PHY8004: POSTGRADUATE SEMINAR

Effective Term
Semester A 2025/26

Part I Course Overview

Course Title
Postgraduate Seminar

Subject Code
PHY - Physics
Course Number
8004

Academic Unit
Physics (PHY)

College/School
College of Science (SI)

Course Duration
Two Semesters

Credit Units
0-2

Level
R8 - Research Degree

Medium of Instruction
English

Medium of Assessment
English

Prerequisites
Nil

Precursors
Nil

Equivalent Courses
AP8004 Postgraduate Seminar

Exclusive Courses
Nil

Part II Course Details

Abstract

The course aims to broaden the scientific horizon of postgraduate students in the fields of physics via active participation on research and scientific seminars. This course is a scientific forum for postgraduate students to exchange research information and to discuss scientific problems.

The course is designed to develop the communication skills at presentation of research and scientific work. It provides the basic principles for: (i) logically organized presentation of research work, including preparation of abstract and/or introduction for the presentation; and (ii) development of efficient presentation techniques and scientific discussions. It contributes to the systematic development of self-confidence and the rational and logical presentation of research results, as well as the defense of the conclusions drawn.

Course Intended Learning Outcomes (CILOs)

	CILOs	Weighting (if app.)	DEC-A1	DEC-A2	DEC-A3
1	Recognize different research methodologies, and designs in multiple areas of research. Engage in a scientific presentation forum/ discussion with a respectful attitude towards the ethical principles of research reporting and interaction.	25	x		
2	Apply the concept of rational preparation of abstracts and/or introduction of a scientific presentation.	25		x	
3	Develop the basic skills to present the topics of their own research discovery and innovation in an organized and rational manner	25		x	
4	Develop the ability to defend the conclusions and discussions of their research presentation, and build self-confidence in public presentation and discussion of research and scientific work.	25	x		

A1: Attitude
Develop an attitude of discovery/innovation/creativity, as demonstrated by students possessing a strong sense of curiosity, asking questions actively, challenging assumptions or engaging in inquiry together with teachers.

A2: Ability
Develop the ability/skill needed to discover/innovate/create, as demonstrated by students possessing critical thinking skills to assess ideas, acquiring research skills, synthesizing knowledge across disciplines or applying academic knowledge to real-life problems.

A3: Accomplishments
Demonstrate accomplishment of discovery/innovation/creativity through producing /constructing creative works/new artefacts, effective solutions to real-life problems or new processes.

Learning and Teaching Activities (LTAs)

	LTAs	Brief Description	CILO No.	Hours/week (if applicable)
1	1	Lecture and consultation	1, 2, 4	1 hour / week
2	2	Seminar Activities	2, 3, 4	1 hour / week

Additional Information for LTAs

The Postgraduate Seminar is a course conducted in both semesters A and B. Three presentations are scheduled weekly.

Scheduled activities:

Semester A: 13 weeks × 3 seminars/week

Semester A: 13 weeks × 1 h lecture and consultation/week

Semester B: 13 weeks × 3 seminars/week

Semester B: 13 weeks × 1 h lecture and consultation/week

Assessment Tasks / Activities (ATs)

	ATs	CILO No.	Weighting (%)	Remarks ("-" for nil entry)	Allow Use of GenAI?
1	Preparation of abstracts and/ or introduction of a scientific presentation	1, 2, 4	30	-	Yes
2	Oral Presentation and Discussion	2, 3, 4	70	-	Yes

Continuous Assessment (%)

100

Examination (%)

0

Additional Information for ATs

The course focuses on the effective communication of research objectives, methodology, and results in scientific presentations. It emphasizes the effective preparation of abstracts and/or introductions for scientific presentations, research design, data analysis, conclusion, and defense of the presentation. Attention is also given to the ethical principles of research reporting and interaction, such as the proper citation of work by others.

Individual tasks are assessed continuously during individual seminars. The students are required to attend all lectures in this course, as well as a minimum of 26 seminars (including postgraduate seminars, departmental seminars, or seminars prescribed by their supervisors).

Assessment Rubrics (AR)

Assessment Task

Preparation of abstract and/or introduction of a presentation

Criterion

The student is able to prepare the abstract and/or introduction of a presentation in a rational and comprehensive manner.

Pass (P)

The student completes all assessment tasks/activities

Failure (F)

The student fails to complete the assessment tasks/activities

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Assessment Task

Oral Presentation

Criterion

The student is able to: i) present his/her own research data; ii) interpret his/her data based on physical and scientific principles.

Pass (P)

The student completes all assessment tasks/activities

Failure (F)
The student fails to complete the assessment tasks/activities

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Assessment Task
Defense of conclusions and discussion of a presentation

Criterion
The student is able to defend with confidence the conclusions and discussion of his/her research presentation.

Pass (P)
The student completes all assessment tasks/activities

Failure (F)
The student fails to complete the assessment tasks/activities

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Assessment Task
Attendance of lectures and seminars

Criterion
The students have attended all lectures in this course, as well as a minimum of 26 seminars (including postgraduate seminars, departmental seminars, or seminars prescribed by their supervisors).

Pass (P)
The student completes all assessment tasks/activities

Failure (F)
The student fails to complete the assessment tasks/activities

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Part III Other Information

Keyword Syllabus
There is no fixed syllabus for this course. Presentation topics are based on the research areas of the postgraduates.

Reading List

Compulsory Readings

	Title
1	Nil

Additional Readings

	Title
1	Nil