

# Quantum Mechanics II: Phys 4251a

Fall 2020

The University of Western Ontario



Although this academic year might be different, Western University is committed to a **thriving campus**. We encourage you to check out the [Digital Student Experience](#) website to manage your academics and well-being. Additionally, the following link provides available resources to support students on and off campus: <https://www.uwo.ca/health/>.

**Technical Requirements:** Stable internet connection Computer (Laptop or Desktop)  
 Working microphone Working webcam

## Delivery and Important Dates:

Delivery Mode	Dates	Time
In-person tutorial/quiz SSC2020	Wednesdays	11:30 AM – 12:30 PM
Online-synchronous	Once per week meeting ~10 min	To be arranged with instructor
Online-asynchronous	2.5 hrs/week	NA

\*Details about design and delivery of the course are listed in a later section

Classes Start	Reading Week	Classes End	Study day(s)	Exam Period
September 9	November 2 - 8	December 9	December 10	December 11 - 22

\* November 12, 2020: Last day to drop a first-term half course or a first-term full course without penalty

**Prerequisite Requirements:** The prerequisite for this class is Phys 3200. It would be advantageous to take AM2402-Ordinary Differential Equations and AM3815-Partial Differential Equations prior-to or simultaneously-with this course.

Unless you have either the prerequisites for this course or written special permission from your Dean to enroll in it, you may be removed from this course and it will be deleted from your record. This decision may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course for failing to have the necessary prerequisites.

**Instructor Information:** Prof. Colin Denniston, [cdennist@uwo.ca](mailto:cdennist@uwo.ca), office: MC266. If you wish to contact your instructor privately, please send an email **using your Western email address** and include Phys4251 in the subject line. You can also contact the instructor on the MS Teams course site.

**TA/grader:** TBA

## Course Description

Neils Bohr once said, “Those who are not shocked when they first come across quantum theory cannot possibly have understood it.” In this course we hope to be shocked and amazed by quantum theory but to gain and deepen our understanding by applying it to concrete examples.

- Learning Outcomes:**
- i)* To work with and apply the Dirac formalism of Quantum Mechanics to problems involving particle spin, angular momentum, and their time evolution.
  - ii)* Solve for the time dependence for single particle systems in multiple dimensions using either wave mechanics or matrix mechanics.
  - iii)* To solve simple perturbation theory problems and understand the basics of systems of identical particles in quantum mechanics.

**Anticipated Topics:** Lecture topics are centered on the key objectives of the course. The topic coverage shown below is approximate and may change depending on lecture progress. We may not get to all

topics later on the list.

1. REVIEW OF: STERN-GERLACH EXPERIMENTS; ROTATIONS AND MATRIX MECHANICS; ANGULAR MOMENTUM; and TIME EVOLUTION
2. SYSTEM OF TWO SPIN-1/2 PARTICLES, EPR PARADOX, BELL INEQUALITIES, ENTANGLEMENT
3. WAVE MECHANICS AND HARMONIC OSCILLATOR IN 1D (REVIEW)
4. TRANSLATIONAL AND ROTATIONAL SYMMETRY IN THE TWO-BODY PROBLEM
5. BOUND STATES OF CENTRAL POTENTIALS
6. TIME-INDEPENDENT PERTURBATIONS
7. IDENTICAL PARTICLES
8. SCATTERING, TIME-DEPENDENT PERTURBATION THEORY, & FERMI'S GOLDEN RULE

### **Course Materials**

**Text:** The required textbook is *A Modern Approach to Quantum Mechanics, 2<sup>nd</sup> edition*, by John S. Townsend. This is available from the Western Bookstore and also from Amazon.ca for \$167.30. You can also get an electronic copy for **\$85 from the publisher at: <https://www.redshelf.com/book/522/>**. This is the same book that was used in Phys 3200b last winter term. Assignments, supplemental information, and references will be posted on the course website.

**Website:** Students should check OWL (<http://owl.uwo.ca>) on a regular basis for news and updates. This is one of two methods by which information will be disseminated to all students in the class. Students are responsible for checking OWL on a regular basis. The missing of critical information due to your failure to check OWL cannot be used as a basis for appeal.

**MS Teams:** I will be setting up a team for the course on MS Teams. This is the second method by which information will be disseminated to all students in the class. Students are responsible for checking updates on MS Teams on a regular basis. The missing of critical information due to your failure to check MS Teams cannot be used as a basis for appeal.

If you do not have MS Teams installed already, you can get a copy for Windows, Apple, or Linux using your UWO Office 365 account. If you do not want to install the application, you can also access it through the browser the same way you access your UWO Outlook mail in a browser. All meetings and video content will be done through MS Teams.

