

Fall 2015

PHYS 4401

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Physics 437/438: *Quantum Mechanics*

Instructor: Dr. Andi Petculescu

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Textbook:

Townsend, "A Modern Approach to Quantum Mechanics," 2nd Edition
In the first few lectures, I will do a vector algebra overview. Some of the topics in the overview are interspersed throughout the book. However, familiarizing oneself with a number of vector algebra concepts at the outset ensures a smooth flow for the rest of the course.

General note

As with any upper-level physics class, some emphasis will be put on good problem solving skills and analytical reasoning, as well as on the development of useful conceptual and intuitive thinking.

Pre-requisites

ULL: PHYS 301, MATH 350, MATH 362

Other schools: Linear algebra, calculus, complex numbers, modern physics course

Attendance

It is advisable that you attend all classes. (If you are not feeling good at any time during class, feel free to leave.) You are responsible for *all* the material covered in class, whether you have attended all classes or not. This is particularly important since the topics covered may not be limited to those in the textbook.

Homework

Homework is **not for credit**. Its role is to help you in crystallizing the material covered in class. That is why you should treat assignments seriously and submit them to me electronically one week after they are assigned. Collective thinking for homework assignments is sometimes essential to the good understanding of a problem. Nevertheless, please try to develop and present your own solution.

Cheating

There will be zero tolerance for cheating or plagiarism during tests.

Grading

The grade is based on:

Midterm exam (40%)

Final exam (60%).