

GT 1000 PHYS: Freshman Seminar

Section PHY • Fall 2013



Monday
2:00 – 3:00 pm
Howey N110

Welcome to physics! This freshman seminar course is designed to help you begin your transition to college by becoming better acquainted with the academic and social environments here at Georgia Tech and in the School of Physics. Through the course, you will acquire strategies that promote academic, social, and professional success, and you will be working actively and collaboratively in small groups. After successfully completing this course, you will be able to:

1. Manage the university environment in ways that support academic and personal success and involvement at Georgia Tech
2. Develop a sense for what it means to learn at Georgia Tech and create a list of resources to support that learning process
3. Create a time management plan and begin the process of implementing effective time management skills
4. Develop a personal study strategy based on strengths and weaknesses identified in a self-regulated learning survey.
5. Write reflectively on topics related to physics and the first year college experience.
6. Participate as an effective member of a team to produce and deliver a high-quality, professional presentation on a topic of value to the class.
7. Describe the required skills, daily activities, current and future state (growth potential), and salary potential of the major/career selected.
8. Prepare a resume applicable to internships, co-ops, study abroad programs or leadership positions (as appropriate).
9. Identify organizations and activities for possible involvement that reflect personal goals and interests.

Instructor: Dr. Ed Greco

ed.greco@gatech.edu

Office: 404-385-3928

Cell: 404-924-9148

Office Hours:

Howey W206 and CULC 385B – Day and time to be determined

Team Leaders (TLs):

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El Conquistador



Hernandito



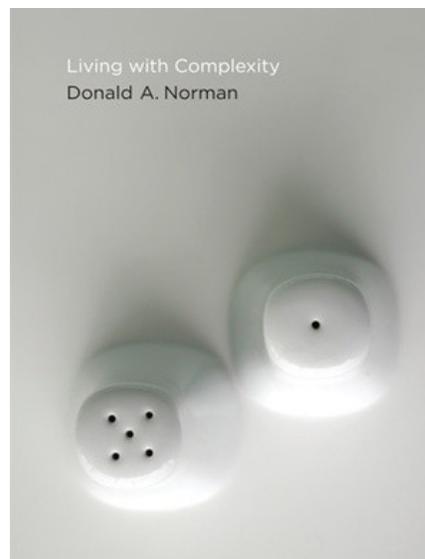
Sir Elwin The Brave

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Required Course Textbooks

- *GT1000 First-Year Seminar: 2013-2014 Edition*. Available at the Georgia Tech Bookstore.
- *Living with Complexity*, Donald A. Norman. This text is provided free for students at FASET.
- A planner (any type of planner- electronic or print- is fine). **Google Calendar is preferred.**



Technology

<https://t-square.gatech.edu>

We will be using T-square throughout the semester.

<https://piazza.com/gatech/fall2013/gt1000phys/home>

We will be using Piazza for all course communication

Grading

Grading for the course will be based on earning a maximum of 1000 points

Categories	Points
Class Attendance and Participation	200
Academic Success Strategies	100
Career and Major Exploration	500
Enrichment and Service	200
Total	1000

Letter grades will be assigned according to the following:

**1000 – 900 Points = A, 899 – 800 Points = B, 799 – 700 Points = C
699 – 600 Points = D, and 599 – 0 Points = F**

Course Expectations and Guidelines

1. All coursework must be submitted at the start of class on the week that it is due.
2. The Georgia Tech Academic Honor Code applies to all work submitted in this course. To review the Honor Code, please visit <http://www.honor.gatech.edu>. Don't submit something for credit that isn't your own work.
3. Students with disabilities who require accommodation are should register with the ADAPTS <http://adapts.gatech.edu>. If you have a specific accommodations, please schedule an appointment with me.
4. Please take a moment to review the "Student-Faculty Expectations" document here: <http://www.catalog.gatech.edu/rules/22.php>.
5. All assignments are due at the beginning of class on the day they are due. Late assignments are not accepted without a documented excuse. Please make sure you are aware of important due dates listed on the syllabus, announced in class, or listed on the course T-square site.

