

# PHYSICS/ PHILOSOPHY 419 & 420 SPACE, TIME, & MATTER

Fall 2017

Tuesday/ Thursday, 2p-3:20p, 144 Loomis

## Things to do!

1. Read this (and keep for reference) & the syllabus (always on the webpage).
2. Read grading rubric for written assignments (on Compass).
3. Read the Written Assignments webpage list of assignment-writing suggestions (Compass).
4. Look at the exemplary homework assignment (Compass).
5. Start reading one of the principal course texts.
6. Start Written Assignment #1 as soon as it is posted (it will be due 14 Sept; see webpage).

**Your professor:** Anthony J. Leggett

[aleggett@illinois.edu](mailto:aleggett@illinois.edu)

Office hour: Friday, 4p-5p, in 2113 [Engineering Sciences Building](#).

## **Your course assistants:**

John Yoritomo ([yoritom2@illinois.edu](mailto:yoritom2@illinois.edu))

Office hours: Wednesdays, 9a-10a, or by appointment, in 4113 [ESB](#).

Course or technical questions (Compass, etc.), or for email consultation of written work:

Charles Byrne – email only ([bcharles@illinois.edu](mailto:bcharles@illinois.edu)).

## **Webpage:**

[courses.physics.illinois.edu/phys419/fa2017/index.htm](http://courses.physics.illinois.edu/phys419/fa2017/index.htm)

Contains syllabus, schedule, lectures notes (beginning with lecture 6), and important information about the course and assignments.

## **Compass:**

<https://compass2g.illinois.edu/>

Watch for announcements, assignments, and some other resources. This is where you will turn in your assignments and where they will be returned, and where you can check your grades at any time.

## **SafeAssign:**

is a program in Compass that monitors for plagiarism. Your submissions will be compared against most public information (internet, journals, etc.) and other students' papers. Take a look on Compass for more information (including a link for more info should you desire it). If you are concerned about submitting via SafeAssign, let us know. **It is your responsibility to turn your assignment in on time, and to verify that it uploaded correctly.** If you have difficulties, you must contact Charles ([bcharles@illinois.edu](mailto:bcharles@illinois.edu)) *right away*. It will not be deemed an acceptable excuse to contact us at some later time for credit because of a glitch that you

(over)

claim previously occurred on Compass or SafeAssign (whereas if you contact Charles at the time that a difficulty is occurring, a solution can be worked out!). One thing you can do to help in this regard is to not submit at the last minute.

**Plagiarism:**

The penalty for plagiarism will be at least a reduction in points for the first offense, depending on the severity. Second offenses will have substantial penalties, including a likely referral to the dean of the student's college. **You must always quote when using others' words, and must always cite when quoting, paraphrasing, or using others' ideas.**

**English as a foreign language:**

If English is not one of your native languages, academic writing in English may present additional challenges for you. As this is a writing-intensive course, we recommend that you seek out some additional assistance as soon as possible if you have not already. Here is a link with some resources, including on obtaining help at the U of I (link is also on Compass): [www.cws.illinois.edu/workshop/writers/esl/](http://www.cws.illinois.edu/workshop/writers/esl/)

**Writing/ discussion sessions:**

These voluntary sessions will be on Tuesdays, 4p-5p (beginning 5 September), in 144 Loomis. These sessions are for discussing any course-related topic, and especially for discussing your written work; for the latter, be sure to bring a draft, outline, and/ or notes regarding an assignment. (Outside of these sessions, take advantage of John's office hours, and feel free to email Charles questions about writing or parts of your papers at any time [but please don't initially send whole drafts over email!].)

**The course:**

Starts off with a bang! There is a lot of information to absorb, and the first number of homework assignments can have rapid turnover, so: get started early, don't fall behind, and you will benefit substantially as the course goes on! Try to start reading and writing right away, submit on time, pay attention to your grader's comments, and use your professor and the assistants as resources.