# Philosphy of Physics

# Course Description:

**Welcome! Lecture Times, Room, Office Hours . . . (https://canvas.pitt.edu/courses/306385/pages/welcome-lecture-times-room-office-hours)**

Instructor: Robert Batterman

Text: *Philosophy of Physics,* Westview Press.

Author: Lawrence Sklar

**Finding Course Reserve Materials**

- Go to **http://library.pitt.edu (http://library.pitt.edu/)**
- Select the “Course Reserves” link located in the center of the page
- In the PittCat Course Reserve search box enter the name of the professor, course code, or the course name
- Click on the title of the item that you wish to access

## Academic Integrity

Students in this course will be expected to comply with the **University of Pittsburgh’s Policy on Academic Integrity (https://www.provost.pitt.edu/info/ai1.html)** . Any student suspected of violating this obligation for any reason during the semester will be required to participate in the procedural process, initiated at the instructor level, as outlined in the University Guidelines on Academic

Integrity. This may include, but is not limited to, the confiscation of the examination of any individual suspected of violating University Policy. Furthermore, no student may bring any unauthorized materials to an exam, including dictionaries and programmable calculators.

To learn more about Academic Integrity, visit the **Academic Integrity Guide (http://pitt.libguides.com/academicintegrity/)** for an overview of the topic. For hands- on practice, complete the **Academic Integrity Modules (http://pitt.libguides.com/academicintegrity/plagiarism)** .

## Disability Services

If you have a disability for which you are or may be requesting an accommodation, you are encouraged to contact both your instructor and **Disability Resources and Services (https://www.studentaffairs.pitt.edu/drs/)** (DRS), 140 William Pitt Union, (412) 648-7890, **drsrecep@pitt.edu, (mailto:drsrecep@pitt.edu)** (412) 228-5347 for P3 ASL users, as early as possible in the term. DRS will verify your disability and determine reasonable accommodations for this course.

## No Use of Generative AI Permitted

Intellectual integrity is vital to an academic community and for my fair evaluation of your work. All work completed and/or submitted in this course must be your own, completed in accordance with the University's Guidelines on Academic Integrity. You may not engage in unauthorized collaboration or make use of ChatGPT or any other generative AI applications at any time.

## Grading Policies:

- Midterm Exam worth 25% of final grade
- Paper worth 40%
- Final Exam  worth 35% of final grade

## Schedule of Readings:  (This is subject to change!)

Week 1 (1/9)

Reading:  Chapter 1, Introduction: Philosophy and the Physical Sciences

Week 2 (1/14, 1/16)

Reading:  Chapter 2, Space, Time, and Motion

Week 3 (1/21, 1/23)

Reading:

Week 4 (1/28, 1/30)

Reading: Chapter 2, Space, Time, and Motion

Week 5 (2/4, 2/6)

Reading: Chapter 3, The Introduction of Probability into Physics

Week 6 (2/11, 2/13)

Reading: Chapter 3, The Introduction of Probability into Physics

Week 7 (2/18, 2/20)

Midterm Review (2/18). Midterm Exam (2/20)

Week 8 (2/25, 2/27)

Reading: Chapter 3, The Introduction of Probability into Physics

Week 9 (3/4, 3/6 No Classes: Spring Break)

Week 10 (3/11, 3/13)

Reading: Chapter 4, The Quantum Picture of the World

Week 11 (3/18, 3/20)

Reading: Chapter 4, The Quantum Picture of the World

Week 11 (3/254, 3/27), TBD (Conference Travel)

Week 12 (4/1, 4/3)

Reading: Chapter 4, The Quantum Picture of the World

Week 13 (4/8, 4/10)

Reading:  Chapter 4, The Quantum Picture of the World

Week 14 (4/15, 4/17)

Reading:  Chapter 4, The Quantum Picture of the World

Week 15 (4/22)

REVIEW

Term paper due.

## Final Exam:

Date and Time: TBD

# Course Summary:

| Date | Details | Due |
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