Physics 795 Syllabus
Modern Cosmology
Spring Semester 2016

Instructor: Prof. Scott Watson
Office: 315 Physics Building
Email: gswatson [at] syr.edu
Office Hours: By appointment
Teaching Assistant: Gizem Sengor
Venue: 5:15 pm – 6:35 pm, room 105
Course Text: "Inflation and String Theory", by Daniel Baumann and Liam McAllister

Course Overview
This course will be a modern introduction to cosmology focusing on recent research in this area. In particular, we will focus on the quantum origin of cosmic structure and early universe model building. Topics to be covered will include supersymmetry, string theory, and effective field theory.

Grading
Course grades will be determined based on a semester long project and course participation. Grades will not be curved, everyone can get an ‘A’. In some cases borderline grades may be modified by a plus, or a minus, if the instructor determines that such grades are earned.

Grade Scale

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>100-88</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>87-75</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>74-62</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>61-49</td>
<td>D</td>
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<tr>
<td>60-0</td>
<td>F</td>
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</tbody>
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Academic Integrity
Syracuse University’s Academic Integrity Policy holds students accountable for the integrity of the work they submit. Students should be familiar with the policy and know that it is their responsibility to learn about course-specific expectations, as well as about university policy. The university policy governs appropriate citation and use of sources, the integrity of work submitted in exams and assignments, and the veracity of signatures on attendance sheets and other verification of participation in class activities. The policy also prohibits
students from submitting the same written work in more than one class without receiving written authorization in advance from both instructors. The presumptive penalty for a first offense by an undergraduate student is course failure, accompanied by a transcript notation indicating that the failure resulted from a violation of Academic Integrity Policy. The standard sanction for a first offense by a graduate student is suspension or expulsion. For more information and the complete policy, see http://academicintegrity.syr.edu/academic-integrity-policy/

Religious Observances Policy

SU religious observances policy, found at http://supolicies.syr.edu/emp_ben/religious_observance.htm, recognizes the diversity of faiths represented among the campus community and protects the rights of students, faculty, and staff to observe religious holidays according to their tradition. Under the policy, students are provided an opportunity to make up any examination, study, or work requirements that may be missed due to a religious observance provided they notify their instructors before the end of the second week of classes. For fall and spring semesters, an online notification process is available through MySlice/StudentServices/Enrollment/MyReligiousObservances from the first day of class until the end of the second week of class.

Disability Related Accommodations

If you believe that you need accommodations for a disability, please contact the Office of Disability Services (ODS), http://disabilityservices.syr.edu, located in Room 309 of 804 University Avenue, or call (315) 443-4498 for an appointment to discuss your needs and the process for requesting accommodations. ODS is responsible for coordinating disability-related accommodations and will issue students with documented disabilities Accommodation Authorization Letters, as appropriate. Since accommodations may require early planning and generally are not provided retroactively, please contact ODS as soon as possible.