

Physics 3305
Modern Physics
Extra Credit Guidelines
(9/1/2017)

This extra credit project will replace your lowest quiz grade. You will need to identify an article on a physics topic of your choosing from a science public. Examples of popular science magazines include: Scientific American, Symmetry Magazine, Popular Science, Discover, Sky and Telescope and Physics Today. These magazines span multiple disciplines. Make sure you pick a **PHYSICS** topic. You will then be required to find the original research article in a journal publication upon which your magazine article was based. You will read both articles and write a short paper that compares the differences between the two articles. For example, was there a simplification that was used by the journalist; how is the language different in the two articles; how was the writing style different; did the journalist make oversimplify, overstate or oversell the importance of the research, etc. Be sure justify your assertions and adhere to the following guidelines.

1. The document should be approximately 1 page in length, using 12 pt font and adhere to the grammar and style of American English.
2. You must include bibliography that does not count towards the paper length and includes both the popular article that you chose and the research article upon which the popular article was written. The citations in the bibliography should follow the author-date system in the Chicago Manual of Style (http://www.chicagomanualofstyle.org/tools_citationguide.html).
3. Paper margins should be 1" on the top, bottom, left and right hand sides of the paper.
4. Plagiarism will not be tolerated. Any student who plagiarizes material will be dealt with in accordance to university policy outlined in the 2017-2018 Student Handbook.
5. Appointment can be made to review paper topics with me outside of class.
6. There are three extra credit opportunities. The due dates for these opportunities are 12:30 pm on September 28th, October 31st and November 30th.
7. I recommend that you take advantage of the writing center at SMU (<http://smu.edu/alec/wc.asp>) if you need help with any stage of your writing.
8. You are required to submit a both a hard copy and a pdf electronic version by the required due date and time. The electronic version should be submitted via email to cooley@physics.smu.edu.