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General Description of Course Assignments: Details to be handed out during class

Class Participation

- **Attendance (150pts):** Please arrive to class on time. No absence is excused unless cleared with the instructor. Please contact me by telephone or email if you have a problem making it to class. Participation points are earned for class attendance and active discussion during class.
- **Reflective Journals (50pts):** There will be several journal entries assigned during the semester. They will be read by your team leaders and me. You will post your Journal assignments anonymously to Piazza in the designated Journal thread.
- **Reading Assignments (50pts):** There will be several assigned readings and follow up activities from the GT1000 textbook and Freshman Reading book.

Academic Success Strategies

- **LASSI (50 pts):** You will be asked to complete the Learning and Study Strategies Inventory (LASSI) as one of your assignments. In addition, throughout the semester there will be individual assignments related to the topic, reading, or content of the class.
- **Academic Planner (50 Points):** You are required to maintain a planner throughout the semester. You may use a traditional (pen-and-paper) , an off-line electronic planner (such as iCal or Outlook), or an online calendar (such as Google Calendar – strongly recommended). At the very least, you should make entries for all academic events (class times, assignment due dates, exams, etc.).

Career and Major Exploration

- **Major and Career Reflection (100pts):** Why are you majoring in physics? You may already know exactly what you want to do with your career, or you may have no idea (or more likely-somewhere in between). You will write a brief reflective essay about your goals and options.
- **Resumes (100pts):** You will prepare your current resume as well as a “dream resume” that you would use to apply for a job after college. On your dream resume, include dates of activities you have not yet completed (and make plans to actually do them!).
- **Cover Letter (50pts):** Pick a physics faculty members you would be interested in working with and write a cover letter that you would use to request to do research in their lab.
- **Faculty Research Papers (50pts):** Find and print a recent research article on one of the faculty presenting their work in class today using the GT library website, Google Scholar or SciFinder. Write one paragraph describing what the study was about and why you find it interesting.
- **Group Presentation (200pts):** You will be asked to interview several physics alumni. Working in teams, you will prepare a professional quality, 10-minute PowerPoint or Prezi presentation. Each member must participate in giving the presentation. You will also evaluate your classmates’ presentations.

Enrichment and Service

- **Getting to Know Georgia Tech (200pts):** An important goal of the course is to connect you with the Georgia Tech community. You will receive a list of activities to participate in during the course of the semester. Read over the options and chose two to complete before the end of the semester.

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Date	Activities	Assigned Work	Work to Submit
August 19	Overview of the Course Getting to Know You	Off-Campus Adventure Reading 101-102	
26	Study Skills Learning Styles	Take the LASSI Reading 125 - 129	Adventure Slide show
September 02	No Class – School Holiday	Academic Planner Reading 196 - 200	
09	Time management TL Activities – Martin	Reading 156 – 180	Academic Planner #1 Journal Entry #1
16	Pick Groups Presentation Skills	Create A Group Contract Freshman Reading	Study Hours Logbook
23	Resume Writing Graduate Student Panel	Resumes Draft Reading 264 - 273	Submit Group Contract Journal Entry #2
30	Networking Visit Alumni House	Join LinkedIn Reading 284 - 285	Resumes Draft Journal Entry #3
October 7	Undergraduate Research TL Activities – Herndon	Cover Letters Reading 75 - 84	Submit LinkedIn Link Journal Entry #4
14	No Class – School Holiday	Reading 130 - 138	
21	Physics Careers Faculty Guest _ Zangwill	Why Physics? Reading 288 - 291	Cover Letters Group Project Draft
28	Lab Visits	Reading 292 – 294 Faculty paper #1	Why Physics Paper Academic Planner #2
November 4	Study Abroad Class visit – Sandy Song	Reading 95 – 100 Research a SA Program	Faculty Paper #1 Journal Entry #5
11	Physics Faculty Guests	Faculty Paper #2 Group Meetings	Resumes Final
18	Student Presentations	Peer Evaluations	Submit All Presentations Faculty Paper #2
25	Student Presentations	Peer Evaluations	Submit Peer Evaluations
December 2	Course Wrap-up	Take the LASSI	Getting To Know GT