If students need assistance with OWL or setting up MS Teams, they can seek support on the [OWL Help page](#) or they can contact the [Western Technology Services Helpdesk](#). They can also be contacted by phone at 519-661-3800 or ext. 83800.

Up-to-date versions of [Google Chrome](#) or [Mozilla Firefox](#) are the preferred browsers to optimally use OWL (though MS Edge should work just as well); Students interested in evaluating their internet speed, please click [here](#).

**Course Evaluation:** Your grade will be based on:

- 15% Participation,
- 15% Assignments,
- 40% Quizzes,
- 30% Final Exam.

The Department of Physics and Astronomy may, in *exceptional* circumstances, adjust the final course marks in order to conform to Departmental policy.

**Participation:** Students are expected to participate and engage with content in a timely manner. Participate during tutorial sessions and in a weekly online meeting with the instructor will also be evaluated. Students can also participate by interacting in on MS Teams with their peers and instructors.

**Assignments:** There will be eight assignments of similar weight (every week in Sept then one every 2 weeks). Late assignments will be penalized at a rate of up to 10% per day at the instructor's discretion. You will need to scan and turn-in the assignments electronically. The assignment needs to be turned in as a single pdf file (**NOT** a separate file for every page). You can use a printer/scanner to pdf or a phone app like Office Lens to do this. You need to make sure the file is clearly readable with nothing cut-off. The TA will grade whatever is turned in and marks will be deducted if they cannot read the whole page.

**Quizzes:** There will be a quiz roughly every 1-2 weeks (7 altogether plus 1 makeup). Anticipated dates for quizzes are: 23 Sept, 30 Sept, 7 Oct, 21 Oct, 11 Nov, 18 Nov, 2 Dec and 9 Dec. Quizzes will be written in-person in the Wednesday class in SSC 2020. Students who need to work from home can do the quizzes online. The online quiz will cover the same material as the in-person quiz but will not be the same questions and may be in a different format. The online quiz would consist of a mix of written and oral components. For written components you will need to scan and return them (as a single pdf document). Online quizzes will be proctored over video conferencing using MS Teams. There will be a makeup quiz that last week of classes. The makeup will be cumulative and will act as a makeup for any quiz missed during the semester (this needs to be for a properly reported and approved absence). If more than 1 quiz is missed weight will be transferred to the final exam.

**Final:** At this point we plan to have an in-person written final exam. As with quizzes, there will be the option of doing the exam online. The online exam would consist of a mix of written and oral components. For written components you will need to scan and return them (printer/scanner to pdf is ideal but a phone app like Office Lens that will produce a pdf with all pages as a single document is ok too).

**Calculator Policy:** For the exams it is likely you will need a scientific calculator (with log, trig functions), pen and pencil. These will not be provided and if you forget them you will probably fail the exam. However, you cannot use anything capable of wireless communication, or anything capable of storing and displaying large text files. If you are not sure if your calculator is ok, go to [www.staples.ca](http://www.staples.ca) web site, type "scientific calculator" into the search bar and any one of the calculators that come up costing less than \$20 is ok. Make sure you know how to use the calculator before the exam.

## 6. Accommodation and Accessibility

### Accommodation Policies

Students with disabilities work with Accessible Education (formerly SSD) which provides recommendations for accommodation based on medical documentation or psychological and cognitive testing. The Academic Accommodation for Students with Disabilities policy can be found at:

[https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\\_policies/appeals/Academic\\_Accommodation\\_disabilities.pdf](https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/Academic_Accommodation_disabilities.pdf)

### Academic Consideration for Student Absence

Students will have up to two (2) opportunities during the regular academic year to use an on-line portal to self-report an absence during the semester, provided the following conditions are met: the absence is no more than 48 hours in duration, and the assessment for which consideration is being sought is worth 30% or less of the student's final grade. Students are expected to contact their instructors within 24 hours of the end of the period of the self-reported absence, unless noted on the syllabus. Students are not able to use the self-reporting option in the following circumstances:

- for exams scheduled by the Office of the Registrar (e.g., December and April exams)
- absence of a duration greater than 48 hours,
- assessments worth more than 30% of the student's final grade,

- if a student has already used the self-reporting portal twice during the academic year

If the conditions for a Self-Reported Absence are *not* met, students will need to provide a Student Medical Certificate if the absence is medical, or provide appropriate documentation if there are compassionate grounds for the absence in question. Students are encouraged to contact their Faculty academic counselling office to obtain more information about the relevant documentation.

