Physics 401 Fall 2014

Prof. Steve Rolston
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Office: Physical Sciences Complex 2151
Office hours: M: 4:00-5:00 PM, drop-ins encouraged.

Course Goals
To learn the foundations of quantum mechanics. We will primarily cover the 1st half of Griffiths (Chaps. 1-4) but will also spend time on modern applications - whatever we find interesting.

Class Schedule
Room: PHYS 1201
Hours: M10-10:50, W: 10 - 11:50, F 10 - 10:50
Credits: 4
Prerequisites
Pre-requisite: PHYS 273, Co-requisite: PHYS 374 and MATH 240.

Required Text

Course Website
http://elms.umd.edu

Homework
Assignments will be posted on ELMS approximately weekly, due in one week, hardcopy in class. Collaboration is encouraged, but copying is not, and will not help you learn. Your lowest homework grade will be dropped.

Exams
Quiz: there will be ~ 5 quizzes held in the second hour of alternate Wednesdays. You will drop the lowest grade, so there will be no make-ups.
Mid: There will be two mid-term exams in early October and mid November. The second will most likely be a take-home exam.
Final: the final exam will be on Saturday Dec. 20 at 8:00 AM. All exams will be open book and open notes.

Grades
Homework: 20 %
Quizzes: 25%
Mid-terms : 30%
Final: 25%

Tips for Doing Well
Read the book - it is relatively well-written.
Do the homework - feel free to work with classmates, but do work the problems yourself (relying on answers from the Web will do yourself a disservice).
Ask questions - if you do not understand it, chances are some of your classmates do not as well.
Come to lectures - much of the material is not going to be in the book, or will be presented in a different way.

Academic Dishonesty
The University of Maryland has a nationally recognized Code of Academic Integrity, administered by the Student Honor Council. This Code sets standards for academic integrity at Maryland for all undergraduate and graduate students. You are responsible for upholding these standards. Failure to do so can result in a “XF” grade denoting “failure due to academic dishonesty.”