

Principles of Physics – Physics 151

Reports

You will be required to prepare **two** of the following three types of reports:

- Review a journal article and address either how the physics in it relates to your major or how physics informs your understanding of the article on a subject in your major. This class is part of your liberal arts education and this paper is an opportunity for you to explore how the things that you are learning in this physics class are related to your field of study.
- Review a journal article and address the societal or ethical implications of science in the article. Just as this course should help inform the understanding you are developing of your major it should inform your understanding of the greater world and your role as a citizen of the world. This report could include an exploration of how the ideas you are learning in this class influence your interpretation of the ethical and/or societal impact of science.
- Review a talk given in the physics department.

The articles must each be at least two pages long and taken from a recent (within the past year) journal such as *Scientific American*, *Nature*, *Physics Today*, *American Journal of Physics*, *Discover*, *The Physics Teacher*, *Physics World*, *Physics Education*, *New Scientist*, *Astronomy*, or *Sky and Telescope*.

Note: if you find an interesting article that pertains to physics from another source (e.g. a newspaper or an online source) you may use that article but you must also find a second source for your information and **discuss the reliability of the sources**.

You will submit your two page report with **along with a copy of your source article(s)**. The report will have: your name, date, the type of report (Major, Societal/Ethical, or talk), and either the bibliographic citation for your source(s) or the speaker title and date all at the top right corner. The report will consist of a concise (one page or less) summary of and brief reaction to the source. If your report cites two sources the summary should integrate the information from the two articles instead of including two separate summaries.

One of these reports is due at the **beginning of October**. The other is due at the **middle of November**. **Reports will be accepted and welcome before those dates. See syllabus for specific dates.**

Reports will be graded on a 0-5 scale considering the following:

- Format followed, citations complete.
- Summary accurately reflects the original source.
- Reaction well reasoned.
- Correct grammar and spelling used.
- Written with clarity.