

Foundations of Physics – Physics 141

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 physics relates 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 inform both the your understanding of your major and of the greater world and connect to 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*, *New Scientist*, *Astronomy*, *Technology in Society*, *Technology Review*, or *Sky and Telescope*.

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**. **See syllabus for specific dates, reports will be accepted and welcome before the posted 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.