Students should also note that individual instructors are not permitted to receive documentation directly from a student, whether in support of an application for consideration on medical grounds, or for other reasons. **All documentation required for absences that are not covered by the Self-Reported Absence Policy must be submitted to the Academic Counselling office of a student's Home Faculty.**

For policy on Academic Consideration for Student Absences - Undergraduate Students in First Entry Programs, see:

[https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\\_policies/appeals/Academic\\_Consideration\\_for\\_absences.pdf](https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/Academic_Consideration_for_absences.pdf)

and for the Student Medical Certificate (SMC), see:

[http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\\_policies/appeals/medicalform.pdf](http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/medicalform.pdf)

### **Religious Accommodation**

Students should consult the University's list of recognized religious holidays, and should give reasonable notice in writing, prior to the holiday, to the Instructor and an Academic Counsellor if their course requirements will be affected by a religious observance. Additional information is given in the Western Multicultural Calendar:

<https://multiculturalcalendar.com/ecal/index.php?s=c-univwo>

You may also be eligible to write the Special Exam if you are in a “Multiple Exam Situation” (see [http://www.registrar.uwo.ca/examinations/exam\\_schedule.html](http://www.registrar.uwo.ca/examinations/exam_schedule.html)).

## **7. Academic Policies**

The website for Registrarial Services is <http://www.registrar.uwo.ca>.

In accordance with policy, <http://www.uwo.ca/its/identity/activatenonstudent.html>, the centrally administered e-mail account provided to students will be considered the individual's official university e-mail address. It is the responsibility of the account holder to ensure that e-mail received from the University at his/her official university address is attended to in a timely manner.

### **Contingency plan for an in-person class pivoting to 100% online learning**

In the event of a COVID-19 resurgence during the course that necessitates the course delivery moving away from face-to-face interaction, all remaining course content will be delivered entirely online, either synchronously (i.e., at the times indicated in the timetable) or asynchronously (e.g., posted on OWL for students to view at their convenience). The grading scheme will **not** change. Any remaining assessments will also be conducted online as determined by the course instructor.

**All of the remote learning sessions for this course will be recorded.** The data captured during these recordings may include your image, voice recordings, chat logs and personal identifiers (name displayed on the screen). The recordings will be used for educational purposes related to this course, including evaluations. The recordings may be disclosed to other individuals participating in the course for their private or group study purposes. Please contact the instructor if you have any concerns related to session recordings.

Participants in this course are not permitted to record the sessions, except where recording is an approved accommodation, or the participant has the prior written permission of the instructor.

**Scholastic offences** are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, at the following Web site:

[http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\\_policies/appeals/scholastic\\_discipline\\_undergrad.pdf](http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf).

Tests and examinations in this course will be conducted using MS Teams. You will be required to keep your camera on for the entire session, hold up your student card for identification purposes, and share your screen with the invigilator if asked to do so at any time during the exam. Note that your username and all stored documents and recordings on MS Teams are linked to UWO Office 365 accounts and licenses and have similar security and privacy as your UWO email account.

Completion of this course will require you to have a reliable internet connection and a device that meets the system requirements for Teams. Information about the system requirements are available at the following link:

<https://support.microsoft.com/en-us/teams>

## **8. Support Services**

Please visit the Science & Basic Medical Sciences Academic Counselling webpage for information on add/drop courses, academic considerations for absences, appeals, exam conflicts, and many other academic related matters: <https://www.uwo.ca/sci/counselling/>

Please contact the course instructor if you require lecture or printed material in an alternate format or if any other arrangements can make this course more accessible to you. You may also wish to contact Student Accessibility Services (SAS) at (519) 661-2147 if you have any questions regarding accommodations.

Western University is committed to a thriving campus as we deliver our courses in the mixed model of both virtual and face-to-face formats. We encourage you to check out the Digital Student Experience website to manage your academics and well-being: <https://www.uwo.ca/se/digital/>.

Learning-skills counsellors at the Student Development Centre (<http://www.sdc.uwo.ca>) are ready to help you improve your learning skills. They offer presentations on strategies for improving time management, multiple-choice exam preparation/writing, textbook reading, and more. Individual support is offered throughout the Fall/Winter terms in the drop-in Learning Help Centre, and year-round through individual counselling.

Students who are in emotional/mental distress should refer to Mental Health@Western ([http://www.health.uwo.ca/mental\\_health](http://www.health.uwo.ca/mental_health)) for a complete list of options about how to obtain help.

Additional student-run support services are offered by the USC, <http://westernusc.ca/services>.