

Physics 1370

Quantum Mechanics I

Fall 2016

Lecturer: Dr. David Pekker
Office: 214 Allen Hall
Office hours: Right after lecture or by appointment
Phone: 624-7553
Email: pekkerd@pitt.edu or pekkerd@gmail.com
Lectures: MWF 11:00-11:50, 104 Thaw Hall
Textbook: "A modern approach to quantum mechanics", 2nd edition, John S. Townsend
www: <http://www.davidpekker.phyast.pitt.edu/QM>

Grader: TBD
Email: TBD@pitt.edu

Course Description

The lectures will closely follow the textbook, and many of the assignments will be drawn from the textbook. Therefore, it is a good idea to have access to the textbook starting from the first day of class. There may also be assignments, covering the relevant materials, from outside the textbook. In the first semester we will aim to cover Chapters 1-7, 9 and 10 of Townsend's book. The remaining chapters will be covered in the second semester

Prerequisites

Understanding of the materials covered by the following courses will be assumed:

PHYS 0477 or 0479: Principles of modern physics

MATH 0280 or 1180 or 1185: Linear algebra

PHYS 1331: Mechanics

PHYS 1351: Electricity and Magnetism

Homework

Solving the homework problems is an integral part of learning quantum mechanics. Homework problems will be assigned on Friday of each week and will be due the following Friday. Students are strongly encouraged to discuss homework problems with each other (copying solutions is, of course, prohibited). The solutions will be handed out in class on the day that they are due, and hence late homework will not be accepted. We will aim to return your graded homework within a week of its due date. If you have a question as to how your homework was graded, please contact the grader within a week of when your homework was returned.

Office hours

The best time to find me is immediately following the lecture. If you need to talk to me at some other time, please schedule an appointment by email.

Grading scheme and other details

The grade for the class will consist of four components

(1) Homework — 25%

(2) Midterm exam — 25%

The midterm exam will be held in class on Friday, 14th of October.

(3) Final exam — 40%

The final exam is scheduled by the registrar for 2-3:50 pm on Wednesday, December 14th.

(4) Clicker questions — 10%

The clicker questions will be awarded 1 point for correct answers and 0.8 points for incorrect answers. The goal of the clicker questions is to encourage class participation and provide me with feedback on your understanding of the concepts covered in class.

Special accommodations for disability

If you have a disability that requires special testing or other accommodations, you should notify both the instructor and the Office of Disability Resources and Services (DRS) as early as possible in the term. You may be asked to provide documentation of your disability to determine the appropriateness of accommodations. The Office of Disability Resources and Services is located in the William Pitt Union, Room 216. If needed, please call (412) 648-7890 (voice) or (412) 383-7355 (TTY) to schedule an appointment with them. A comprehensive description of the services provided by DRS office can be obtained at their web site (<http://www.studentaffairs.pitt.edu/drswelcome>).