

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

Spring 2019

Tuesdays & Thursdays, 11.00a–12.20p, in **140 Burrill Hall**

## Things to do by Thursday!:

1. Read this (and keep for reference) & the website.
2. Read grading rubric for written assignments (on Compass).
3. Read the list of assignment-writing suggestions (Compass).
4. Look at the exemplary homework assignment (Compass).
5. Start reading one of the course texts (see syllabus).
6. Start Homework Assignment #1 (see website).

**Your professor:** Philip W. Phillips

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

Office hour: Thursdays, 2.30p–4p, or whenever his door is open, in 2121 Engineering Sciences Building.

**Your assistants:**

Suraj Hegde: [shegde2@illinois.edu](mailto:shegde2@illinois.edu)

Office hours Mondays, 10a–11a, & by appointment, in 4105 ESB.

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

Charles is only able to respond electronically, not in person; however, he is usually able to respond to email quickly. Use him as a resource for your paper-writing at any time – though please do not initially send whole drafts (which can lead to a very passive writing process); instead, first send questions or paper bits (thesis, outline, etc.).

**Website:**

<https://courses.physics.illinois.edu/phys419>

Contains schedule, lectures notes, and important information about the course and assignments.

**Compass:**

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

Watch for announcements, assignments, and 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 claim occurred on Compass or SafeAssign (whereas if you contact Charles at the time that a difficulty is occurring, we can work out a solution). 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 be referred to the dean of the student's college. With *only* the exception of the first assignment, **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)

**The course:**

Starts off with a bang! The first number of homework assignments **have rapid turnover**, so get started early, don't fall behind, and you will benefit. Start reading and writing right away, submit on time, pay attention to your grader's comments, and use your professor and assistants as resources!