Physics 2100

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Dear Tom and Lindsey,

I am happy to report that Physics 2100 was approved with two contingencies. The committee also has several friendly recommendations. I list the contingencies and the recommendations below. The course was reviewed by five faculty members representing several departments in the College of Arts and Sciences.

The reviewing faculty are excited about the course's content, and hope that the following feedback will not only provide guidance on logistical requirements, but, more importantly, help the department to better communicate how this dynamic subject matter applies to the General Education, thus motivating students from a wide variety of colleges, majors, and backgrounds to enroll in the course.

The reviewing faculty thank the department for a compelling course and request that the following contingencies should be addressed. We also hope that the recommendations will be considered.

- i) Contingency: The reviewing faculty request that the department add to the course opportunities for reflection to allow students to contemplate how their understanding of scaling laws and the experience of doing the math in this context can be applied in other areas.
- ii) Contingency: Recent changes to University policies (03-01-2024) compelled the Arts and Sciences Curriculum Committee to update the list of required syllabus statements for all syllabi to include a new statement on religious accommodations. The new version is a result of a directive by the Executive Vice President and Provost and can be found here on the ASC Curriculum and Assessment Services website. The reviewing faculty thank you for replacing the previous statement found on pg. 16 of the syllabus.
- iii) Recommendation: The reviewing faculty suggest that the department provide more information to students about the IF-AT scratch-off cards (currently mentioned on pg. 11 of the syllabus) and include information on how to access/acquire these in the "Required Textbooks and Materials" section of the syllabus (pg. 1).
- iv) Recommendation: The reviewing faculty recommend that the department clarify how the bi-weekly essays/ article critiques (mentioned on pg. 13 of the syllabus as "bi-weekly essays" [under description of mid-term exam] and under ELO 2.1 as "critiques" on the GEN submission form) will fit into the course/assignment schedule (syllabus, pg. 17-23) and the breakdown of students' graded assessments (syllabus pg. 10).
- v) Recommendation: The reviewing faculty recommend that the department reproduce the goals and ELOs of the GEN Theme: Number, Nature, Mind category (syllabus, pgs.2-3) exactly as they are found on the Arts and Sciences Curriculum and Assessment Services website so as to maintain consistency across all courses in the GEN category.
- vi) Recommendation: The reviewing faculty note that, while informative for the faculty reviewers, the explanation of how the course meets the goals and ELOs on the syllabus (pgs.

- 3-5) may be of a length that is overwhelming for students. They suggest using a shorter, 1-2 paragraph format for this explanation.
- vii) Recommendation: The reviewing faculty recommend that the department amend the paragraph regarding the course's Mode of Delivery (syllabus, pg. 6), as it seems to reference outdated policies from the pandemic.

Thank you,

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