Communication</b>	1	describe physical phenomena with scientifically sound principles;
	2	communicate (in writing and speaking) scientific and non-scientific ideas effectively to professional scientists and to the general public;
	3	communicate effectively with team members when working in a group.

<b>Character</b>	1	uphold absolute integrity when conducting scientific experiments, reporting and using the scientific results;
	2	readily pick up new skills, particularly technology related ones, to tackle new problems;
	3	contribute as a valued team member when working in a group.

<b>Civic Mindedness</b>	1	put together the skills and knowledge into their work in an effective, responsible and ethical manner for the benefits of society.
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